CITIZEN SCIENCE MONITORING: MARITIME NORTHWEST Bee Morphogroups Cheat Sheet

HONEY BEES

Colors: KEY CHARACTERISTICS:

(Figure 1)

(Figure 2)



BUMBLE BEES

striped abdomen Moist pollen on hind legs



CHAP LEG BEES



MEDIUM DARK BEES

SIZE RANGE: 7-18 mm/0.28-0.71"

Colors: KEY CHARACTERISTICS:

- -
- Narrow-robust; fuzzy head & thorax; some species have pale stripes on abdomen
- Females carry dry pollen on hind legs and •
- sometimes under thorax arm pits Some species nest in large aggregations in the
- ground
- May be found inside or at base of flowers; move • <u>very</u> fast

ð

METALLIC GREEN BEES

SIZE RANGE: 9-11 mm/0.35-0.43"

Colors:

- **Key CHARACTERISTICS:**
- → Narrow; fuzzy head & thorax; striped abdomen
- Females carry dry pollen on hind legs → Coloration varies—may green all over, or have a
- light-and-dark striped abdomen



TINY DARK BEES

(Figure 6) SIZE RANGE: 4-8 mm/0.16-0.31" Colors: **Key CHARACTERISTICS:** Narrow; sparse hair; faint or no abdominal stripes Dry pollen on hind legs or in stomach May have yellow or white markings on face, often metallic green or blue-green in bright light 5 mm / 6-8 mm / 4-7 mm / (also black, brown, or pale gold) 0.16-0.28" 0.2' 0.24-0.31

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

(continued on other side)

(Figure 4)

(Figure 3)

(Figure 5)

STRIPED HAIRY BELLY BEES

SIZE RANGE: 8-12 mm/0.31-0.47"

- Colors:
- Key Characteristics:
- → Very robust; fuzzy all over, pale hair stripes on abdomen
- → Dry pollen on belly (under abdomen) → When visiting flowers, females bees often elevate abdomen

METALLIC HAIRY BELLY BEES

SIZE RANGE: 8-12 mm/0.31-0.47"

Colors: **KEY CHARACTERISTICS:**

- → Robust; fuzzy all over, no stripes on abdomen
- Dry pollen on belly
- → Among the first bees seen in early spring

CUCKOO BEES

SIZE RANGE: 8-12 mm/0.31-0.47

Colors: Key CHARACTERISTICS:

- → Small-large, very narrow; usually not hairy; wasp-like stripes
- → Lack pollen-carrying structures—very narrow legs
- + Look similar to wasps; often seen flying low to the ground or on flowers

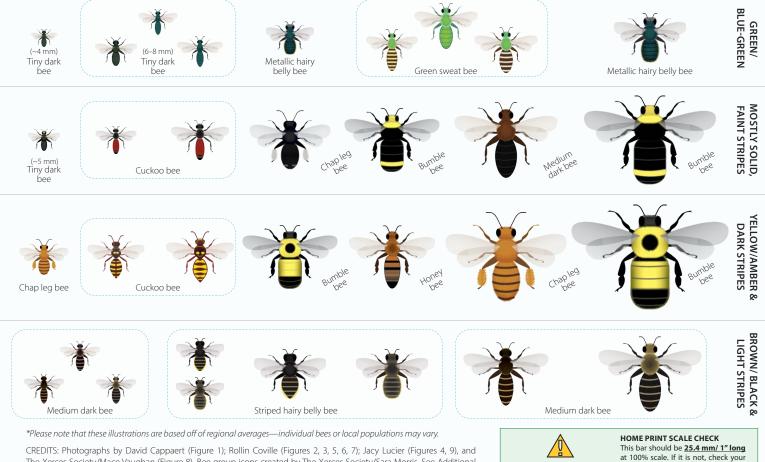






Figure 10: Bee Groups Size & Color Cheat Sheet*

SMALL → LARGE



CREDITS: Photographs by David Cappaert (Figure 1); Rollin Coville (Figures 2, 3, 5, 6, 7); Jacy Lucier (Figures 4, 9), and The Xerces Society/Mace Vaughan (Figure 8). Bee group icons created by The Xerces Society/Sara Morris. See Additional Acknowledgments on page 58 in the Citizen Science Monitoring Guide: Maritime Northwest Bees & Butterflies for more details.

printer's scale settings.

(Figure 7)