

Bumblebees of the World

Layout & Text: Eva Kettl, München, DE

Scientific advice: Prof. Dave Goulson, University of Sussex, UK

Photo: Pieter Haringsma, Delft, NL

Bombus hortorum

is one of the more common bumblebee species and can be found throughout Europe up to an altitude of about 2,100 meters.

Its habitat is parks and gardens in urban areas, meadows, orchards and forest edges.

B. hortorum is easily confused with B. terrestris by the nonprofessional, but it has a much longer head and proboscis and a yellow double band in the middle of the body.

The nest is on or near the surface in the soil, but can also be built in abandoned bird and mouse nests, bird nest boxes, in and on buildings. Under good circumstances, there may be a second generation: The young queens from the first nest start their own nest before the end of summer, and the overwintering queens come from there.