

Habitat

European Wasps are found in communal nests, normally only visible as a small entrance hole. They are normally built either underground or in cavities in walls, ceilings, logs or trees. The nests are made from chewed wood fibre. Worker wasps leave the nest in search of food, and are attracted to meats, sweet food and drink.

Colonies begin in spring with a single fertilised queen, who makes a nest with a single egg in each of a small number of cells. These eggs hatch into grub-like larvae that are tended by the queen for the few weeks it takes them to reach maturity. This first batch of workers takes over nest construction and rearing larvae, and the queen concentrates on egg-laying. The nest continues to be extended throughout summer.

Bees will nest in trees and buildings and are capable of constructing very large nests. During springtime the bees will search out new areas to build a nest and will swarm around an area over a period of days whilst deciding on a suitable site.

European Wasps are more aggressive than bees and will attack when their nests are disturbed. Unlike bees, wasps can sting more than once, and do not die after stinging. The sting causes a burning pain and swelling. If stings are multiple, a more severe systemic reaction may occur.

Post Treatment Recommendation

DO NOT go near the affected area for the rest of the day post treatment **DO NOT** go outside barefoot for approximately a week after treatment **DO NOT** touch powder residue without wearing protective gloves and dust mask

DO leave powder around treated area for 3-4 weeks.DO wash any clothing that has come into contact with powder residue.DO wash hands thoroughly if they come into contact with powder residue.

Prevention Tips

- Once nest has become inactive remove it as soon as possible
- Remove any food sources such as fallen fruit or pet food etc.
- Ensure all compost bins have tightly sealed lids attached
- Seal any holes or gaps around the perimeter of the dwelling, i.e. Door frames, window frames, eaves or vents.