

DESTRUCTION OF ASIAN HORNET NESTS



The destruction of nests should be carried out by authorized entities or agents specifically trained for this purpose (for example, specialized pest control companies, beekeeping technicians, forest firefighters).

If you identify a nest, whether it is primary or secondary, you should never attempt to remove the nest on your own.



The use of firearms, gasoline, or other methods, in addition to endangering your safety, will spread the hornets that escape and form new colonies, which will have the opposite effect of what is intended.



For more information, consult the "Action Plan for the Surveillance and Control of Asian Hornet in Portugal," available on the portal www.icnf.pt

COLLABORATE CIVIL PROTECTION STARTS WITH YOU



USEFUL CONTACTS



PREVENT PLAN RESCUE

Municipal Civil Protection Service of Almada
Rua dos Lusíadas - Bairro do Matadouro
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Vespa velutina
(Asian Hornet)

Prevention | Self-Protection

**STOP
VESPA**



CMA CÂMARA MUNICIPAL DE ALMADA

HOW TO IDENTIFY THE ASIAN HORNET

The **Asian hornet** (*Vespa velutina*) measures between 2.5 cm (workers) and 3 cm (queens) in length. It has a black head with an orange/yellow face. The body is dark brown or velvety black, marked by a thin yellow band and a single abdominal segment that is almost entirely yellow/orange.

The **Asian hornet** is often confused with the European hornet (*Vespa crabro*); the latter is slightly larger, with a length ranging from 3 to 3.5 cm, featuring a rust-red thorax and head, an abdomen predominantly yellow, especially the last 4 segments, and brown legs.

European Hornet

Asian Hornet



The main effects of the presence of the Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*) manifest in various ways, with notable impacts including:

Beekeeping: As a carnivorous species that preys on bees.

Public Health: While not more aggressive than the European hornet, they can react quite aggressively if they feel their nests are threatened, including pursuing individuals for several hundred meters.

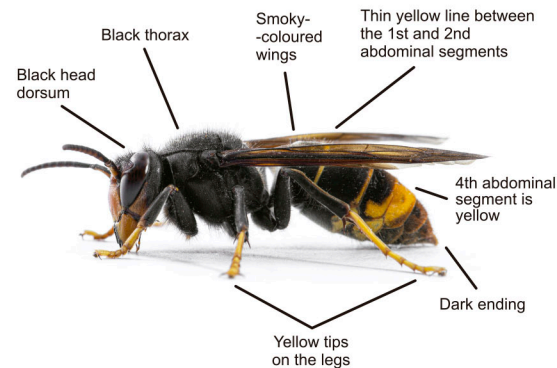
ASIAN HORNET NESTS

Most Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*) nests appear in the treetops. A nest installed in the canopy of a tree is almost certainly that of the Asian hornet.

The Asian hornet develops two distinct types of nests:

Primary Nests: Constructed between April and June, approximately the size of a tennis ball, with a small entrance at the bottom, and located in a protected area.

Asian Hornet (*Vespa velutina*)



Slightly smaller than the native European hornet (*Vespa crabro*):
Queen: 3.5 cm; Workers: 3 cm



Asian hornet primary nest

Secondary or Final Nests: Built from June to October, these can reach dimensions of about 80 cm in height and 60 cm in diameter, with a lateral entrance located in the upper half of the nest and a closed base. They are found in tree canopies, trees, unoccupied warehouses/habitations, porches, roof eaves, walls, or even underground.



Asian hornet definitive nest

In the case of European Hornet nests, the entrance is at the base, which remains open, allowing the honeycombs to be visible.

The only situation where distinguishing between Asian Hornet and European Hornet is impossible occurs when the nest is located in a hole or cavity. In such cases, differentiation can only be made based on the identification of the hornet individuals.

If you suspect the presence of a nest, contact the Almada Municipal Civil Protection Service or report it through the **STOP Vespa platform** at <http://stopvespa.icnf.pt/>.