



YORKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

November 2019

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YBKA
AGM
30th
November
@
Harrogate
Showground

Welcome to the November 2019 edition of the YBKA newsletter.

Well this will be my penultimate piece as Chairman as my three-year tenure comes to an end at the AGM in November. It is always a challenge to find something new, and dare I say, interesting.

This is the time of year that local associations are getting together for their Annual General Meetings.

Wearing one of my other hats I am the area representative for three associations, Halifax, Wakefield & Huddersfield. I have been along to two local AGM's with a third due in the next fortnight.

It has been interesting to hear what they have achieved during the year and listen to their future plans.

As I reported in October's newsletter details of the YBKA AGM have been sent out to all association secretaries and I hope that many of you will put the date in your diary. Come along and meet the committee, have your say and partake in the customary free buffet lunch.

Finally, an article from the Times newspaper back in August about 'sniffer' bees. No not bees with a cold. A senior researcher at the University of St. Andrews has been training Honeybees to seek out drugs, explosive, pesticides and radioactive metals. He is confident that within five to ten years they will be able to detect landmines.

I wonder if they can find a pair of glasses and three hive tools lost in the grass at my apiary?

Phil Gee
Chairman



**Yorkshire
Beekeepers
Association**

AGM

Saturday

30th November 2019

**Normanby Pavilion,
Great Yorkshire Showground**

BBKA MICROSCOPY CERTIFICATE – COURSE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YBKA MEMBERS

Are you thinking of taking your BBKA Microscopy certificate? There are 2 course options in the North of England for YBKA Members this coming Autumn / Winter, which cover all aspects of the BBKA Microscopy syllabus:

1. 6-7 days with John Charlton at Manchester Grammar School
2. 5 days with Harrogate & Ripon Beekeepers in Harrogate

1. MANCHESTER GRAMMAR COURSE

Bookings on the Manchester course can be done direct with John Charlton at johncharlton151@gmail.com tel: 0161 973 8961. The cost for all the 6 or 7 sessions is £80, payable on the first day of the course, plus one jar of honey

MICROSCOPY COURSE WITH JOHN CHARLTON MANCHESTER GRAMMAR DATES:

2. HARROGATE & RIPON COURSE – Places still available

HRBKA propose to run a Microscopy Course beginning in January 2020. This will prepare students for the assessment leading to the BBKA Microscopy Certificate.

The course requires a considerable outlay in equipment and a commitment to work at home to produce the necessary slides and to practise dissection. The course fee will be £75.

There will be four all day meetings held on Sundays from January to March, with a final session in July. The dates of the course are 26/1/20, 16/2/20, 8/3/20 and (tbc) 12/7/20.

There will be a preliminary meeting for those who are interested in taking the Course, to be held at the Hives and Honey Pavilion on Sunday 10th November 2019 starting at 10:00. The purchase of equipment, such as microscopes, can be discussed at this meeting.

Booking will be available to non-HRBKA members **from 15th September 2019**, if there are places available.

Please contact Shirley Bond for an application form and more details.

Shirley Bond

email membership@hrbka.org.uk

[Full details of the BBKA Microscopy syllabus are here](#)

If you are interested in either course, contact John or Shirley direct. Both are likely to be popular!

Elaine Robinson

YBKA Education Officer

Modules Applications – Local Education Officer, BBKA or YBKA Education Officer

Applications for **March Module exams** (ONLY) should sent to me at the following address:

Elaine Robinson
Middlefold Farm
Hebden bridge
HX7 7PG

Basic Assessment & Honeybee Health applications for 2020 should go to the Member's Local Education Officer, who will organise the assessments (you could reprint the list from the previous newsletter and refer to this).

All other assessments e.g. General husbandry, Advanced Husbandry should be sent directly to BBKA, who will organise the assessments directly with the candidate.

EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT DATES & FEES 2020			
EXAMINATION/ASSESSMENT	FEE	CLOSING DATE	NOTES (also see appropriate syllabus)
JUNIOR	£5	As Basic	Aged under 18 only in small groups.

		Certificate	
BASIC	£20	1 month prior to taking the assessment	May be held at any suitable apiary. Normally small group of candidates examined on same day Last Assessment 31st August
MODULES	£30.00 each	10 th February 30 th September	ALL MODULES held on 21 st March 2020 ALL MODULES held on 14 th November 2020 Future dates 2021 March 20th November 13th
BEE HEALTH CERTIFICATE	£40	28 th February	Must hold Basic Certificate. May be held at any suitable apiary. Normally small group of candidates examined on same day Last Assessment 31st July
BEE BREEDING CERTIFICATE	£80	28 th February	Must hold Basic Certificate. Held at apiary of Candidate.
GENERAL CERTIFICATE in BEEKEEPING HUSBANDRY	£80	28 th February	Must hold Basic Certificate. Held at apiary of Candidate.
ADVANCED CERTIFICATE in BEEKEEPING HUSBANDRY	£120	<u>28th February</u>	<u>Must hold General Certificate in Beekeeping Husbandry</u> <u>To be held at Stoneleigh on 29/30/31 May 2020 and</u> <u>12/13/14 June 2020 depending on numbers</u>
SHOW JUDGE	£40	N/A	Must hold Basic Certificate. See entry requirements in Prospectus
MICROSCOPY	£60	31 st August	Must hold Basic Certificate. To be held at various venues 21st/22nd November 2020 plus other dates as required
CORRESPONDENCE COURSES	£60each	N/A	Available for the Basic, all seven Modules and Microscopy theory

Further information including Examination/Assessment application forms and syllabi are available from the web site www.bbka.org.uk

Refunds and deferrals

1. If there is a valid reason for not taking an examination or assessment, a refund can be given.
2. Generally, there will be an administration charge of £10.00 deducted from the refund except:
 - no refunds will be given after the closing date for modules, or Advanced Husbandry;
 - no refund will be given for Microscopy or General Husbandry if withdrawal is within one month of the assessment
3. Deferral of an exam or assessment is allowed, as an alternative to a refund, provided due notice is given. This is for one year only and there will be an administration charge of half the entry fee, payable on re-application. After 1 year the full fee will be payable. Candidates who have deferred an exam must send an application form with the deferral fee when they wish to take the exam/assessment.

Non-Members

- For the Junior Assessment, BBKA Membership is not required
- For Members of Welsh BKA, Scottish BKA or Ulster BKA an additional fee of £9 will be required.
- All other candidates must hold BBKA membership of some category.

YBKA Annual Honey Show 2019 Summary

October 19 -20 saw the YBKA annual Honey show held at the Countryside Live event at the Great Yorkshire showground in Harrogate.

This was my first year as Chief Honey Steward for the show after my predecessor stepped down, having arranged the show for the past 18 years. I certainly I had big boots to fill! The show ran smoothly and was a great success mainly due to the fantastic support given by the stewards – Tony Jefferson, Alan and Kath Brown, Mike and Margarete Hobson, Graham Browster, Andrew Woolhouse and Joshua Lapworth.





I know showing exhibits is not for everyone, but I see the benefits as twofold. Firstly, it improves the way in which you prepare products from the hive, which can only be a good thing if selling honey to the general public. Secondly, it is a shop window to beekeeping for the general public. The vast array of honey displayed promotes engagement with the public allowing us to promote the craft of beekeeping.

The show had 155 entries from 20 exhibitors which were described as: "of a very high standard", by the judges. There were two exhibitors who were not YBKA members. One was: Heron Hill Bee Team, from a school in Kendal, Cumbria. Countryside Live is run by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society and is themed as an educational event, aimed at younger children, promoting agriculture and rural crafts. The exhibits from Heron Hill School were exceptionally good. In the future, I would like to create a class in our show for schools. This will fit with the theme of Countryside Live and acknowledge the class of School Membership introduced by BBKA.

Exhibit from Heron Hill Bee Team



Of the 18 YBKA members we had 4 new exhibitors who staged entries and each one received a 1st, 2nd or 3rd award. Two new exhibitors were awarded a Championship trophy with Mrs J Anderson from Halifax and District BKA walking away with 4 of the major trophies from best in Novice Class to the coveted "Yorkshire Herald Cup" for most points awarded in the show. This year really shows that anyone can be a winner and you should not be put off thinking seasoned exhibitors always win the top awards.

Our Treasurer Norbert Cooper and member Gregg Sharp were selling members' products from the hive. YBKA sells honey from members who steward or exhibit at the show. This is a great opportunity to promote locally sourced honey. There are taster jars that provide a great way for the public to experience the diverse flavours of honey and purchase the one(s) they liked the most.

From attending various local shows, I am aware that there are some excellent exhibits displayed. The challenge for the future is to encourage more members to exhibit in what has been in their show. The Countryside Live Show was a great success and promoted Yorkshire Beekeepers, but of course there would **be** no show if it were not for the commitment of exhibitors and stewards.

Results of the Championship and special prizes

Championship	Trophy	Class	Recipient	Reserve
CH1	Diamond Jubilee Mead Horn	Best Exhibit of Mead	Mr M Millard	Mr A Jefferson
CH2	Blue Ribbon	Best Exhibit in Show	Mrs K Brown	Mr C Smailes
CH3	The Yorkshire Herald Cup	Most Points in show	Mrs J Anderson	Mr C Smailes
CH4	The Horseman Cup	Best Light Honey (Class 1)	Mr P Vickers	Mr M Buckley
CH5	The Albert Parkinson MBE Challenge Cup	Best Ling Heather (Class 6)	Mrs J Anderson	Mr M Millard
CH6	The Will Slinger Challenge Cup	Best Frame for extraction and Cut comb Class 10 & 11)	Mrs J Anderson & Mr C Smailes	No Reserve
CH7	The Yorkshire Post Cup	Most points in Wax Classes	Miss C H Cooper	Mr G Browster
CH8	The Yorkshire Beekeepers Challenge Cup	Most points in Class 1 to 6)	Mr J Pearson	Mr G W D Sharp
CH9	The Chairman's Gravel	Best exhibit in Class 7	Mr C Smailes Whitby BKA	
SP1	Judges Merit award	Awarded to any exhibit in any class where Judge deemed appropriate	Mr C Smailes & Mrs K Brown	
SP2	Dave Shannon Trophy	Best Exhibit by a Novice (Class 8)	Mrs J Anderson	

Championship prize winners with trophies Awarded by Nigel Pulling CEO of Yorkshire Agricultural Society



Rear Left to right – C Smailes, P Vickers, M Millard, and J Pearson

Front left to right – A Brown, Mrs C Cooper, Mrs J Anderson Mr N Pulling and Mrs K Brown.

Background Mrs M Hobson

The hard work for this year is over; but planning for next year's show begins. Judges are booked and if you would like to take part in next year's show either as an exhibitor (especially a school exhibitor) or steward please get in touch wpbka.sec@gmail.com.

Mark Millard

Chief Honey Steward

November in the Apiary

November brings an end to another beekeeping season, leaving only the task of occasionally checking your colonies for stores. By now, your hives should all be topped up with syrup if their natural forage was insufficient to provide adequate food for the long winter months. A full colony needs around 55lbs to survive until Easter time next year.

Varroa treatments should now be complete, other than for those hives that were taken to heather crops later than usual. Some treatment strips, especially where Amitraz was used, may still need to be removed. With current mild temperatures this shouldn't be a problem but try to pick a day when temps are around 14°C and do the job as quickly as possible.

All mouse guards should now be in place and a nice thick quilt (or sheet of king span insulation) placed either on top of your crown board or secured beneath the roof. Heat from colonies is lost quickly if this is not done, requiring the bees in cluster to work harder to maintain an ambient temperature for the nest. This, in turn, speeds-up their use of the winter stores.

Place a heavy stone on top of each hive to stop lids being blown off by winter-gales. Once again, I would remind you not to strap up hives in out-apiaries. Save the straps for those at home and reduce the risk of theft.

With ivy (the last natural source of pollen and nectar) virtually finished, there will be far less activity at your hive entrances. Usually, this will comprise the odd bees on water flights, or those on compulsory toilet flights. You may see more activity on the exceptional sunny day, but (novice beekeepers beware!) this is not a signal to go diving into the brood boxes to check that everything is ok. So long as stores are in place and you have followed the guidance given above, they should be left alone.

If you are in an area where woodpeckers are present it is always a good idea to either place a net over your hives or a chicken wire cage around them to protect against attacks. When doing this, make sure the gap between net/mesh and hive is a minimum of 4 inches deep, to prevent the birds being able to reach the woodwork.

Winter is the time to check and clean all your brood and super frames and boxes for the forthcoming season. Sterilize combs to protect against disease and predatory wax moth attacks before storage. Make sure all the honey you have extracted complies with the regulations on water content. Your honey is at risk of fermentation if the water content is too high. Borrow a refractometer to test this, and if you're not sure how, ask a more experienced beekeeper to assist you. Store your honey in airtight containers until you are ready to bottle it. Now is also a good time to take stock of your annual honey crop, review the sort of year you have had and think about how you can possibly improve things for the coming year.

Plan your strategies for the coming season and write them down. Are you happy with the extent of your beekeeping knowledge, or would you like to learn more? Consider applying for beekeeping

courses or tutorials to assist you. If you have already completed one or two of the BBKA Modules, consider studying over the next few months and planning an application for the General Husbandry Certificate in the years ahead. Learning is just as important for established and more experienced beekeepers. Remember, your practical experience can help those with less experience that you meet on courses and as modern beekeeping equipment and treatments are constantly evolving it is vital to keep abreast of new developments.

I would like to wish every success to YBKA beekeepers who are taking module exams this month or attending tutorials for next year's exams. Beekeeping is a non-stop learning curve, enjoy the challenge!

Dave Shannon.

What3Words App

Being a beekeeper can get you into some quite isolated locations. If the worst was to happen and you needed the Emergency Services' help, then it might be quite difficult to explain where you are.

This is where the app: "what3words" comes in extremely useful. It is now used by Emergency Services throughout the UK ([here](#)).

How does it work? It's very simple: for every 3m square area on the planet, this app gives each single square a set of unique 3 words, so you can pass those 3 words (that you get from the app) to an emergency operator and they know exactly where you are.

The best thing is, it's free! Download the app [here](#)



2019 Autumn Module Study Days

Are you thinking of taking any of the BBKA Module examinations, or currently studying for them?

Module 6: 1 place left

The YBKA winter module tutorials are the ideal way to learn and study with a group of like-minded beekeepers

Each tutorial will cover an overview of the syllabus, with an expert tutor, who will guide you through what is required within the module

Held at the YBKA pavilion at the Yorkshire Event Centre, Harrogate, from 9.30am till 3pm

Saturday 7 December with Bronwen White & Roger Pool

Module 6 Honeybee Behaviour

These tutorials are free and are a great way to learn together in informal surroundings. There is no obligation to apply for taking an exam

To book a place please register via the following link on the YBKA website

[Click here to register](#)

Please note, places are strictly limited and so offered to current members of YBKA only

Elaine Robinson YBKA Education Officer

□

YBKA Calendar of events

Saturday 30th November: AGM
10am (Harrogate)

Saturday, 7th December: Study Day.



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Committee

Position	Name	Contact Information
Chairman School Days Organiser Area Rep: Halifax, Huddersfield, Wakefield & Pontefract	Phil Gee	pjgphilgee@btinternet.com 01422 886114 / 07769 650059
Vice Chair General Secretary Area Rep: Northallerton, Thirsk, Richmond, Rydale	Roger Chappel	yorkshirebka@gmail.com 01325 315741 / 07905 190701
Treasurer	Norbert cooper	norbert.cooper@btinternet.com 01937 834 809 / 07957 404 047
Education Officer Area rep: Beverley	Elaine Robinson	education@ybka.org.uk
Webmaster Area rep: Bradford	David Lamont	davidlamont431@btinternet.com 01274 619787 / 07968 817153
Honey Show Chief Steward	Mark Millard	mark.millard@yahoo.co.uk 01924 271 203 / 07497 429 646
Bee Health Liaison Officer Area rep: Barnsley	Ivor Flatman	ivor.flatman@homecall.co.uk 01924 257089 / 07751 061 753
Newsletter Editor	Chris Barlow	newsletter@ybka.org.uk 07849 150 837
Equipment/Resources Officer	Derrie O'Sullivan	derrie@ntlworld.com 07801 953 145

Area Reps

Leeds	Kirit Gordhandas	ybkarep@leedsbeekeepers.org.uk
Rotherham	Bronwen White	bron@mistral138.plus.com

01142 307957

Barkston Ash	Greg Sharp	gandjsharp@hotmail.co.uk 07746 986 716
Doncaster	Dave Shannon	01302 772837 / 07907 856515
York & Malton	Vicki Leaf	vicki@glade-farm.co.uk 07847 327 861
Airedale & Scarborough	Linda Schofield	gorluvaduck@gmail.com 01535 609379 / 07853 651 965
Whitby	Tony Jefferson	stoneleabees@yahoo.co.uk 07749 731945

District Contacts

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Richmond	Peter Creek	creekpeter@rocketmail.com 01748 812075 / 07922 087877
Northallerton		
Malton	Bob Hirst	pamandbob@btinternet.com 01904 706 111 / 07505 865 887
Wharfedale	John Forsyth	
Doncaster	Miranda Dickinson	miranda@thorneyford.co.uk 07766 737 682
Beverley	Simon Maslin	4simonm@gmail.com 01482 656 018
Selby	Chriss Lines	chriss.line@icloud.com 07800 767555



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starts 29th November



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& 3 strainers - £36



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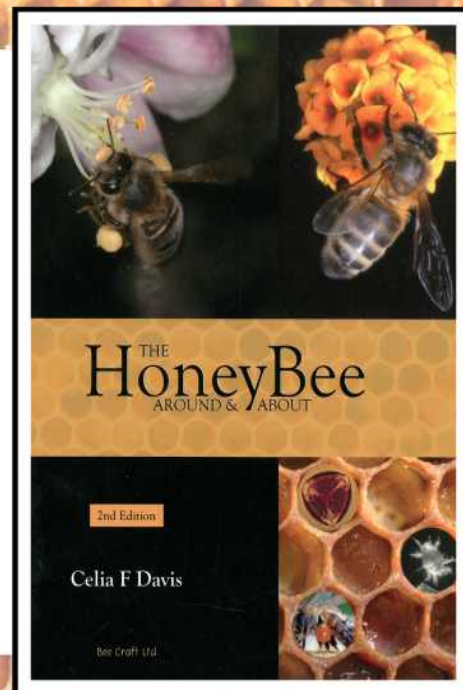
like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/E.H.Thorne or follow us on Twitter @ThorneBeehives
subscribe to our YouTube Channel at youtube.com/thornebeehives

BA Forum

[The BBKA have a new online forum. This is the web address. Pop along, sign up and say hello.](http://www.bbkaforum.co.uk)
www.bbkaforum.co.uk

The Honey Bee Around and About.

This book is a companion volume to Celia's first book 'The Honeybee Inside Out' which covers the anatomy and physiology of the honeybee. "The Honeybee Around and About" begins by looking at the origin of honeybees and continues with a description of the different subspecies. Sections included are: Honeybee beginnings, variations, health and hazards, when the kids are ill, problems with the grown ups, mighty mites, the enemy within and without, flower shows, the food of the gods, other bee essentials, on best behaviour, more than thick and sticky.



Classified Adverts

Do you have anything bee related for sale or wanting something bee related? If so, please email newsletter@ybka.org.uk the editor for a free sale or wanted listing:

Beekeeper winding down so some hives for sale

Strong colonies, clean frames, quiet bees, Brood box, varroa floors on all, queen excluder, super.
Strong colonies

£300 each or buy two for £500 and get a free folding stand. Contact vera.rider@ntlworld.com, Tel: 07828 199 739

The following pages are about ASIAN HORNET

Please print out and circulate the follow pages.

The following 3 pages are all issued by the NBU

Print out and put in your apiary under a hive roof

Print out and give to friends

Print out and hang up lots of copies in the association apiary for people to pick up and take away

Please print and give to friends, family and even people you don't really like!

Beekeepers can help to be part of the first line of defence against this menace

IF YOU SPOT AN ASIAN HORNET

Contact the NBU

There is even an APP!!! For Android and Apple

AHAT - Asian Horney Action Teams - Join the team

- Contact Ivor Flatman

You will have noted in various sources (eg BBKA News) that there are several initiatives intended to thwart the build-up of any Asian Hornet colonies. The emergence of hornet queens is the initial concern and, although we are situated in the northern region of the UK this is not a reason for complacency. YBKA is keen to ensure all our districts are as well informed as possible and we'd like to play a part in supporting members to set up monitoring traps, encourage recruitment of AHAT's and we are considering the idea of purchasing traps which districts can use.

Ivor Flatman will be our co-ordinator, the first port of call if any Asian hornet locations are suspected. To this end it would be helpful if you could supply the name of one of your members who would be prepared to liaise with Ivor should any problems arise. Please supply the details of this person to Ivor Flatman as soon as possible. It should be stressed that beekeepers are not expected to deal with any AH nests or follow up sightings themselves, but it is important that any sightings/captured hornets are reported to the NBU/NNSS via the AH watch app, email etc. Hopefully AH sightings will be limited and the NBU will coordinate any response for the present.

Contact: Ivor Flatman AHAT Co-ordinator - ivor.flatman@homecall.co.uk

Asian Hornet Information

THE BBKA IS URGING ITS MEMBERS TO ACT NOW IN ORDER TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT IN THE DETECTION OF ASIAN HORNETS

Defra has issued new advice that all beekeepers, in areas of the country where there are no Asian Hornets at present, should set out MONITORING traps for Asian Hornets baited with meat or fish late in the year. Early in the year, use something sweet.

[For an NBU guide on how to make a trap, click here \(PDF document\)](#)

[For an NBU video guide on how to make an Asian hornet trap, click here \(you tube video\)](#)

[Government news article here. UK sightings in 2019](#)

[A very good documentary about the Asian hornet and its effects in Italy with an English voice over. Click Here](#)

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Have you seen this insect?

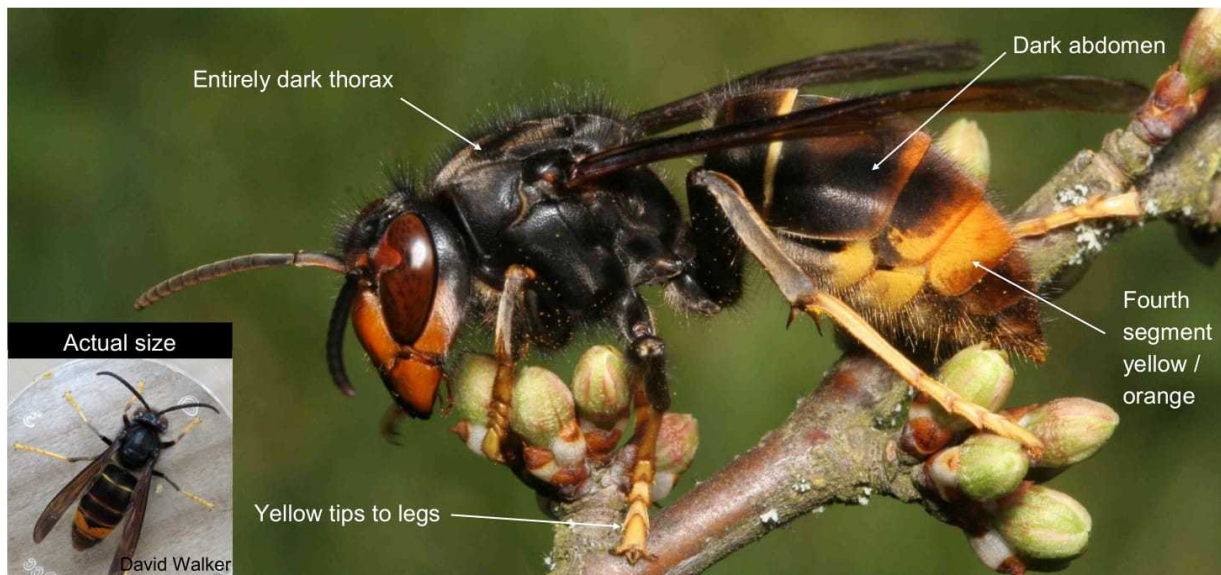
ASIAN HORNET

Vespa velutina

What is it?

An invasive non-native hornet originally from Asia. Asian hornet is a highly aggressive predator of native insects and poses a significant threat to honey bees and other pollinators. In 2004 it was accidentally introduced to France where it has spread rapidly and into neighbouring countries. Since 2016 a number of sightings have been recorded in the UK.

Suspected sightings should be reported immediately using the details provided at the bottom of this poster.



Where might I see it?

May be seen on flowering plants, around beehives, around rotting / fermenting fruit and protein, and at street markets attracted by sweet fruit and fish stalls.

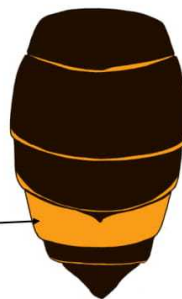
Active from February to November across England and Wales.

What does it look like?

- ☐ Slightly smaller than native hornet
- ☐ Dark abdomen, 4th segment yellow / orange
- ☐ Bright yellow tips to legs (native hornet dark)
- ☐ Entirely brown or black thorax (native hornet more orange)

Asian hornet abdomen

Native hornet abdomen



Asian hornet nest



'Hawks' outside honey bee colonies



DANGER!

This hornet stings.
Do not disturb an active nest.
Seek advice using the details below.

Report any sightings of this species:

with the free iPhone and Android recording app: **Asian Hornet Watch**

online at: **www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornet**

by email: **alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk**

www.nonnativespecies.org

Asian Hornet

Alert!

Report sightings of this species:

- with the iPhone and Android recording app: **Asian Hornet Watch**
- online at: www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornet
- by email: alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk

Species Description

Scientific name: *Vespa velutina*

AKA: Yellow-legged Hornet

Native to: Asia

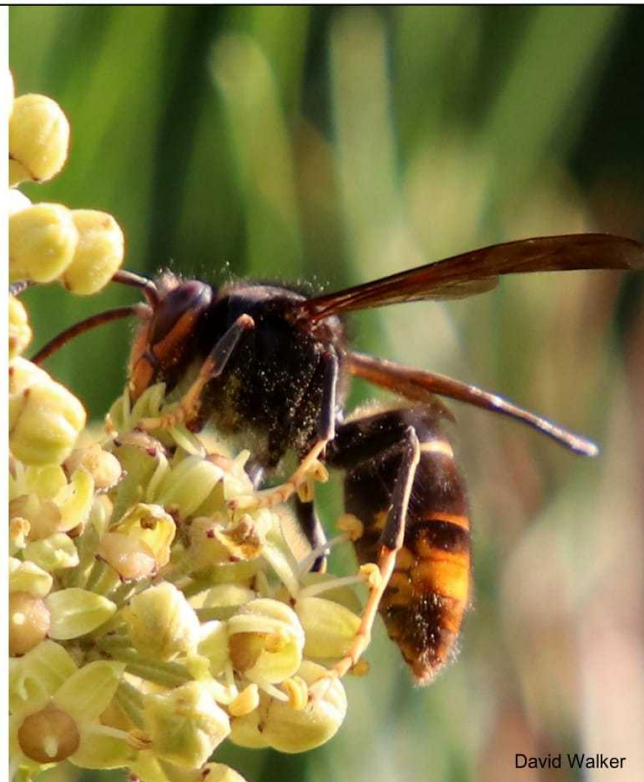
Habitat: Nests usually high in trees and man made structures, sometimes closer to the ground; hunts honey bees, other insects and also feeds on fruit and flowers.

Not easily confused with any other species. Dark brown or black velvety body. Characteristically dark abdomen and yellow tipped legs. Smaller than the native European Hornet.

Introduced to France in 2004 where it has spread rapidly. A number of sightings have been recorded in the UK since 2016. High possibility of introduction through, for example, soil associated with imported plants, cut flowers, fruit, garden items (furniture, plant pots), freight containers, in vehicles, or in/on untreated timber. The possibility that it could fly across the Channel has not been ruled out.

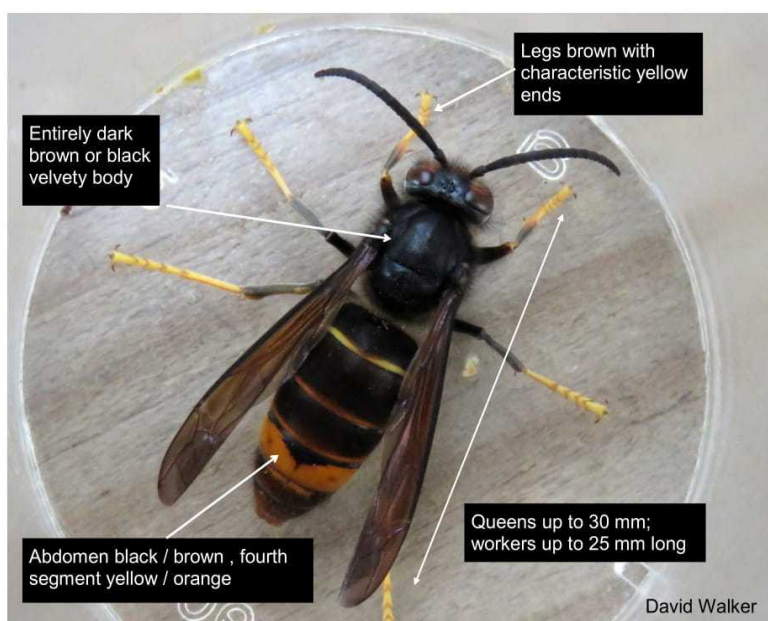
A highly aggressive predator of native insects. Poses a significant threat to honey bees and other pollinators.

Do not disturb an active nest. Members of the public who suspect they have found an Asian Hornet should report it with a photo using the details provided in the red box at the top of this ID sheet.



David Walker

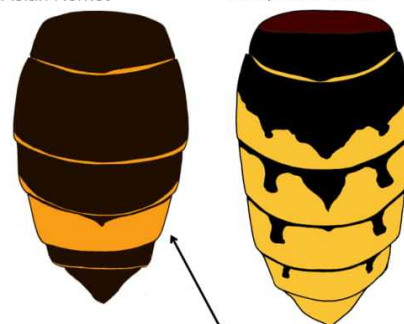
Key ID Features



David Walker

Asian Hornet

European Hornet



Asian Hornet abdomen is almost entirely dark except for 4th abdominal segment.



Asian hornet "hawking" for honey bee prey

J. Haxaire

Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*) for comparison

- Queen up to 30mm long, worker up to 25mm long
- Legs yellow at the ends
- Dark brown / black abdomen with a yellow / orange band on 4th segment
- Head dark from above, orange from front
- Dark coloured antennae
- Entirely black velvety thorax
- Never active at night

Actual size



Q. Rome

Similar Species

European hornet (*Vespa crabro*)

- Queen up to 35mm long, worker up to 30mm long
- Legs brown at the ends
- Yellow abdomen marked with brown on the upper part, not banded
- Head yellow from above, yellow from front
- Yellow antennae
- Thorax black with extensive brown markings
- May be active at night

Actual size



Roger Burgess



Mia Tonge, National Bee Unit

Giant woodwasp (*Urocerus gigas*)

- Larger than Asian hornet, female up to 45mm long
- Legs yellow
- Distinctive yellow and black banded abdomen
- Long cylindrical body unlike Asian hornet which has an obvious waist
- Long yellow antennae
- Female has an obvious long sting-like appendage (ovipositor) which it uses to lay eggs in trees

Actual size



Q. Rome

Hornet mimic hoverfly (*Volucella zonaria*)

- Abdomen has more yellow stripes than Asian hornet
- Legs darker than Asian hornets
- Only one pair of wings (hornets and wasps have two pairs)
- Large, globular eyes

Actual size



Didier Descouens



Alvesgaspar

Median wasp (*Dolichovespula media*)

- More extensive yellow and orange colouration on abdominal segments than Asian hornet
- Yellow markings on thorax unlike Asian hornet

Actual size



Q. Rome

Field Signs

Active April-November (peak August/September). Mated queens over winter singly or in groups, in various natural and man-made harbourages – underneath tree bark in cavities left by beetle larvae, in soil, on ceramic plant pots – potentially any small, well-insulated refuge. Makes very large nests in tall trees in urban and rural areas, but avoids pure stands of conifers. Will use man made structures (garages, sheds etc.) as nesting sites.



For more information visit:

www.nonnativespecies.org
www.nationalbeeunit.com

Report sightings of this species:

Alert!

- with the iPhone and Android recording app: **Asian Hornet Watch**
- online at: www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornet
- by email: alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk