

# Announcement

The ultimate visual journey into the beautiful and complex world of wasps

## WASPS

### The Astonishing Diversity of a Misunderstood Insect

Eric R. Eaton

- Packed with more than 150 incredible colour photos
- Includes a wealth of eye-popping infographics
- Provides comprehensive treatments of most wasp families
- Describes wasp species from all corners of the world
- Covers wasp evolution, ecology, physiology, diversity, and behaviour
- Highlights the positive relationships wasps share with humans and the environment

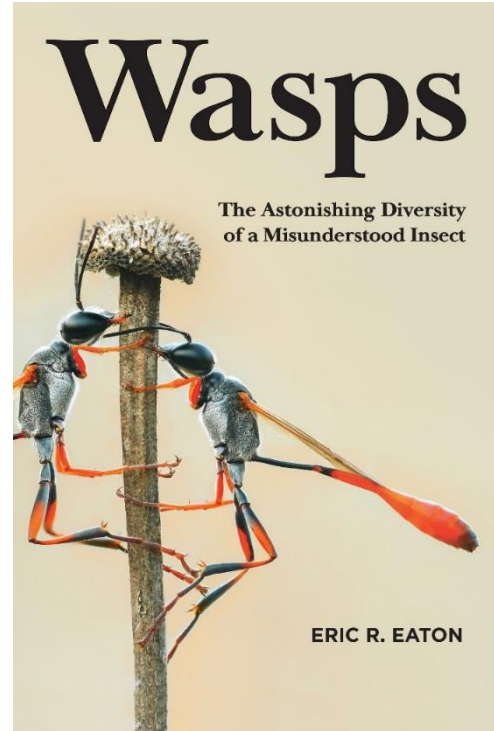
Wasps are far more diverse than the familiar yellowjackets and hornets that harass picnickers and build nests under the eaves of our homes. These amazing, mostly solitary creatures thrive in nearly every habitat on Earth, and their influence on our lives is overwhelmingly beneficial. Wasps are agents of pest control in agriculture and gardens. They are subjects of study in medicine, engineering, and other important fields. Wasps pollinate flowers, engage in symbiotic relationships with other organisms, and create architectural masterpieces in the form of their nests. This richly illustrated book introduces you to some of the most spectacular members of the wasp realm, colourful in both appearance and lifestyle. From minute fairy-flies to gargantuan tarantula hawks, wasps exploit almost every niche on the planet. So successful are they at survival that other organisms emulate their appearance and behaviour. The sting is the least reason to respect wasps and, as you will see, no reason to loathe them, either. Written by a leading authority on these remarkable insects, WASPS reveals a world of staggering variety and endless fascination.

Eric R. Eaton is a writer, editor, and consultant who has worked as an entomologist for several leading institutions, including the Smithsonian and the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden. He is the lead author of the Kaufmann Field Guide to Insects of North America and the co-author of Insects Did It First. He runs the blogs Bug Eric and Sense of Misplaced. Twitter @BugEric

## Wasps: The Astonishing Diversity of a Misunderstood Insect

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Hardcover | £25.00 | 9780691211428 | 256 pages | 6.13 x 9.25 in. | 150 colour photos | Princeton University Press  
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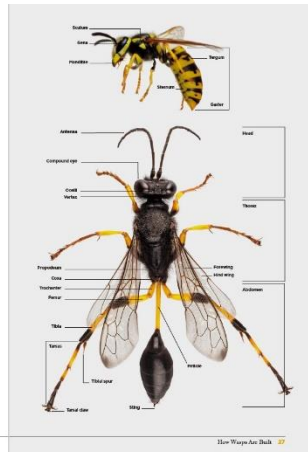


### How Wasps Are Built

We call other people "opticians" as an insult, but insectarians—these animals without backbones—have done quite well. The most successful insectarians are the antipodids, of which insects are the largest subset. Wasps have arguably created the insect model to its most efficient and aesthetic designs, both outside and inside.

The phloem-feeding insects, including bees, wasps, and ants, are the most successful of all insects. They are the most diverse and most abundant of all insects, and they are the most successful of all insects. They are the most diverse and most abundant of all insects, and they are the most successful of all insects.

The insect life cycle of insects differs from that of vertebrates. Insects have a life cycle that is divided into two main parts: the egg stage and the adult stage. The egg stage is the most vulnerable stage of the insect's life cycle, and it is the most vulnerable stage of the insect's life cycle.



### Wings and Flight

Wasps that have wings usually have two pairs. The front wing, the forewing, is the larger of the two. The hind wing is much shorter, but may have an equal surface area depending on the species or even the sex. The forewing and hind wing are joined when the insect is flying. This union is accomplished by tiny hooks on the leading edge of the hind wing that lock onto the leading edge of the forewing. These hooks are called hamuli. Wasps are extraordinary acrobats, and some are among the fastest flying insects. A few can hover, like male mud wasps (family Chalcididae, genus *Chalcid*), while females of the same family (*Chalcid*) hover only as they fly as predators to their themselves' predators.

Surprisingly, the wings of wasps are made of a material that is much stronger than that of other insects. The wings of wasps are made of a material that is much stronger than that of other insects. The wings of wasps are made of a material that is much stronger than that of other insects.



Wasps have a very unique way of flying. They are able to hover, and they are able to fly very fast. They are able to fly very fast, and they are able to hover. They are able to fly very fast, and they are able to hover.

### The Wasp Life Cycle

All wasps are holometabolous insects. This means that they undergo complete metamorphosis. This is a complex, advanced life cycle shared by ants, bees, beetles, flies, butterflies, moths, caterpillars, and tadpoles. It involves four main stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. The adult stage is the most complex stage of the life cycle, and it is the most complex stage of the life cycle.

The life cycle of wasps is very complex. It involves four main stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. The adult stage is the most complex stage of the life cycle, and it is the most complex stage of the life cycle.

