

Reported sightings or signs of exotic species compiled by Defra Rural Development Service (2001 to September 2006) and Natural England (from October 2006)

2001-2007 Summary by Species

Species	No. cases reported	No. individual animals reported	Conclusion of report				
			Confirmed	Supported but not confirmed	Discounted	Probably other cause	Inconclusive
Coypu	11	12	0	0	4	3	4
Wild boar	31	≥66	18	8	2	1	2
'Big cat'	60	60	0	2	7	5	46
Other exotic cat	2	2	0	0	0	0	2
Siberian chipmunk	6	8	5	0	0	0	1
Other	15	17	2	3	0	2	8
TOTAL	125	165	25	13	13	11	63

Note: From Jan.2007 sightings of Wild Boar have only been logged if animals are reported in previously unrecorded areas, thus implying range increasing.

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Year by Year details

Date animal seen/reported	Species	Location	Evidence	Conclusion following investigation
July 2001	Capybara	Reading, Berks	Sighting	Probably other cause
May/June 2001	'Big cat'	Oxford, Oxon	Sighting	Inconclusive
Oct 2001	'Big cat'	Billericay, Essex	Sighting	Inconclusive
Nov 2001	'Big cat'	Norfolk	Photograph, tracks	Discounted; other cause
Jul-Oct 2001	Wild boar	Gateshead, Tyne & Wear	Crop damage, captured/killed	Confirms report of species
Oct 2001	Wild boar	Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire	Captured/killed	Confirms report of species
Jan 2002	Capybara	Upton-on-Severn, Worcs.	Sighting	Confirms report of species
Mar '93 –Jan '02	'Big cat'	Elham, Kent	Predation, captured/killed	Supports report but not conclusive
Jan 2002	Wild boar	Beaminster, Dorset	Crop damage	Confirms report of species
Feb-May 2002	Mountain Lion	Richmond, N Yorks.	Sighting	Supports report but not conclusive
Aug 2002	'Big cat'	High Onn, Staffordshire	Sighting, possible predation	Not conclusive
Oct 2002	'Big cat'	Ipswich, Suffolk	Sighting, carcase (not available)	Not conclusive
Apr-Oct 2002	Wild boar	Bodmin, Cornwall	Captured/killed (no carcase)	Supports report but not conclusive
Sept 2002	Red squirrel (Portuguese)	Kings Lynn, Norfolk	Captured	Supports report but not conclusive
June 2002	'Big cat'	Bletchingly, Surrey	Sighting, tracks, faeces	Inconclusive
June 2002	'Big cat'	Maldon, Essex	Sighting, possible pawprint	Inconclusive
July 2002	Other exotic cat (Lynx?)	Henley-on-Thames, Oxon	Sighting	Inconclusive
Sept 2002	'Big cat'	Ironbridge, Shropshire	Sighting, predation	Inconclusive
Nov 2002	'Big cat'	Wolverhampton, W. Midlands	Sighting	Inconclusive

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Oct-Nov 2002	'Big cat'	S. Godstone, Surrey	Sighting, predation	Supports report but not conclusive
Nov 2002	'Big cat'	Stratford upon Avon, Warks	Sighting	Probably other cause
Dec '02-Feb 2003	'Big cat'	Aylesbury, Bucks	Photograph, predation	Probably other cause
Feb 2003	'Big cat'	Crayford, Gtr London	Sighting, tracks, fur, faeces	Inconclusive
Mar 2003	'Big cat'	Elham, Kent	Predation	Inconclusive
Jun 2003	'Big cat'	Bath, N.E, Somerset UA	Sighting	Inconclusive
Aug 2003	'Big cat'	Godalming, Surrey	Sighting	Inconclusive
Sept 2003	'Big cat'	Oxted, Surrey	Sighting	Inconclusive
Sept 2003	'Big cat'	Stathern, Leicestershire	Sighting	Inconclusive
Jan '97-Oct 2003	'Big cat'	Folkestone, Kent	Sighting, tracks	Discounted; other cause
Dec '02-Oct '03	'Big cat'	Canterbury, Kent	Predation	Inconclusive
Oct 2003	'Big cat'	Hambleton, Lancs	Sighting	Inconclusive
Oct 2003	'Big cat'	Garstang, Lancs	Sighting, possible carcase	Inconclusive
Jan-Mar 2004	Wild boar	Dorchester, Dorset	Rooting damage	Discounted; other cause
March 2004	Coatimundi	Kirby-in-Furness, Cumbria	Captured/killed, possible predation	Inconclusive
March 2004	Edible dormouse	Dorchester, Dorset	Carcase dug up but not available	Inconclusive
April 2004	Racoon	Canterbury, Kent	Sighting	Inconclusive
May 2004	Coypu	Dover, Kent	Seen dead in road (carcase not available)	Discounted; other cause
June 2004	Edible dormouse	Dorchester, Dorset	Captured/killed (no carcase)	Confirms report of species
June 2004	Coypu	Gaddesby, Leics.	Sighting	Inconclusive
June 2004	'Big cat'	Northallerton, N. Yorks	Sighting, captured/killed (no carcase)	Inconclusive
Feb '03-July '04	Lynx	Witham, Essex	Sighting	Inconclusive
Aug '03-Aug '04	Wild boar	Tadcaster, N.Yorks	Sighting, tracks, rooting damage	Supports report but not conclusive

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Sept 2004	'Big cat'	Ashford, Kent	Sighting	Inconclusive
Oct 2004	'Big cat'	Penzance, Cornwall	Tracks	Discounted; other cause
Oct 2004	Unknown	Huntingdon, Cambs.	Predation	Probably other cause (dog)
Jun-Nov 2004	Wild boar	Liskeard, Cornwall	Captured/killed	Confirms report Recent escape/release
Nov 2004	Wild boar	Coleford, Glos.	Sighting, rooting damage	Confirms report Recent escape/release
Nov 2004	'Big cat'	Nottingham, Notts.	Sighting	Inconclusive
Feb 2005	Wild boar	Ross on Wye, Herefordshire	Crop damage	Confirmed
Feb 2005 (reported Feb '06)	'Big cat'	Wimborne, Dorset	Sighting	Inconclusive
May 2005	'Big cat'	Bondleigh, Devon	Sighting (crossing road in front of car)	Inconclusive
June 2005	'Big cat'	Burford, Oxon	Sighting (crossing road)	Inconclusive
July 2005	Raccoon dog	Reading, Berks	Photographed	Identity confirmed
Aug 2005	'Big cat'	Ipswich, Suffolk	Sighting	Inconclusive
Sept 2005 <i>Seen May & Aug 2005</i>	Siberian chipmunk	Nr Reading, Berks	Sighting. Animals released from children's zoo May 2005	Confirmed. Recapture programme in place
Oct 2005	Kangaroo/ wallaby	Christmas Common, Oxon	Sighting (crossing road)	Inconclusive
Oct 2005	Coypu	Brantham, Suffolk	Sighting	Inconclusive
Nov 2005	Coypu	Feltwell Common, Norfolk	Captured and killed	Otter confirmed
Nov 2005 <i>Seen May 2004</i>	Siberian chipmunk x3	Helmsley, N. Yorks	Seen in back garden	Inconclusive
Dec 2005	'Big cat'	Tamworth, Warks	Injuries to horse suggested big cat	Inconclusive
Dec 2005	Wild boar	Dallington, E. Sussex	Sighting	Confirmed
Jan 2006	Siberian chipmunk	Nr Reading, Berks.	Sighting	Confirmed. Recapture programme in place

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Jan 2006	Siberian chipmunk	Nr Reading, Berks.	Capture and photograph	Confirmed. Recapture programme in place
Jan 2006	Wild boar	Dulverton, Devon	Sighting	Confirmed, following recent release
Jan 2006	Wild boar (>1)	Burrator, Devon	Sighting	Confirmed, following recent release
Jan 2006	Wild boar	Brightling, E. Sussex	Damage to grassland	Likely to be other species e.g. badger
Jan 2006 (reported Jul '06)	'Big cat'	Orford Ness, Suffolk	Alleged predation of fox carcasses (photos)	Inconclusive, no other evidence
Feb 2006	'Big cat'	Beachamwell, Norfolk	Sighting x2	Inconclusive, no other evidence
Feb 2006	Wild boar	Newton St Cyres, Devon	Sighting	Supports report but not conclusive, no tracks
Feb 2006	Wild boar	Calne, Wiltshire	Captured and killed – alleged carcase	Inconclusive, carcase not seen
Feb 2006	Coypu	Beaminster, Dorset	Sighting + photographs	Likely to be other species e.g. large rat
Mar 2006	Wild boar (x5)	Westhay Heath, Somerset	Sighting	Confirmed
Mar 2006	Wild boar	Westhay Heath, Somerset	Sighting	Confirmed
Mar 2006	Coypu	Kings Lynn, Norfolk	Sighting (from car)	Likely to be muntjac deer
April 2006	'Big cat'	Ludworth, Co. Durham	Injury to sheep	Likely to be other cause
April 2006	Coypu	Saxmundham, Suffolk	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence
April 2006	Coypu	Caistor, Lincs.	Sighting	Inconclusive
June 2006	Wild boar	Gaydon, Warks	Sighting	Inconclusive, dog chased
June 2006	Wild boar	Chagford, Devon	Crop damage	Confirmed
July 2006	Wild boar	Creech St Michael, Somerset	Sighting	Supports report but not conclusive
July 2006	Wild boar	Tavistock, Devon	Sighting and crop damage	Confirmed
July 2006	'Big cat'	Beachamwell, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence
July 2006	'Big cat'	Downham Market, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence
July 2006	'Big cat'	Downham Market, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence
July 2006 <i>Seen Dec '05-Jul '06</i>	'Big cat'	Wickwar, S.Glos.	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence

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Aug 2006	Terrapin	R. Thames Reading-Henley	Sighting	Inconclusive
Aug 2006	'Big cat' ('Lynx'?)	Lydford, Devon	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence
Aug 2006	'Big cat'	St Austell, Cornwall	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence
Aug 2006	Siberian chipmunk	Warrington	Sighting	Confirmed following recent local release
Aug 2006	Siberian chipmunk	Swindon, Wilts	Captured/killed (photograph)	Confirmed, following recent local release
Aug 2006	Wild boar (>20)	Haslemere, Surrey	Sighting, grassland damage	Confirmed following recent local release
Aug 2006	'Big cat'	Durham	Photographs of predation	Likely to be another cause e.g. dogs
Aug 2006	'Big cat'	Downham Market, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence
Aug 2006	'Big cat'	Oxborough, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive, no other evidence
Aug 2006	'Big cat'	Oxborough, Norfolk	Sighting and pheasant kills	Inconclusive, no other evidence
Oct 2006	Wild boar	Broadway, Glos.	Sighting	Supports report but not conclusive
Oct 2006	'Big cat'	Collier St. Kent	Sighting, injury to ewes, possible paw print	Likely to be another cause.
Oct 2006	Wild boar	Exebridge, Devon	Sighting and garden damage	Supports report but not conclusive
Oct 2006	Wild boar (2+piglets)	Buckland Monachorum, Devon	Sighting	Confirmed
Oct 2006	Wild boar	Herefordshire	Sighting and signs	Confirmed
Nov 2006	Wild boar	Dousland, Devon	Sighting and signs	Confirmed
Nov 2006	Coypu (x2)	North Gap, Norfolk	Sighting	Likely to be Chinese water deer
Nov 2006 <i>Seen Mar-Nov '06</i>	Wild boar	East Anstey, Devon	Crop damage	Supports report but not conclusive
Nov 2006	'Big cat'	Telford, Shropshire	Sighting	Inconclusive
Nov 2006	Wild boar	Chippenham, Wilts	Sighting x 2	Supports report but not conclusive

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Nov 2006	Wild boar	Suckley/Cradley Worcs.	Dog injury	Inconclusive
Nov 2006 <i>Seen</i> Mar '05	Wild boar	Cheshunt, Herts.	Sighting	Likely to be another species e.g. muntjac
Dec 2006	Racoon	Angmering, W. Sussex	Sighting	Inconclusive
Dec 2006	'Big cat'	Huntingdon, Cambs.	Predation of ostrich	Inconclusive
Jan 2007	Wolf (x3)	Horsham, Surrey	Sighting	Inconclusive
Jan 2007	Big cat	Oxborough, Norfolk	Sighting	Discounted (other causes)
Feb 2007	Wild boar(>28)	Exeter	Sighting	Confirms report of species
Jan 2007	Big cat	Oxborough, Norfolk	Sighting	Discounted
Mar 2007	Big cat	Colne, Cambridge	Sighting	Inconclusive
Apr 2007	Big cat	Canterbury, Kent	Sighting	Inconclusive
May 2007	Prairie dog	Beaconsfield, Bucks	Sighting	Inconclusive
May 2007	Big cat	Stroud, Glos	Sighting	Inconclusive
May 2007	Big cat	Salle, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive
May 2007	Big cat	Cawston, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive
May 2007	Big cat	Brandiston, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive
May 2007	Big cat	Brandiston, Norfolk	Sighting	Inconclusive
Aug 2007	Coypu	Apperley, Glos	Sighting	Discounted (other causes)
Sep 2007	Coypu	Depden, Suffolk	Sighting	Inconclusive
Sep 2007	Walleroo	Wadebridge, Cornwall	Sighting	Supports report but not conclusive
Oct 2007	Big cat	Dereham, Norfolk	Sighting	Discounted (white badger)
Nov 2007	Big cat	Thorne, S.Yorks	Sighting	Inconclusive