

## Cheat Sheet to *Athalia* species of Britain and Ireland

The characteristics listed here are a rule of thumb field guide and does not account for the many variants that you may encounter. If in doubt, key it out!

### *Athalia rosae*



- 1 **Lateral and ventral faces of thorax entirely orange.**
- 2 Front and back lobes of dorsal face of thorax orange, lateral faces black. Pronotum orange.
- 3 All tibiae ringed apically with black.
- 4 Often larger than the other *Athalia* species.

### *Athalia scutellariae*



- 1 Lateral and ventral faces of thorax orange except for the mesepimeron and metapleuron.
- 2 All lobes of dorsal face of thorax black. Pronotal shoulders orange.
- 3 All tibiae ringed apically with black but front tibiae usually only faintly.
- 4 **Waterside species close to skullcap foodplant.**

*Athalia bicolor*



- 1 Lateral and ventral faces of thorax black.
- 2 All lobes of dorsal face of thorax black. Pronotal shoulders dark/orange.
- 3 Only hind tibiae ringed apically with black. **Coxae black at least basally.**
- 4 **First tergite of abdomen black.**

*Athalia lugens*



- 1 Lateral and ventral faces of thorax orange except for black propleuron.
- 2 All lobes of dorsal face of thorax black. Pronotal shoulders orange.
- 3 **Hind tibiae darkened for much of its length fading from apex to base.**

### *Athalia cordata*



- 1 Lateral and ventral faces of thorax extensively black. Mesopleura sometimes with a small orange spot.
- 2 All dorsal lobes of thorax black. Pronotal shoulders orange.
- 3 All tibiae ringed apically with black.
- 4 Often found around bugle and ground ivy often with other species.

### *Athalia circularis*



- 1 Lateral and ventral faces of thorax variable from extensively black to with a large orange spot on the mesopleura.
- 2 All dorsal lobes of thorax black. Pronotal shoulders orange.
- 3 **Either hind tibiae only, or hind and mid tibiae with black at the apices.**

*Athalia liberta/cornubiae* agg.



- 1 Lateral and ventral faces of thorax entirely orange.
- 2 All lobes of dorsal face of thorax black. Pronotal shoulders orange.
- 3 All tibiae darkened at apex.
- 4 *A. cornubiae* associated with stonecrop food plants. *A. liberta* more widely distributed.

*Athalia ancilla*

Placeholder

- 1 **The only *Athalia* species where more than the basal one third of the costal and sub-costal veins are yellow.**
- 2 Associated with wet places.