

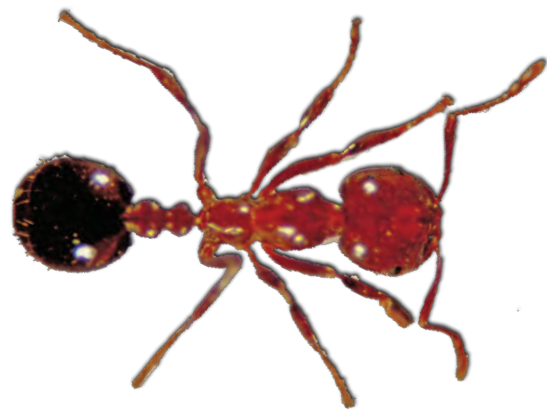
Stinging Insects of Allergenic Importance.



German Yellow Jacket
Vespula germanica

- Eastern and Western United States
- 1/2-5/8" (12-16 mm)
- Black spots on the abdomen or strong protrusions of black from black stripes
- Bold, aggressive and sting repeatedly
- Large, gray, brittle, papery soccer ball or football shaped nests underground in wall voids, attics, etc.

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Red Imported Fire Ant
Solenopsis invicta

- Southern states and Pacific Coast
- 1/16-1/4" (1-6mm)
- Sting produces a painful burning sensation
- Reddish brown females, darker males
- 18" mounds in sunny, open areas

Image by Dr. Bart Drees, Texas A&M



Bald-faced Hornet or White-Faced Hornet
Dolichovespula maculata

- Northern half of the United States
- 5/8-3/4" (16-19mm)
- Black abdomen with black and white patterns on face, thorax, abdomen, and first antennal segment
- Stings repeatedly if disturbed
- 12" or larger nests in trees, shrubs and under eaves

Image from Ken Cray Collection
Oregon State University



Black Paper Wasp
Polistes fuscatus fuscatus

- North America, predominantly the East
- 1/2-1" (13-25 mm)
- Reddish brown-black with yellow rings and reddish areas on the abdomen and amber-reddish brown wings
- Stings if provoked or if their nest is disturbed
- Papery nests hang like an umbrella from a pedicel and have open cells seen from below

Image by Jim Kalisch, University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Honey Bee
Apis mellifera

- Worldwide
- 3/8-5/8" (9.5-16 mm)
- Light brown to black mixed with yellow with a yellow and black banded abdomen and thorax covered with dense hairs
- Honey Bees live in managed hives kept by beekeepers or in hollow trees

Image by Jerry A Payne, USDA ARS
www.forestryimages.org



Southern Yellow Jacket
Vespula squamosa

- Eastern United States
- 1/2" (12mm)
- Black with yellow markings
- Stings repeatedly when threatened
- Nests in the ground have the appearance of paper cartons

Image by Lyle Buss, University of Florida



Yellow Hornet or Sand Hill Hornet (Aerial Yellow Jacket)
Dolichovespula arenaria

- North America excluding the Plains states
- 1/2" (12mm)
- Black and yellow bands on abdomen
- Stings repeatedly
- Nests hang like an umbrella from a pedicel and have open cells seen from below in trees and shrubs in wooded areas and under eaves

Image by W. Robert J. Funnell



Red Paper Wasp
Polistes annularis

- Eastern and Midwestern states
- 5/8 -7/8" (16-21 mm)
- Mahogany brown head and thorax with darker brown, black and yellow markings on the abdomen, yellow tip on the antennae
- Rarely aggressive but stings if provoked
- Papery nests hang like an umbrella from a pedicel and have open cells seen from below

Image by Jerry A Payne, USDA ARS
www.forestryimages.org



Common Brown Paper Wasp
Polistes metricus

- Texas and Eastern states
- 5/8 - 7/8" (16-21 mm)
- Reddish brown with black and yellow markings on abdomen
- Rarely aggressive but stings if provoked
- Papery nests hang like an umbrella from a pedicel and have open cells seen from below

Image by Dr. Bart Drees, Texas A&M



Common Yellow Jacket
Vespula vulgaris

- North America, especially Western and Northeastern states
- 3/8-1/2" (9.5-12 mm)
- Black and yellow striped with black spots on abdomen. Four yellow spots on the thorax plus a black diamond at the rear and a yellow stripe behind each eye
- Stings repeatedly if provoked
- Spherical, pale brown papery nests near coniferous trees in rotted stumps, fallen logs or shady locations

Image by Pest and Diseases Image Library,
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Black Imported Fire Ant
Solenopsis richteri

- Southern states and Pacific Coast
- 1/16-1/4" (1-6mm)
- Sting produces a painful burning sensation
- Reddish brown females, darker males
- 18" mounds in sunny, open areas



Golden Paper Wasp
Polistes fuscatus aurifer

- North America, predominantly the East
- 5/8 - 7/8" (16-21 mm)
- Dark reddish brown, yellow head and body with the first abdominal segment banded in yellow
- Rarely aggressive but stings if provoked.
- Papery nests hang like an umbrella from a pedicel and have open cells seen from below in meadows, fields, gardens, and buildings

Image by Jim Kalisch, University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Common Paper Wasp
Polistes exclamans

- Southeastern United States
- 1/2-5/8" (12-16 mm)
- Reddish brown, yellow markings, stripes
- Rarely aggressive, but stings if provoked
- Papery nests hang like an umbrella from a pedicel and have open cells seen from below



Eastern Yellow Jacket
Vespula maculifrons

- Eastern North America
- 3/8-1/2" (9.5-12 mm)
- Black and yellow markings
- Stings repeatedly when threatened
- Tan, papery nests are usually located underground in deciduous forests

Image by Jerry A. Payne, USDA ARS
www.forestryimages.org



Western Yellow Jacket
Vespula pensylvanica

- Western North America
- 1/2-5/8" (12-16 mm)
- Yellow with some black
- Stings repeatedly when threatened
- Usually nest underground but occasionally in wall voids, attics, etc.

Image from Ken Cray Collection
Oregon State University