

Insektenzählung | 09.-18. Juni 2023
Méi wéi Beien - ziel mat!

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HUMMINGBIRD HAWK-MOTH

Macroglossum stellatarum

- Size:** 36-50 mm Wingspan
- Appearance:** Greyish brown moth with strong body and orange hind wings
Can be confused with other hawkmoths when flying fast
- Habitat:** Flowery gardens, parks, balconies, open spaces
- Utility:** Pollination e.g. of catflies
- Interesting:** The diurnal moths remind us of hummingbirds with their buzzing flight in front of the flowers

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SEVEN-SPOT LADYBIRD

Coccinella septempunctata

Size:

5,2-8 mm Body length

Appearance:

Round beetle with red wing covers and 7 black spots. The head is black with white markings. In contrast to the Asian ladybird, no "M"-shaped markings are visible.

Habitat:

Open and wooded habitats, always with occurrence of aphids

Utility:

Adult beetles and their larvae feed on aphids

Interesting:

The number of dots on the back of ladybirds says nothing about their age, but lets you know which species they belong to

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SILVER Y

Autographa gamma

- Size:** 35-40 mm Wingspan
- Appearance:** Medium-sized moth with brown-grey wing markings. Striking light markings on the forewings.
- Habitat:** Different habitats, also gardens, balconies, parks
- Utility:** Pollination of different plants
- Interesting:** The silver Y is diurnal and nocturnal and owes its name to the silver markings on its wings

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COMMON CARDER BEE

Bombus pascuorum

Size:

9-15 mm Body length, 20-28 mm Wingspan
(Queen: 5-18 mm Body length,
28-32 mm Wingspan)

Appearance:

Grey-black bumblebee with yellow-red-brown breast and rump

Habitat:

Gardens, parks, meadows, pastures, embankments

Utility:

Pollination of fruit trees and shrubs, among others

Interesting:

Bumblebees can generate body heat by vibrating their pectoral muscles and can therefore fly even at low temperatures

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MARMALADE HOVERFLY

Episyrphus balteatus

Size:

7-12 mm Body length

Appearance:

Orange-yellow hoverfly with dark stripes on the abdomen and shiny copper breast. They are not hairy.

Habitat:

Many different habitats, also often in gardens.

Utility:

The larvae feed on aphids, the adult hoverflies visit flowers and are therefore pollinators.

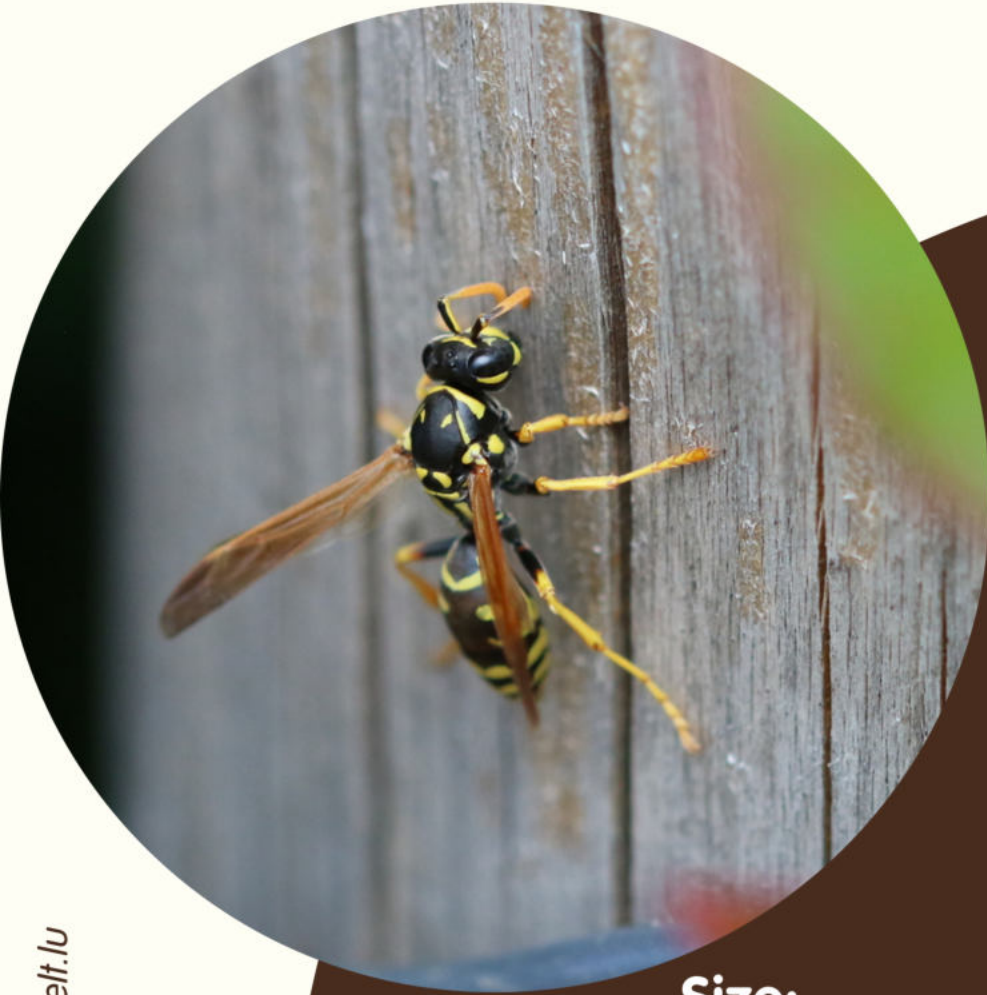
Interesting:

Hoverflies, with their striking yellow and black markings, give the impression that they are as venomous as wasps, but they are harmless and cannot sting.

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EUROPEAN PAPER WASP

Polistes dominula

- Size:** 11-15 mm Body length (queen up to 18 mm)
- Appearance:** Dainty yellow and black striped wasp. Antennae orange in the upper part.
- Habitat:** Warm, open terrain also often in settlement areas.
- Utility:** Pollination by visiting blossoms and eating other insects and partly also spiders.
- Interesting:** European paper wasps can be easily distinguished from other wasps because they let their yellow legs dangle when flying.

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PEACOCK BUTTERFLY

Aglais io

- Size:** 50-55 mm Wingspan
- Appearance:** Large butterfly with red ground colouring and conspicuous eyespots on all 4 wings.
- Habitat:** Open landscape with occurrence of the common nettle, on which the caterpillars feed.
- Utility:** Pollination
- Interesting:** The "eyes" on the wings of butterflies serve as a defence against predators. They are supposed to simulate a much larger animal.

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SMALL TORTOISESHELL

Aglais urticae

Size:

40-50 mm Wingspan

Appearance:

Medium-sized orange butterfly with black spots and a black band with blue dots on forewings and hindwings.

Habitat:

Open landscape with occurrence of the common nettle.

Utility:

Pollination

Interesting:

The caterpillars of the small tortoiseshell feed almost exclusively on nettles.

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COMMON GREEN LACEWINGS

Chrysoperla carnea

- Size:** 15-30 mm Wingspan
- Appearance:** Dainty green insect with transparent wings with green wing veins. Their eyes are iridescent.
- Habitat:** Many different habitats. Also common in gardens.
- Utility:** Pollination by adults. The larvae feed on aphids.
- Interesting:** The larvae are used in biological pest control.

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DOCK BUG

Coreus marginatus

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|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Size: | 10,5-16 mm Body length |
| Appearance: | Brown bug whose upper side appears leathery. |
| Habitat: | Forest edges, meadows, gardens |
| Utility: | Food for birds and other insectivores |
| Interesting: | After hatching, dock bugs go through various nymphic stages until they moult into adults. |

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BLUE HAWKER

Aeshna cyanea

- Size:** 7-8 cm Body length and 9,5-11 cm Wingspan
- Appearance:** Large dragonfly in which the males have a green and blue ground colouring and the females a green one. Both have dark markings.
- Habitat:** Ponds and slow-flowing streams. Also often found on garden ponds.
- Utility:** They feed on mosquitoes, flies and other insects.
- Interesting:** Dragonflies are true flight artists that can move their pairs of wings independently of each other and thus sometimes even fly backwards.

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GREEN ROSE CHAFER

Cetonia aurata

- Size:** 14-20 mm Body length
- Appearance:** Large, somewhat plump beetle with green-metallic upper side with light spots.
- Habitat:** Open land with shrubs, such as roses, also often in gardens.
- Utility:** The adult beetles are pollinators. The larvae decompose dead plant material.
- Interesting:** The larvae of the rose chafer feed on dead plant parts and are therefore particularly often found in compost.