



EUROPEAN WASP



PAPER WASP

Size

Workers: About 15 mm (size of a bee).
Queens: larger (not usually seen).

Longer than a bee: 15-19 mm long.

Body shape

Stout: Like a bee.

Longer and thinner than a bee.
Narrow waist.

Colour

Bright yellow and black, no other colours.

Yellow paper wasp: Bright yellow and black.

Common paper wasp: Brown with yellow and black stripes.

Antennae

All black (see picture above).

Orange or brown tips (see picture above).

Flying

Legs held close to body during flight.

Fly very quickly, generally do not hover.

Back legs dangle down during flight.

Often seen hovering around bushes and over lawns.

Nests

Rarely seen. Usually below ground.

Often seen. Usually above ground.