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-wasps 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 last 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 Kaufman 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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