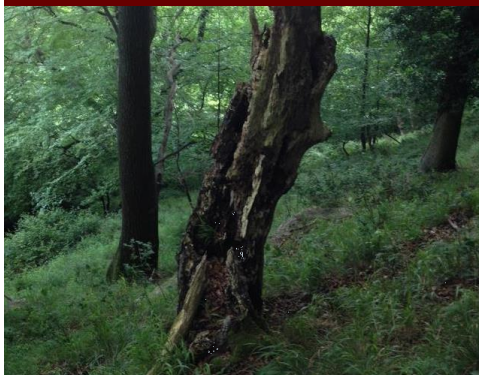


Species Factsheet

the
species
recovery
trust

Malacolimax tenellus



Red List Status:
Nationally
Scarce

Threat of extinction:
High

Main Threats:
Loss of ancient
woodlands



Lemon Slug

Description: Lemon yellow in colour, with purple/black tentacles. Approximately 4cm in length, with a small keel at the tail end and no frill around the edge of the body.

Lifecycle: Lemon Slugs are assumed to live under the leaf litter and feed on the hyphae of woodland fungi for most of the year. In the autumn, when they reach maturity and mushrooms are plentiful, it is thought that they surface to feed and mate. This is the best time to spot them.

Habitat: Mostly found in ancient woodlands, often on or near mushrooms.

Distribution: Relatively widespread across the UK, but localised in areas of ancient woodland. There are fewer recent records from the South of England, but this may be due to lower survey effort.

Status: Classified as 'Nationally Scarce', and is therefore considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

Reasons for decline: Loss of ancient woodland and poor management of those that remain. Excessive foraging for mushrooms may also represent a threat as the slugs feed on woodland fungi.

Protection under the Law: Not currently protected under the law.

What we are doing:

- Collating records from the south of England and encouraging people to report sightings
- Undertaking surveys of ancient woodlands

What you can do:

- If you live locally volunteer to become a site monitor
- Become a species supporter and help fund the project

