Genus *Tachys*

Very small beetles with the last segment of the palps reduced. Sutural striae curving back near the apex (recurrent). Front tibiae obliquely truncate at the tip. The second antennal segment is more slender, about as long as third. Outer elytral striae indistinct; no shortened scutellar stria; 2 dorsal punctures, situated at the third stria or on the fourth interval, the posterior often enclosed within the recurrent stria. Male front tarsi with 1 or 2 faintly dilated segments.

**Checklist**


Genus *TACHYS* Dejean, 1821
- *bistriatus* (Duftschmid, 1812)
- *micros* (Fischer von Waldheim, 1828)
- *obtusiusculus* (Jeannel, 1941)
- *scutellaris* Stephens, 1828

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**Reference**

Key to the UK species of genus *Tachys*

1. Recurrent stria of elytra with strong hook at the end, from which the posterior dorsal puncture is widely removed. The 4 marginal elytral punctures behind the shoulder are almost equally distant from one another. Sides of pronotum not, or barely curving towards the base. Elytra blotched, striae somewhat more impressed. Head and pronotum dark brown to black; elytra brownish with a triangular spot about scutellum and usually also sides and apex dark. Male with 2 dilated front tarsal segments. Length 2·0-2·7 mm. .........

........... *Tachys scutellaris*

In marshes and on mud, apparently dependent upon saline soil. Coast of southern and eastern England northwards to Norfolk.

2. Recurrent stria less hooked, ending closer to the posterior dorsal puncture. The two posterior marginal elytral punctures distant from the anterior pair. Sides of pronotum curving towards the rear. Elytra uniformly coloured or almost so. Male with only first front tarsal segment faintly dilated. .................................................................
21 Pronotum with the hind angles almost a right angle, the sides in front of them strongly curving, and base almost straight laterally. Reddish brown with only the head darker. Length 2.0-2.4 mm. .................

........ Tachys micros

Pronotum with hind angles obtuse, rounded at tip; sides less curved, base oblique laterally. Body almost black to brown, head only slightly darker. .........................................................

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Antennae more slender. Microscopic sculpture of pronotum and elytra fine and dense. First hind tarsal segment much longer than second and third combined. Wings normally developed. Length 1.8-2.3 mm.

----------  *Tachys bistriatus*

On damp sand or clay at the border of standing and running fresh water, also on the coast. England northwards to Durham. South Wales.

Antennae, notably intermediate segments, much shorter. Microscopic sculpture coarser. First hind tarsal segment only slightly longer than second and third combined. Wings either normal or strongly reduced. Length 1.5-2.0 mm.

----------  *Tachys obtusiusculus*

In *Sphagnum*, associated with *Elaphropus walkerianus*. New Forest