

Andy Karran



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Rob Waller



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Endemic (native) or Introduced (non-native) ?

1. **E**- 7 spot ladybird – eats greenfly and hibernates in winter.
2. **I** - Harlequin ladybird – eats ladybird larvae and eggs. They are having an effect on the local ladybird population so are termed invasive.
3. **E** - Eyed ladybird – found on pine trees and eat greenfly.
4. **E** - Orange ladybird – eats the mildew from sycamore and ash trees.
5. **E** – Cockchafer / May Bug – the adults eat leaves and flowers and only live for 4-6 weeks. The grubs live in the soil and eat roots.
6. **E** - Bluebells – a plant that grows in the woodland and flowers in spring when the canopy is open. There is an invasive variety of Spanish bluebell though which grows in gardens and is hybridising by insect pollination with the native species. It has a vigorous growth and will outcompete the native bluebell.
7. **E** - Wild daffodil – of hedgerows and woodlands. Also known as the Lent Lily as it flowers in that period. The bulbs and leaves contain the poison lycorine. Butterflies and bees like their nectar. There are many types of garden daffodils that are non-endemic and escape to the wild.
8. **I** - Mink – have been breeding in the wild since 1956 when they escaped from fur farms. They have had a devastating effect on local biodiversity and are now starting to be controlled. A good example of an invasive species.
9. **I** - Rabbit – these are native to Spain and France and were introduced to the British Isles by the Normans. They have native predators, so their populations are usually kept in check, so they are not classed as invasive.
10. **E** - Red Squirrel – perhaps the most well-known story of endemic and introduced. There are 140,000 red squirrels who are outcompeted and every level by their £2.5 million American cousins – the grey squirrels. Introduced by the Victorians – these robust invasive non-natives eat more, digest food quicker, and carry the squirrel pox virus that kills the smaller red variety. Red squirrels could be extinct in 10 years. Grey squirrels do have a predator though – the pine marten....could they save the day?
11. **I** - Himalayan Balsam as the name suggests is from the Himalayas and is found at altitude there. It was introduced to Britain in 1839 as a garden plant and can grow up to 3 metres tall and shoots its seeds over 4 metres so spread very easily. Classed as an invasive and it is an offence to spread it into the wild in the UK.
12. **I** – Rhododendron – introduced to estates and gardens in the 18th Century it has escaped to the wild and smothers native populations of plants by exuding toxins to suppress the germination of other seeds near to it. Herbivores can't eat it and bumblebees so love the nectar that other flowers don't get pollinated.