



# European wasp

Help us find and destroy every nest

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

 **LOOK for these distinctive characteristics:**

## European wasp



### REPORT

- Feed on human and pet food (protein)
- Black antennae
- Fly in and out of a single hole in the ground (most nests underground)
- Raise legs during flight
- Bee-like shape 15 mm long



## Yellow paper wasp

- Very common in WA
- Feed on nectar and insects
- Nests are smaller and high above the ground
- Legs dangle during flight
- Yellow-orange antennae
- Slender body 15 to 19 mm long





## LOOK for these distinctive characteristics to identify European wasps from paper wasps:



### European wasp

**Food:** pet foods, scraps, meat, fish and dead 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 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 and lawns.

**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



### Report your observations

MyPestGuide® Reporter  
via app or online  
[mypestguide.dpird.wa.gov.au](http://mypestguide.dpird.wa.gov.au)

Pest and Disease Information Service  
08 9368 3080  
[padis@dpird.wa.gov.au](mailto: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.

[dpird.wa.gov.au/europeanwasp](http://dpird.wa.gov.au/europeanwasp)