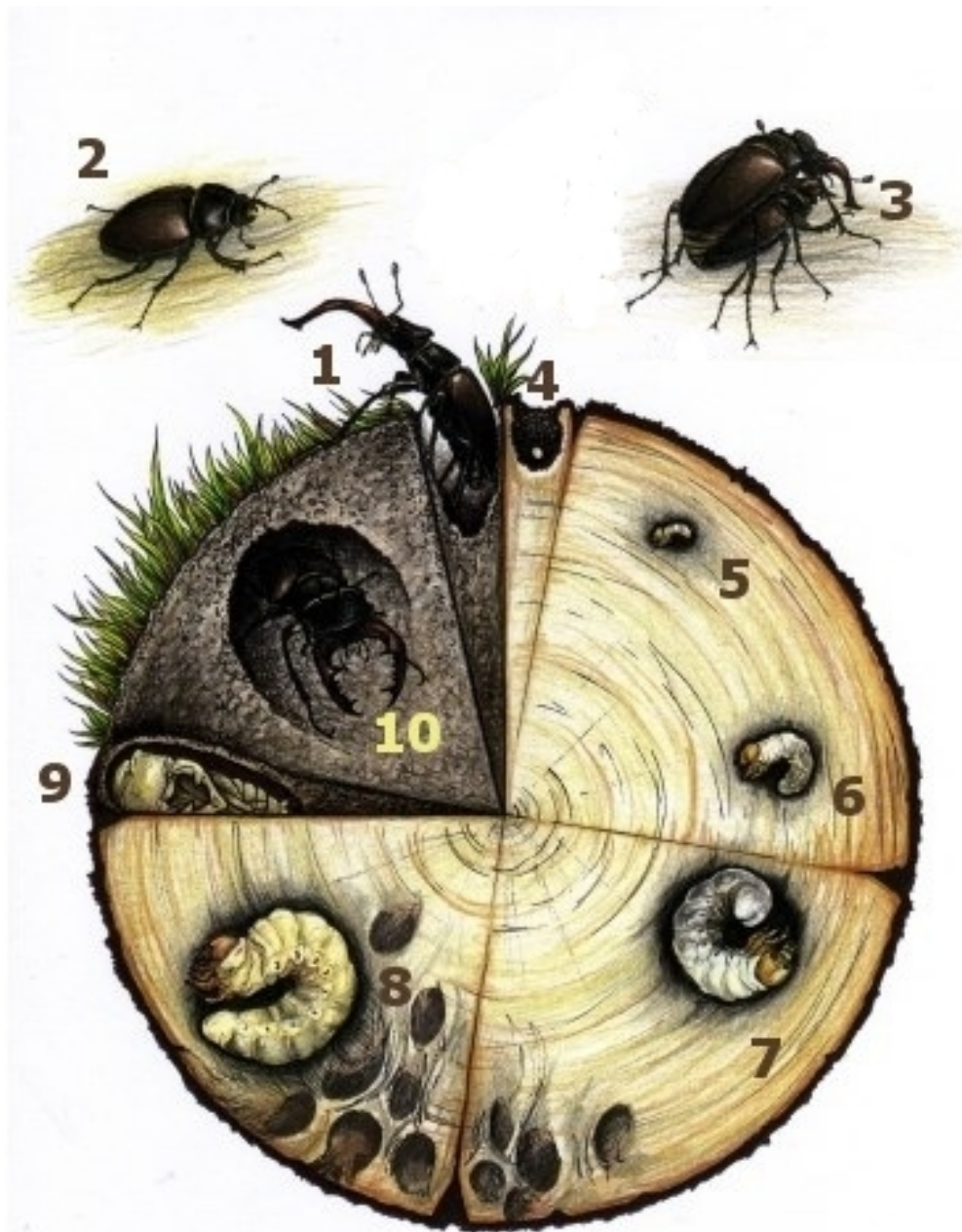


THE LIFE CYCLE OF A STAG BEETLE

TAKES 3 TO 4 YEARS



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Breeding season (1-3) - late May until the beginning of August

Eggs (4) - several batches of a few eggs each laid in the soil near decomposing wood

Larval development (5-8) - in regions with mild winters, 2 years feeding on decomposing wood; perhaps longer elsewhere

Pupa (9) - a few weeks in the summer inside a compacted soil ball deep into the ground

Adult stag beetle (10) - fully formed by the beginning of September but waits underground until next year to fly outside

Link: <http://maria.fremlin.org>