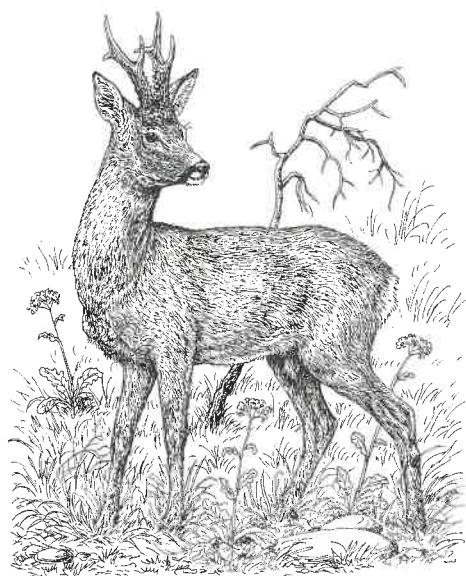


Capreolus capreolus (LINNAEUS, 1758)



F. Müller

There are remarkable genetic differences between European and Asiatic roe deer, so that we have an evolutionary trend towards two separate species.

Distribution

World: Palaearctic; from Spain in the west to the Pacific coast; from Norway to Italy and the Caucasus; from Asia Minor to north Syria, north Iraq, Iran, Siberia (in some parts to 65°N), Altai, Kazakhstan, north Mongolia, China and Korea. Introduced to North America.

Europe: widespread, but missing from Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily. Not indigenous to Ireland, where introduction attempted.

Geographic variation

Six subspecies recognized: in Europe the nominate subspecies is present in most of the area and *C. capreolus garganta* (Meunier, 1983) in Spain; the other subspecies are distributed in Asia.

Habitat

The species uses a wide variety of habitats. A mixture of woodland and agricultural landscapes is preferred. A new ecotype of field roe deer lives in open agricultural areas.

Roe deer

AL	Kaprolli	LT	Stirna
BG	Европейска сърна	LU	Réi
CZ	Srnec obecný	LV	Stirna
DE	Reh	MK	Срна
DK	Rådýr	MT	-
EE	Metskits; Kaber	NL	Ree
ES	Corzo	NO	Rådýr
FI	Metsäkauris	PL	Sarna
FO	Rádýr	PT	Corço
FR	Chevreuil européen	RO	Căprioară
GR	Заркóби	RU	Европейская косуля
HR	Srna	SE	Rådýr
HU	Európai őz	SI	Srna
IR	-	SK	Srnec lesný
IS	Rádýr	TR	Karaca
IT	Capriolo	YU	Срна; Срнаћ

Population status

From the 1960s the numbers have increased to 15 million in central Europe. Population density in favourable habitats is 10–20 ind./100 ha, but it can be even higher in suburban environments. Yearly bag record for Germany about 1 million, The Netherlands 10000, Norway 50000–60000, Sweden about 300000, Hungary about 40000, Czech Republic 115000, Switzerland about 50000. Exhibits seasonal changes in territorial behaviour; larger groups are observed in winter. Predators include wolves and lynxes. High mortality by traffic.

International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix III.

Other information

Found in nearly all hunting areas; antlers are huntsman's trophy. Hunting season different for males and females. Browses in woodlands, but does not strip bark from trees.

Literature

Heptner & Naumov (1974)
Meunier (1983)
Stubbe (1997)
Zernahle (1980)

C. Stubbe

