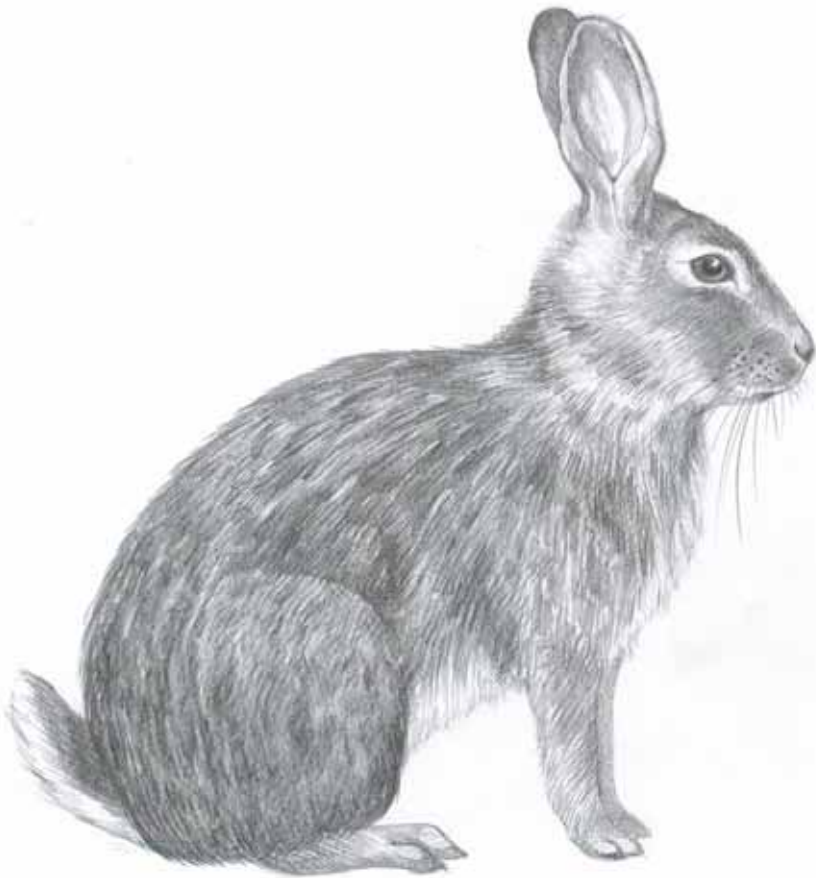


‘Celebrating Cornwall’s Mammals - from dormice to dolphins!’

An Identification Guide to Rabbits and Brown Hares

The Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*



Rabbit (not to scale)

Identification:

Size: head-body 340-500mm, tail 40-80mm.

Colour: grey/brown on top, white belly.

Ears: shorter than head length, brown tips.

Eyes: brown.

Tail: black/brown on top, white underneath. Carried upright against body when running.

Legs: long legs and long hind feet, not as long and slender as the legs of the Brown Hare.



Rabbit droppings (to scale)

Tracks and signs:

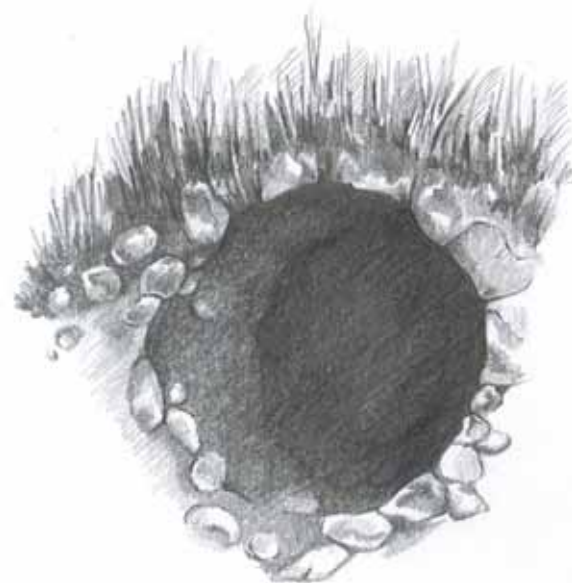
Droppings: 10mm diameter, black/brown in colour, found particularly on mounds to mark scent.

Burrows: 100-500mm diameter, found on slopes and in well-drained areas. Collective name for burrows: warren.

Scrapes: paw scrapes and shallow holes 70-120mm diameter - made when looking for roots. Droppings usually found next to these.

Other: mainly nocturnal, will come out during the day if undisturbed.

Rabbits are found anywhere where they can burrow, including sand dunes, hedges and railway banks.



Rabbit burrow (not to scale)

Illustrations by Jenny King