



COMMAND PEST CONTROL

Information sheet number 13 - The Masonry Bee



Appearance:

Pale brown and dark brown body and dark brown legs.

Breeding:

After laying her eggs, the female bee seals and abandons the nest and soon dies, leaving her offspring (larvae) to develop on their own. The burrows are 2-10cm long and are lined with a varnish that the bee produces from its salivary glands. The burrows are filled pollen and nectar to a depth of 1cm. A single egg is deposited and the larva feed on the food material until full grown, it then pupates and over winters until the spring before hatching.

Food:

The adult bee feeds on pollen and nectar.

Where do Masonry bees live?

Soft stonework and masonry is colonised in older buildings during the spring and summer months. Sometimes these bees adopt keyholes in old buildings and outbuildings. Although they are solitary way many bees can live in the same wall together. The holes can be plugged with cement after control has been carried out.

Diseases:

No disease is carried by these bees and they do not sting either.

Damage:

Small burrows excavated in buildings with many individuals living in close proximity but on a solitary basis.

For more advice and control recommendations contact us on 01787 248049