

BENEFICIAL BEES

Bees are pollinators, and their activity helps plant populations thrive. While these insects can be a nuisance and even pose health risks, they benefit the environment in many ways. That's why we go to great lengths to understand each bee species:



BUMBLE BEE

Large and fuzzy with black and yellow colouring



NEST

In dark, secluded cavities | Favour empty animal burrows and mouse nests



BEHAVIOUR

Semi-social with small colonies | Pollinate crops and wild plants | Not overly aggressive



STINGS

Can sting multiple times | Rarely go out of their way to sting | Only females have stingers



HONEY BEE

Light brown with light and dark stripes



NEST

In hollow structures and voids | Often found in walls, attics, crawl spaces, holes of trees and on rock crevices



BEHAVIOUR

Social insects with large colonies | Produce an abundance of honey that we can use | Perform dances to help others in the hive locate nearby flowers



STINGS

Only sting once but doing so releases a pheromone alert that recruits other workers to defend the colony



CARPENTER BEE

Similar to bumble bees but with a solid black, shiny and hairless abdomen



NEST

Excavate tunnels in eaves, decks, siding, fascia boards and porches | Prefer weather-worn, unpainted wood



BEHAVIOUR

Non-social and solitary with no colonies | Pollinate a wider variety of plants and for a longer period of time than other bee species | Tunneling can cause noticeable damage to wood



STINGS

Females can sting but only do so when bothered | Males appear aggressive but do not have a stinger

Watch out for destructive stinging insects:

Unlike bees, wasps are not pollinators and are generally more aggressive. **Wasps like yellow jackets and hornets can display hostile behaviour** and disrupt outdoor activities.