



Asian Hornet

INTRODUCTION





Introduction

Dear teacher,

In this package, your students will explore the Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*) in an active, inquiry-based, and creative way. The Asian hornet is a current and growing threat in Belgium. This invasive wasp species poses a danger to our native pollinators, biodiversity, and agriculture. By informing students and actively involving them, they contribute themselves to protecting our biodiversity and food supply. No prior knowledge is required. The scientific information is clearly explained, and where necessary we refer to professional online resources.

This package consists of 7 ready-to-use lesson sheets based on the insect's life cycle (see Figure 1), nicely spread throughout the school year. Each sheet includes:

- Activities with instructions and required materials
- Clear learning objectives
- Sufficient background information
- References to useful additional resources

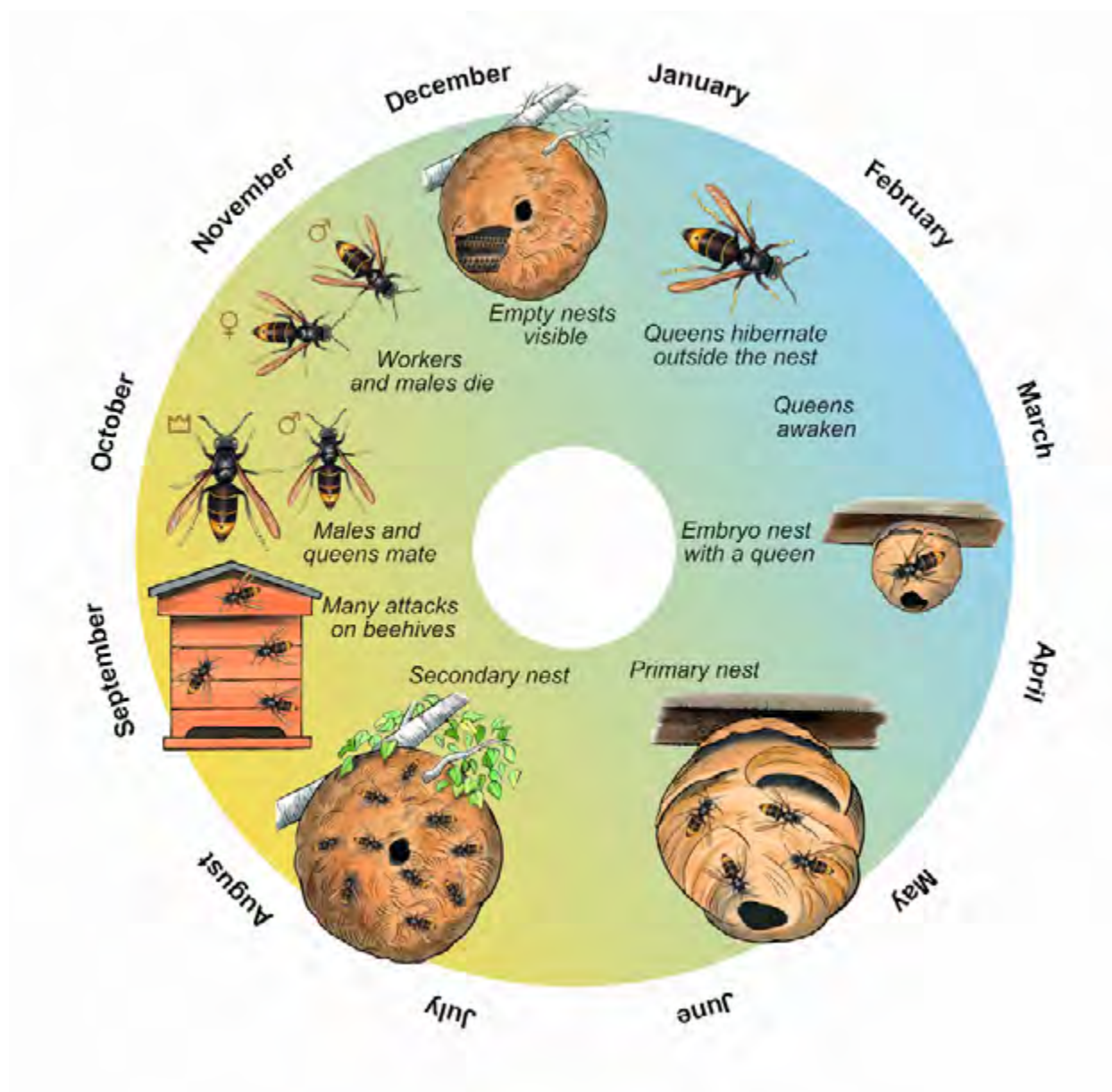
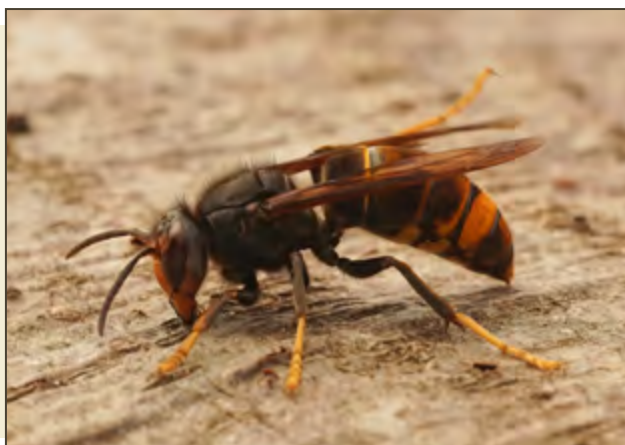


Figure 1: Life cycle of the Asian hornet. Source : [Le Frelon asiatique et son piégeage](#)



Overview

SHEET	TITLE	CONTENT	PERIOD
1	Introduction to the Asian hornet	What's going on? Students get to know the species and understand why it is a problem.	September
2	Impact on agriculture and nature	Why does it matter? Students discover how the Asian hornet affects bees, nature, and agriculture.	September - October
3	Nest detection in autumn: recognizing and reporting nests	What can we do? Students learn to identify nests and understand the importance of timely reporting.	October - November
4	Creating a flower meadow	How can we help nature? Students experience that they can take positive action for pollinators.	October - November
5	Build your own hornet trap	How do we tackle this? Students build a trap and learn about its construction and functioning.	January - February
6	Monitoring and data analysis	We observe what happens. Students collect data and learn how to analyze it.	March - April
7	Communication and reflection: show your impact!	Sharing what we learned. Students present their work and reflect on their learning process.	May - June



Safety and responsibility

This project is entirely educational and observational: students learn to observe, identify, and report, but never carry out dangerous actions.



DO'S

- **Observe and record:** enter observations via [Waarnemingen.be](https://www.waarnemingen.be)
- **Learn to identify:** focus on biology, ecology, and biodiversity
- **Know first aid:** teachers know what to do in case of a sting
- **Inform parents:** make arrangements for students with known allergies (e.g. keeping distance, carrying an epinephrine auto-injector)



DON'TS

- Students do not catch or handle hornets
- Nests are never approached or removed
- Only adults place and empty traps



What to do in case of a sting (Poison Control Center)

- Stay calm and move away from the nest or trap
- Remove the stinger only if it is visible (Asian hornets usually do not leave one behind)
- Cool the sting area with ice or cold water
- **In case of a severe allergic reaction: call emergency services (112)**
- In case of significant swelling: consult a doctor



Responsibility

- The school provides clear instructions and supervision
- Parents are informed in advance
- The prevention advisor carries out a risk assessment and determines any additional measures
- GoodPlanet and Rotary are not liable for stings or accidents when using traps; users are responsible for taking necessary precautions

Tip: Display this sheet prominently in classrooms and near first aid stations.