

## Resource sheet 4

## Dung beetle data collection sheet

Your name:.....

Collected from:.....

Date of collection:.....

Collection details:.....

**How many dung pats did you check for dung beetles?**

Yes, i found this type	Name of dung beetle (species)	Comments (e.g. 'only found one'; 'lots in sample')
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Onthophagus gazella</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Onitis alexis</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Onitis viridulus</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Euoniticellus intermedius</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Liatongus militaris</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Onthophagus sagittarius</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Sisyphus spinipes</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Sisyphus rubrus</i>	

**Did you find any other species of dung beetles?**

Description (e.g. 'tiny brown one')	Comments

## Resource sheet 5

## Common dung beetles in Queensland: colour identification sheet

### *Onitis viridulus*

- large (1.5–2.5 cm length)
- uniform dark metallic green or black on the thorax and wing covers
- males have a broad, thin, unequal double spur on the rear edge of the hind leg



### *Onitis alexis*

- large (1.5–2 cm length)
- thorax with green or red hue and light brown wing covers, giving a two-tone effect
- males have a sharp, hooked spur, resembling a rose thorn, on the rear edge of the hind leg
- females have a small 'bump' at the rear of the head



### *Onthophagus gazella*

- medium-sized
- brown wing covers, often with small pale patches near the front and rear, and a darker brown thorax, giving a two-tone effect
- body shape is rounded (when viewed from above)
- males have a pair of horns at the back of the head, which are better developed in major males; females look similar, but are without horns



### *Sisyphus spinipes*

- long, thin middle and hind legs
- entirely brown to matt black-coloured body
- males have a dark-coloured spur at the base of the hind femur, which is small in minor males, and a sharp angle on the rear edge of the hind leg



### *Onthophagus sagittarius*

- small to medium-sized
- thorax and wing covers are uniformly bronze—brown (i.e. not two-tone)
- deeper through the body than *O. gazella* (when viewed from the side)
- males have two small horns near the front of the head
- females have one large horn on the head and one on the thorax (much reduced in minor specimens)



actual size  
of beetles



### *Sisyphus rubrus*

- light brown to light yellow—brown body (smaller and lighter-coloured than *S. spinipes*)
- long, thin middle and hind legs that are usually paler in colour than the body is
- males have a large, pale-coloured spur at the base of the hind leg, which is small in minor males (and not present in females)
- rounded rear edge on hind leg of male



### *Euonicellus intermedius*

- small and narrow
- yellow—brown or straw-coloured with a faint diamond-shaped pattern on thorax
- males have a blunt horn on the head
- females are without horns
- undersides of legs are uniformly pale yellow



### *Liatongus militaris*

- small, narrow and elongated
- dark brown or black, with pale patches on sides and 'shoulders' of thorax
- wing covers have broken black stripes running lengthwise
- major males have a small pointed horn on the head

