

Honey Bees

Profile/Characteristics

Honey Bees are common throughout the UK and live in large colonies. They differ in appearance from wasps as they are usually dark brown and slightly hairy in appearance.

Over Winter, honey bees cluster into a ball to conserve warmth and live on stored honey and pollen.

By mid April, the hive is swarming with a new generation of bees.

In Spring/early Summer, the bees swarm due to the colony becoming too large for the space it is occupying. The original queen will leave the nest or hive and take about half of the workers with her. They then look for somewhere to set up a new home and start a new colony.



How to control Honey Bees

In most cases, unless a hive is approached too closely, or bees are under serious threat, they are unlikely to sting. They are more likely to sting during swarming times. Very often these swarms will land on a tree and can be seen hanging from a branch. In this situation, it can be possible for us to collect the swarm, and relocate them with a bee keeper.

If the bees have disappeared into a hole in the ground or on a building, they need to be dealt with as soon as possible. Sometimes they will move on, but they can also decide to stay and form a colony. This would mean that they could return every year and would become more difficult to get rid of, once they are established.

It is important that you contact us as soon as you notice a bee swarm.