Genus *Asaphidion*
Translated from Lompe (2012) by Mike Hackston

The original key in German by Dr Arved Lompe (2012) is published at [http://www.coleo-net.de/coleo/texte/asaphidion.htm](http://www.coleo-net.de/coleo/texte/asaphidion.htm) The English translation by Mike Hackston is reproduced here with the kind permission of Dr Lompe.

Checklist

Genus *ASAPHIDION* des Gozis, 1886
  *curtum* (Heyden, 1870)
  *flavipes* (Linnaeus, 1761)
  *pallipes* (Duftschmid, 1812)
  *stierlini* (Heyden, 1880)

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Key to the UK species of genus **Asaphidion**  
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1  Hind angle of the pronotum next to the narrow lateral border with a short, straight furrow, which forms a sharp angle with the lateral border (sloping from the side when viewed from above); the hind angle bears a small bristle (often broken off). Punctures on the elytra larger, round and fairly dense. ....................2  
Take care. Until familiarity is gained with this character, the furrow is sometimes very difficult to see.

Hind angles of the pronotum without such a furrow - only the narrow lateral border is visible, which is slightly curved outwards. Elytra with the punctures finer, shallower and denser; elytra more wrinkled and leathery. ......  
........ Asaphidion pallipes  
Basal segment of the antennae completely dark at least on the upper surface with a metallic shine (usually apparent on the second segment as well). Frons reddish with fine punctures in the distinct microscopic sculpture. Punctures on the elytra fairly clear. Coppery-reddish with grey-green spots. Europe except the Iberian peninsula, Asia Minor and the Caucasus. In central Europe not uncommon, becoming rarer to the south west. On dry, sandy to loamy, poorly vegetated river banks. Close up diagram from Lompe (2012).
Elytra from the shoulders to the middle weakly, but distinctly rounded and therefore appearing more oval. Length 4.0-4.7 mm.

Elytra distinctly parallel-sided. Length 3.0-4.2 mm. - the smallest British species. Ends of the tarsal segments and the last segments of the antennae clearly darkened and green-metallic. In the male, the first and second tarsal segments are only slightly broadened apically.

Asaphidion stierlini
Southern England, northern France, Belgium, Holland and Austria (eastern Tyrol)
Apical half of the antennae and the knees distinctly darkened; knees with a more or less clearly defined green-metallic shine. Elytra coarsely punctured but with scarcely defined striae. Microscopic sculpture of the pronotum and elytra only weakly defined, the upper surface therefore appearing more shiny. Sides of the pronotum only slightly angled near the front lateral bristle. Greenish-brassy coloured. Length 4.0-4.7 mm. .........................................................

.......... *Asaphidion flavipes*
Widespread in Europe except for the far north and the Iberian peninsula. In open places but further south in cooler habitats at higher altitudes.

Antennae and legs not darkened or only slightly so. Punctures on the elytra somewhat finer and denser. Microscopic sculpture of the pronotum and elytra clearer so that the upper surface appears less shining; striae on the elytra clearer but still indistinct. Side margin of pronotum with a clearly angled near the front bristle. Background colour more reddish to coppery. Length 4.0-4.7 mm. .................................................................

.......... *Asaphidion curtum*
European distribution uncertain due to historical difficulties with identification. Prefers more shady, wooded habitats. Photograph from Tree of Life website.