

Bumble Bees of Alberta



YELLOW



Nevada **Northern amber** **Yellow-head**[±]
B. nevadensis *B. borealis* *B. flavifrons*

BLACK BOTTOMED



Confusing **Half-black**
B. perplexus *B. vagans*

WHITE-BOTTOMED



Western[◇] **Gypsy cuckoo** **Cryptic**
B. occidentalis *B. bohemicus* *B. cryptarum*

ORANGE-BANDED



Tri-coloured **Hunt's** **Red-belted**[±] **Two form**^{±◇} **Black-tailed**[•]
B. ternarius *B. huntii* *B. rufocinctus* *B. bifarius* *B. melanopygus*

YELLOW-BANDED



Yellow-banded **Two form**^{±◇} **Red-belted**[±]
B. terricola *B. bifarius* *B. rufocinctus*

ORANGE-BOTTOMED



Frigid[•] **Central** **Yellow-head**^{±•} **Fuzzy-horned**
B. frigidus *B. centralis* *B. flavifrons* *B. mixtus*

Species in decline

± Highly variable species. Not all patterns shown.

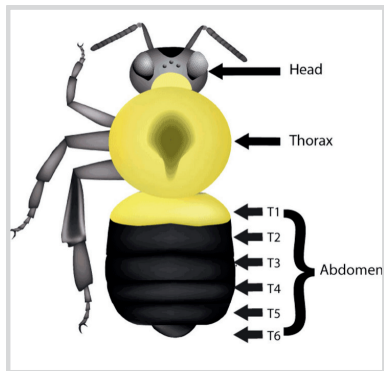
- Species is rare
- ◇ Southern AB only

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Bee Morphology



Females & Males

Male bumble bees emerge later in the season and have some of the following physical characteristics.

FEMALE



MALE



Males have:

1. Extra abdominal segment
2. Extra antenna segment
3. Thinner legs with no pollen baskets
4. Often longer/ shaggier hair

Males are difficult to identify to species by colour compared to females.

This is for quick reference for identifying the most common and declining bumble bee species in Southern Alberta. Only common colour pattern(s) for queens of each species is provided. If you encounter a different colour pattern or caste, refer to a more comprehensive resource.

Bumble bee illustrations: Paul Williams (identification and colour patterns) and Elaine Evans, Rich Hatfield (bee body design)

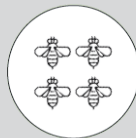
Submit your Sightings to BumbleBeeWatch.org



Take a photo of a bumble bee



Log in and upload your photo(s)



Identify the bee species



Sighting will be verified by an expert

