

## Invasive Exotic Species

*Vespa velutina nigrithorax* is an **invasive exotic species** (R. D. 630/2013) native to South-East Asia. In Spain, it was detected for the first time in 2010 in Baztán (Navarra) and in Legazpi, Irún, Hondarribia, Oiartzun, Pasaia, Lasarte-Oria and Aduna (Guipúzcoa). Since then, it has spread to Garrotxa and L'Alt Empordà (Catalonia), Otañes and Guriezo (Cantabria), Asturias, Galicia, La Rioja and Burgos.

## Biology, ecology and habitat

The Asian hornet is easily recognised as it is the only hornet in Europe with such a dark colour. The *V. velutina nigrithorax* variety has an entirely velvety dark thorax and brown abdominal segments with yellow stripes. Only the 4th abdominal segment is almost entirely yellow-orange. The head is black, the face is yellow-orange and the feet are brown. The Asian hornet is slightly smaller than the native species *Vespa crabro*, whose workers measure between 18-23 mm and the queens between 25-35 mm. *Vespa velutina nigrithorax* measures between 17 and 32 mm long.

They usually build their wasp's nests on the crowns of trees; sometimes in undisturbed and protected areas of buildings (stairs, abandoned barns, henhouses or sides of buildings, etc.) or in brambles; and very rarely are buried in the ground.

## Life cycle and economic effect

The queens that are mated during the previous season emerge from hibernation between February and March. Each queen establishes a new colony and begins building the primary wasp's nest where they lay their eggs. Twenty workers hatch from these eggs between April and May. The colony moves to another tree and builds a secondary wasp's nest from May or June. New workers emerge (up to 1000 or 1500); and at the end of summer, females (100-300) and males leave the nest. The impregnated females disperse from the end of August until October. At the end of October and November, the colony stops its activity and the queen dies.

The *Vespa velutina nigrithorax* adults feed on nectar and ripe fruits. Meanwhile, the larvae prefer feeding on honey bees and other insects that are taken to the wasp's nest by the workers.

Workers hunt insects, including bees, in urban areas (80%) and in rural areas (50%) for two or three months. This can be an additional stress factor for honey bee

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*Vespa velutina nigrithorax*  
wasp's nest

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## VelutinaTrap® Kit



[www.vespavelutina.net](http://www.vespavelutina.net)



### SANIDAD AGRÍCOLA ECONEX, S.L.

C/ Mayor, Nº 15 Bis · Edificio ECONEX  
30149 SISCAR-Santomera · Murcia (Spain, EU)  
Tel. +34 968 86 03 82 / +34 968 86 40 88  
Fax +34 968 86 23 42

Customer Service: +34 900 502 401

Web: [www.e-econex.eu](http://www.e-econex.eu) / E-mail: [econex@e-econex.com](mailto:econex@e-econex.com)

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# VelutinaTrap® Kit

[www.vespavelutina.net](http://www.vespavelutina.net)

## Asian hornet *Vespa velutina*

BIOCONTROL



Photo Vespa velutina: © BlueGinkgo

## NECESSARY MATERIAL

You need a trap VELUTINATRAP® and a bottle of attractant VELUTINATRAP® ATTRACTANT.

### VELUTINATRAP® (Code: TA258).

The VELUTINATRAP® is specially designed to capture the Asian hornet *Vespa velutina*.

It has a large capacity. It is also weather-resistant and long-lasting in field conditions.

It consists of a transparent base with a large capacity; a yellow funnel joined to a green lid to prevent the rainwater from entering; and a yellow strainer to separate the captures from the VELUTINATRAP® ATTRACTANT (not included).



OMDF register number: 071/2018



### VELUTINATRAP® ATTRACTANT (Code: VA390).

Natural liquid attractant to capture the Asian hornet *Vespa velutina*, with a duration of 60 days in normal field conditions.

It comes in 250 ml bottles.



### VELUTINATRAP® KIT (Code: VA391).

Kit consisting of 2 VELUTINATRAP® and 2 bottles of VELUTINATRAP® ATTRACTANT.



VELUTINATRAP® KIT.  
Packaging.

## INSTRUCTIONS

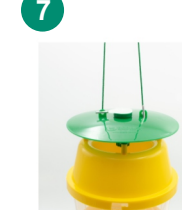
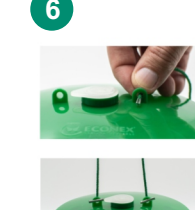
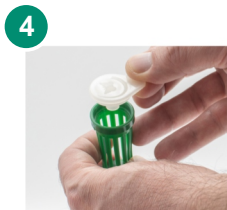
- Pour the contents of VELUTINATRAP® ATTRACTANT (250 ml) into the base of the trap.
- Assemble the trap following the TRAP ASSEMBLY instructions.
- Hang the trap in an appropriate place, usually in trees on the borders of forests and close to grasslands, rivers or lakes.
- Check the trap regularly. Change the attractant every 60 days or if the trap is full of water.

**CAUTION:** HANDLE THE TRAP WITH THE APPROPRIATE PROTECTION IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE LIVE HORNETS INSIDE.

## TRAP ASSEMBLY



1 Pour the contents of the attractant into the base of the trap. Then place the strainer above it, pressing lightly until it fits.



Place the plug on the cage.

Introduce the cage into the hole of the lid, pressing until it fits.

Put the hanger on the lid

The trap is ready to use.