The

Common UK bumblebee species



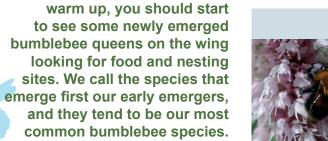


Bumblebees listed by colour pattern

White-tailed bumblebee

Ginger-tailed bumblebee

Red-tailed bumblebee



As temperatures start to



Tree bumblebee (Bombus hypnorum)

Recent immigrant from France. Unique brown, black and white colour pattern. This bumblebee has spread rapidly and is now widespread in England, Wales and Scotland.

Photo: Bumblebee worker



Queen/Worker/Male

Buff-tailed bumblebee (Bombus terrestris)

Queens and males usually have buff tails but workers' tails are largely white, usually with a hint of buff at the front margin. Yellow bands slightly darker/dirtier than in the White-tailed.

Photo: Queen bumblebee by Andrea Finch



Queen

Worker



Common carder bee (Bombus pascuorum) Queen/Worker/Male

The only common brown bumblebee. Some forms have a very dark abdomen, but others are very light and similar to rarer carder bees.

Photo: Bumblebee worker



White-tailed bumblebee (Bombus lucorum)

Similar to Buff-tailed bumblebee but tail always pure white and bands brighter yellow. Males have yellow faces and often extra yellow bands.

Photo: Queen bumblebee by Andrea Finch



Queen Male



Early bumblebee (Bombus pratorum)

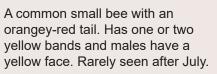


Photo: Male bumblebee by Gordon Mackie



Queen

Queen



Garden bumblebee (Bombus hortorum)

A very long-tongued species with a white tail and yellow bands, including one at the rear of the thorax. Has a longer 'horse-like' face.

Photo: Male bumblebee by Andrea Finch



Queen/Worker/Male



Red-tailed bumblebee (Bombus lapidarius)



Females are all black, with a red tail. Males have yellow hair on the face and a yellow band at the front of the thorax.

Photo: Queen bumblebee by Jack Reid







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