Bee Identification Chart

Questions to help you direct the call...

Are they Bumblebbees?

Is it round and very hairy with a yellow/white or orange band on its tail/bottom? Do they make a V loud buzzing sound? Size of a 50p piece? Are they living in an old bird box, in a compost heap, under the decking, a hole in the ground?



ACTION: Leave them alone if possible. Bumblebees are an important pollinator and rarely sting. Bumblebees are under threat of extinction. For more information contact

Are they Wasps?

Is it bright yellow with black stripes? Very smooth mainly yellow with black stripes? Is it in the roof of your house? Are they coming from a round nest in a tree? Is there a nest in the shed? Do they have a high pitched buzz? Are they the size of a bluebottle fly?



Go to next question

ACTION: These are WASPS contact your LOCAL Pest Controller

Are they Hornets?

Are they very big with a loud buzz? Are they black and brown with a hint of orange? Living in the roof or shed? Do they have a very big curved tail?





ACTION: These are **HORNETS** contact your LOCAL Pest Controller

Are they HoneyBees?

Does it have golden brown or dark brown bands? Are they slightly furry? Are they formed in a clump hanging from a tree, gate post, chimney? Are there thousands of them swirling around in the air? Are the slightly bigger than a house fly, smaller than a bluebottle?



ACTION: These are Honeybees Contact your local Swarm Co-ordinator: www.bbka.org.uk/help/do_you_have_a_swarm.php

For more information go to www.bbka.org.uk