

## Pest Profile



**Photo credit:** Bernie Kohl (Ernie), Wikimedia

**Common Name:** European Hornet

**Scientific Name:** *Vespa Crabro*

**Order and Family:** Hymenoptera: Vespidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>		
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creamy white body with yellow head.</li></ul>
<b>Adult</b>	25 mm (worker) 35 mm (queen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appear much like a typical yellowjacket species, except larger.</li><li>• The abdomen is mostly yellow with black markings and some red on the first abdominal tergite.</li><li>• The thorax, head, legs, and antennae are reddish-brown.</li></ul>
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creamy white color that darkens during development.</li><li>• The pupae resembles a mummified wasp.</li></ul>

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Chewing

**Host/s:** *Vespa crabro* feed primarily on cicada species, but will also feed on other arthropods, including spiders, crickets, grasshoppers, caterpillars, flies, honey bees, and yellowjackets.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** These hornets do not typically cause damage, but they may nest indoors in areas such as attic spaces or ceiling and wall voids. If their entry points are blocked, they may chew through walls to enter the living space.

**References:**

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Johnson, D., & Townsend, L. (n.d.). European Hornet in Kentucky. Retrieved from <https://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef600>

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