



Image provided by David Walker, Dungeness

Asian hornet, *Vespa velutina* (also known as yellow legged hornet)

An invasive hornet from Asia which poses a significant threat to honey bees and other pollinators. Often confused with native hornets, see below for life size comparison highlighting key features:



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Vespa velutina × Non-native

Vespa crabro ✓ Native to UK

Illustrations by Sarah Bunker



Legs: Yellow at ends
Head: Black from above, orange face
Thorax: Black and velvety
Abdomen: Mainly black with one obvious yellow/orange band
Activity: Never active at night

Brown
Brown from above, yellow face
Black and brown
Mainly yellow with black bands, spots marks like 'dripping paint'
May be active at night

Do not disturb active nests. Report sightings via free iPhone and Android app: [Asian Hornet Watch](#).
Online at: www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornet or by email: alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk.
Further information on honey bee health available at: www.nationalbeeunit.com Tel: 0300 303 0094