



KNOW YOUR INSECTS



Knowing what type of buzzing insect stung your pet is helpful when deciding on the best treatment options

HONEY BEE



BUMBLE BEE



WASP



HORNET



Images are not to scale



BEEES: There are nearly 20,000 known types of bees and their appearances can differ quite a bit. Typically, bees are golden and black in colour and look fuzzy due to tiny hairs all over their body. Bees can only sting once as their stinger becomes embedded in the skin which kills it. This is why bee stings are less common.

WASPS: There are thought to be over 100,000 different types of wasps but you can typically spot them by their bright yellow & black rings, defined waist, and tapered abdomen. Wasps are not usually hairy like bees and can sting more than once. Top tip, 'flapping about' will probably antagonise them more!

HORNETS: A type of wasp, hornets are typically much bigger and rounder than their relatives, although they are said to be less aggressive when provoked. Hornets can also sting multiple times, but the chemicals in their venom make it more painful. Hornets are brown & a yellow/orange/red colour, with little black markings on the body. They can grow up to 5.5cm long.

HOW TO TREAT STINGS:

Scrape the sting away with a credit card and apply:

- Wasp = vinegar/lemon juice or,
- Bee = bicarbonate of soda & water paste

Apply a cold pack to the swelling

If your pet has an adverse reaction, or the swelling is causing further distress to them or is likely to affect an airway, give our Vets a call right away

