

TRULY ON WASPS



There are four common wasp species that can be a nuisance for humans. These are the Paper Wasp, Yellowjacket, Hornet and the Mud Dauber.

The Paper Wasp, Yellowjacket and Hornet are social wasps. This means that they have an order of wasps consisting of workers, drones and a queen. Young fertilized queens will be the only wasps that survive over the winter to start a new colony in the spring. Social wasps will defend the nest and will sting in doing so. These wasps can be considered dangerous because of its behaviour.



The Mud Dauber is a solitary wasp and it gets its name from building its nest out of mud. This wasp does not sting very often even when provoked, however, they can sting if irritated enough. It will build its nest on sides of buildings or under eaves leading to an increased opportunity of confrontation with humans.

Wasps can range from 10 to 25 mm in length. There is a hollow stinger on the rear of the abdomen that will inject a venom when it penetrates the skin. Since the stinger is not barbed, the wasp



is able to repeatedly sting the target. Reaction from wasp stings can vary from some local pain to swelling in mild cases. In more severe cases, anaphylactic shock within minutes of being stung can occur.

Some wasps are beneficial, as they will feed on spiders, caterpillars, flies and other insects. However, in late summer and into fall, wasp populations are increased and the potential contact with scavenger wasps (Yellowjacket) is increased.

Ask your local Truly Nolen expert for the best method of treatment for your home.

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