

INVASIVE SPECIES SIGHTING NOTICE

Roe deer



Invasive species sighting notice for: *Capreolus capreolus* **Common name(s):** Roe deer

The risk of Roe deer being an invasive species in Ireland was assessed as **Minor to Moderate** in 2014 (See: <http://nonnativespecies.ie>)

Why the concern? If Roe deer became widely established they may:

- Cause damage to agricultural crops
- Damage forestry through browsing and fraying of young trees
- Contribute to road traffic accidents
- First sighting in 2005 Co. Wicklow. There have been 3 further sightings in Co. Wicklow and one in Co. Armagh. Sightings range from just one individual to groups.

What does it look like?

- Roe deer is a small to moderate sized deer, shoulder height of 60-70cm.
- Has a reddish-brown coat in summer with a grey face, coat darkening to grey brown in winter.
- Roe deer have a distinctive black nose with white chin and also commonly a black chinstrap.
- It has lighter undersides and a white rump patch which is flared when disturbed. When disturbed, often also gives dog-like barks.
- It is more upright in stance than Muntjac deer and has pointed ears.

Where might I see it?

In a variety of habitats but Roe deer prefer landscapes with a mosaic of woodland and farmland.

