

Asian Hornet Vespa velutina nigrithorax



What does the Asian Hornet (AH) look like?



- 25-30 mm long
- Orange face with large brown eyes
- Black thorax
- Long legs, lower parts yellow
- Small long wings, folded in rest
- Dark coloured abdomen with
- Fourth segment yellow/orange



What do Asian Hornets nests look like?



Embryonic nests

- Queen takes care of nest
- Few cells only

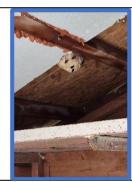


Primary nests (without envelope)

- Workers take care of
- Small 10-20 cm
- Spherical
- Opening at bottom



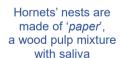
Primary nest in a water pump box



Examples of primary nests



Primary nest in a bird box



Secondary nests

- Larger nests
- Often a few meters above ground in trees, hedges, also built underground
- · Opening halfway up







The Asian Hornet is a notifiable invasive species, and any sighting must be reported.



For safety reasons, DO NOT, under any circumstances, interfere with a (suspected) Asian Hornet nest.

Take a photograph of the Asian Hornet / nest.

Report the observation with location to https://records.biodiversityireland.ie.

On the above webpage select 'start recording', select 'invasive species', and report the finding.

Photos: above photographs with courtesy of Frankie de Dobbelaere.

Lifecycle of hornet follows the lifecycle of the queen.

