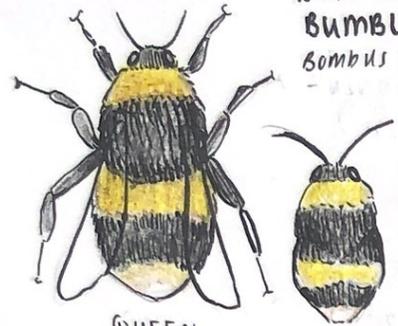


CAN YOU SPOT THESE BUMBLE BEES?

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IN THE UK WE HAVE 24 SPECIES OF BUMBLEBEE - HERE ARE SOME OF THE MOST COMMON ONES YOU'RE LIKELY TO SEE. BEES ARE USUALLY ACTIVE AROUND FEBRUARY TO SEPTEMBER.

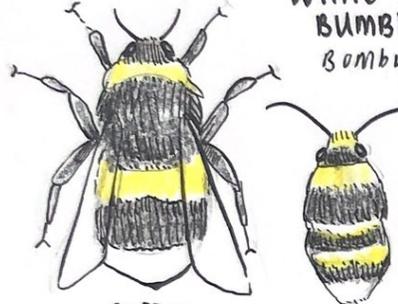
BUFF TAILED BUMBLEBEE
Bombus terrestris



→ two dirty yellow bands
→ brownish white band on tail

QUEEN MALE

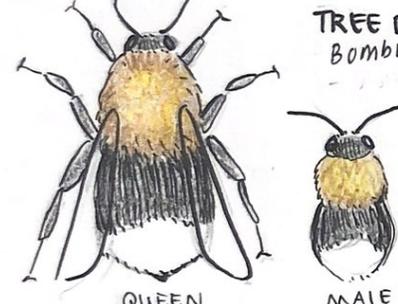
WHITE TAILED BUMBLEBEE
Bombus lucorum



→ two bright, lemon yellow bands
→ clean white band on tail.

QUEEN MALE

TREE BUMBLEBEE
Bombus hypnorum



→ distinctive - brown, black and white bands

QUEEN MALE

Queen, Worker (Female) or Male?

- Queen and worker bumblebees have pollen baskets and hairy legs.
- Queens and workers have pointy tails.
- Queens and workers have very similar markings but Queens are much bigger.
- Males have long curved antenna, a blunt tail and are usually quite small.



YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION AT:

- Bumblebee Conservation Trust website
- Bee, wasp, Ants Recording Society
- Herefordshire wildlife trust website.

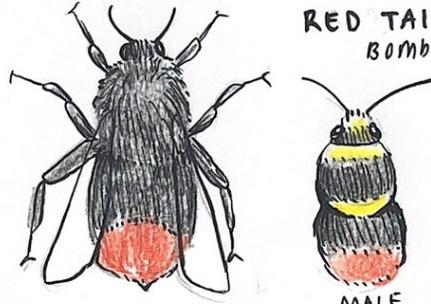
SOUTHERN CUCKOO BUMBLEBEE
Bombus vestalis



→ Yellow patches at top of white tail.
→ Males + Females have the same colour pattern

QUEEN

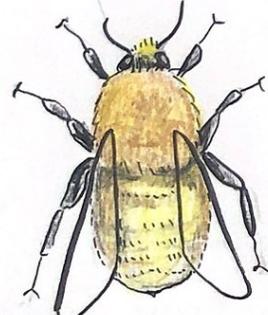
RED TAILED BUMBLEBEE
Bombus lapidarius



→ Males have a yellow face and two yellow bands on their thorax.

QUEEN MALE

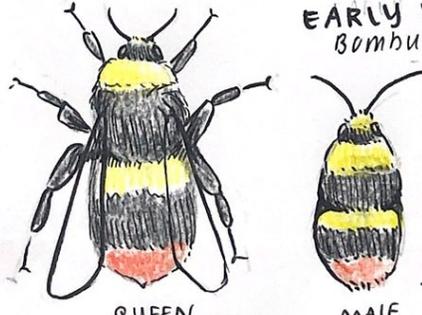
COMMON CARDER BUMBLEBEE
Bombus pascuorum



→ very variable, can range from almost white, to orange, to brown.
→ Males + females similar colouration

QUEEN

EARLY BUMBLEBEE
Bombus pratorum



→ males have a yellow face + thick yellow bands.
→ not usually seen after July.
→ a small bee!

QUEEN MALE