



PROTECTAHOME LTD

PEST CONTROL FACT SHEET

Targeting problems with the best solutions

Established 1980

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEES AND WASPS

We take a look at some of the top characteristics of wasps and bees and how to spot the difference.

If you think you have a bee or wasp problem, contact us directly for information on how Protectahome can help. Be sure to enlist a professional to undertake this work safely.

BEES



There are a number of misconceptions around bees being a nuisance like wasps, but the truth is they are much less of a problem.

- Bees are of great importance as pollinators for honey and wax but are usually thought of as a threat when in swarms.
- Honey bees differ in appearance from wasps, being dark brown/pale orange banded in colour and noticeably hairy.
- Worker bees are usually around 12-15mm, and the queen is usually 16-20mm.
- Usually, unless a hive is approached too closely or bees are under serious threat, they are unlikely to sting. Even swarming bees, although often frightening, tend not to.
- Some bees cannot sting at all and others don't have a strong enough sting to pierce the skin.

WASPS



Wasps have been on the decrease over the past couple of years, but still be cautious as a wasp nest could be harmful if not treated properly.

- Wasps are a known nuisance and are potentially more serious if a nest is in close proximity to populated areas.
- Black and bright yellow in appearance, wasps showcase distinctive banding around the body and a noticeable 'wasp waist'.
- The common wasp is usually around 10-20mm and the queen is usually larger.
- They can inflict a painful sting, a habit of which increases with the onset of cooler weather and with the ingestion of over-ripe fruit juices.
- Nests are often found in loft spaces, cavity walls, behind structural cladding and in flowerbeds.

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