



EUROPEAN WASP

Help us find and destroy every nest!

This declared pest is a threat to our outdoor lifestyle, safety, horticulture industries and environment. They look similar to yellow paper wasps, but have different behaviours. **Report** suspect wasps.

 **LOOK** for these distinct characteristics:

European wasp



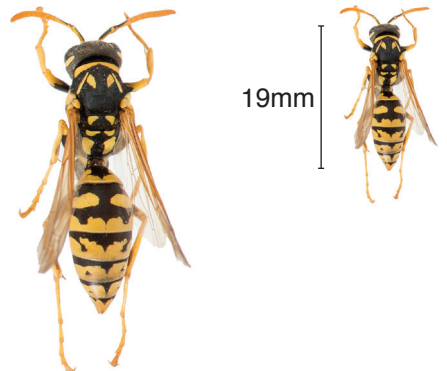
REPORT

- ▶ Feeds on human and pet food
- ▶ Black antennae
- ▶ Flies in and out of a single hole in the ground (most nests are underground)
- ▶ Raises legs during flight
- ▶ Bee-like shape 15mm long



Yellow paper wasp

- ▶ Very common in WA
- ▶ Yellow-orange antennae
- ▶ Feeds on nectar and insects
- ▶ Nests are always above ground
- ▶ Legs dangle during flight
- ▶ Slender body 15-19mm long





LOOK for these distinct characteristics to identify European wasps from paper wasps.



European wasp

Food: human and pet foods, scraps, fish, dead and live insects.

Nests: usually underground, sometimes in roof or wall cavity, or hollow trees. As big as a basketball or larger.

Flying: legs held close to body. They fly fast and do not hover.

Treatment: **DO NOT attempt to destroy on your own.** The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development will attend and control free of charge. Wasps can attack en-masse and will sting repeatedly.

Yellow paper wasp

Food: nectar, caterpillars and other small live insects.

Nests: small grey, papery honeycomb nests above ground, under roof tiles, eaves, fence capping or in bushes. Size between a golf ball and a dinner plate.

Flying: back legs dangle during flight, and they hover near bushes, lawns and water sources.

Treatment: by the householder or pest control operator. Spray nests with fly spray after sunset when wasps are inactive. Wasps may sting repeatedly if approached during the day.



REPORT



- Phone: **9368 3080**
- Report online: visit **mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au** to report or download the MyPestGuide™ Reporter app
- Email: **padis@dpird.wa.gov.au**

European wasps are attracted to human and pet food, and have a profound impact on pollination, honeybees, native invertebrates, people's health (they are highly aggressive), horticulture, the environment, and can disrupt outdoor dining and food-based recreational activities.