IS IT A BEE?

*With more than 1,600 species of bees* in Australia, these features are typical, but there are also exceptions to each generalisation.

**Look for:**

- **Body shape** hourglass, with ‘waist’ and cylindrical abdomen & thorax.

- **Pollen-carrying hair** (scopa) on legs or abdomen (for many females, not all)

- **Long antennae** often with kink/elbow

- **Eyes** long, oval, at side of ‘face’, often black

- **Wings** often on back at rest and shorter than the body (2 pairs)

- **Head** triangular or tear-shaped
IS IT A FLY?

Look for:

- **Eyes** large, round and cover much of the ‘face’

- **Short antennae**, often hard to see

- **Body shape** usually ‘stout’ with less obvious ‘waist’

- **Wings** one pair only, usually longer than body. Often held out at 45° angle at rest

- **Head** round, large

- **Other:** Some mimic bees & wasps.

* With **at least 7,000 species of flies** in Australia, these features are typical, but there are also exceptions to each generalisation.
IS IT A WASP?

Look for:

• **Body shape** often long and slim, with distinct ‘waist’. Legs often dangle in flight.

• **Eyes** long, oval-shaped, at side of head, sometimes with a ‘notch’ (emarginate)

• **Long antennae**

• **Wings** usually long and thin, generally shorter than the body (2 pairs)

• **Head** triangular or tear-shaped

• **Other**: some with visible ovipositor.

* With **at least 12,000 species of wasps** in Australia, these features are typical, but there are also exceptions to each generalisation.*
**BUTTERFLY**

*Look for:*

- **Wings** held high above body (tent shape)
- **Antennae** with a knob at end
- Typically **brighter colours**
- Generally **fly during the day**

**moth**

*Look for:*

- **Wings** held flat along body
- **Antennae** simple or feathery, ending in a fine point
- Typically **dull or iridescent colours**
- Generally **fly at night**

*With more than 20,000 species of butterflies and moths* in Australia, these features are typical, but there are also exceptions to each generalisation.
Look for:

- Often **round to oval** body shape
- **Hard forewings** (elytra) with hindwings often hidden (used for flying)
- **Antennae visible**, but varying lengths & shapes
- **Chewing mouthparts**
- **Typically short flights**
- **Huge variety of colors, sizes**

*With more than 20,000 species of beetles* in Australia, these features are typical, but there are also exceptions to each generalisation.

**Ladybird beetle**

Look for:

- **Domed body shape**
- **Short legs**
- **Short, clubbed antennae**
- **Variety of colours and patterns**
European honey bee

Look for:

• General ‘bee’ characteristics
• Pollen collected on back legs
• Colours vary from golden to near black, and with light to distinctive stripes.

Blue-banded bee

Look for:

• General ‘bee’ characteristics
• Stripes typically blue (but can be lighter or orange) on black abdomen.
• Pollen collected on back legs
• Hairy appearance. Rounder body, smaller than honey bees.

Visit our website: www.wildpollinatorcount.com
Hover fly

Look for:

- ‘Hovering’ flight above plants
- Large round eyes covering much of the face, small antennae
- Usually yellow and black, but colors, patterns and size vary between species
- Not hairy. Slim legs. Flat abdomen when viewed side-on.

European wasp

Look for:

- Stocky shape, ~15mm long
- Yellow with black markings

Other insects

You may see other insects while watching flowers for the Wild Pollinator Count. We welcome additional observations or comments in your submission.

Visit our website: www.wildpollinatorcount.com