

Pest Alert: Asian Giant Hornet

Vespa mandarinia



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

Introduction

Asian giant hornet (AGH), *Vespa mandarinia*, (Hymenoptera, Vespidae), is a serious potential pest of honeybees and other insects. In 2019, hornets were found in British Columbia, Canada and Blaine, WA.

AGH has not been found in Oregon. However, in order to successfully keep them from establishing here, they must be reported quickly.

AGH is a threat to Oregon's honeybees. Hornets prey on honeybees throughout the growing season, and later in the summer they may conduct coordinated attacks that will destroy entire honeybee colonies.

What can you do? Report!

If you believe you have found an Asian giant hornet, notify Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) immediately. Early detection is vital.

- **Take photos** if possible (but do not risk being stung).

Contact the Oregon Department of Agriculture at:

- plant-entomologists@oda.state.or.us
- 503-986-4636
- Online identification form
<https://oda.direct/InsectID>

References

USDA APHIS PPQ PERAL. 2020. New Pest Response Guidelines: *Vespa mandarinia*, Asian giant hornet. Update 02102020. 62 pages

Washington State Department of Agriculture Plant Protection Division. 2020. Call to beekeepers to help protect honeybee colonies from invasive Asian giant hornet. AGR Pub 809-816 (N/1/20). 2 pages

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Field Identification

Look for:

- Large wasps about 1.25 to nearly 2 inches long
- Large, yellow-orange head
- Significant numbers of killed honeybees in or around a hive. They are typically snipped into pieces.



Asian giant hornet found in Washington state.

From WA State Department of Agriculture hornet pest alert AGR Pub 809-816

Pest Status

Not only can AGH impact honeybees, but their stings can be medically significant. Each hornet is large and can sting many times. Generally, it is recommended that if an individual receives more than 10 stings they should seek medical attention. However, ODA recommends contacting your physician for medical advice.

For more information

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503-986-4636 or 1-800-525-0137
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