

Control recommendations

The greater banded hornet is very aggressive. If a nest is discovered, it should be left alone unless it is in a high risk area such as near a home or school. Nest removal is dangerous and should only be attempted by experienced pest control operators.



Invasive species

Invasive species are everyone's responsibility. Please do your part in following the Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency and Guam Department of Agriculture rules and regulations to avoid accidentally introducing invasive species to the island. Eradicating or controlling an invasive species takes expertise, time, and a great deal of money.

Report a sighting

Please call 735-2001 to report a sighting of this new invasive wasp. Be prepared to give your name and contact information so that someone from the Entomology Lab can return your call. Alternatively, email Dr. Miller at millerr@triton.uog.edu

For more information

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References

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Greater Banded Hornet



Source: Jean-Luc Renneson.



Scientific Name

Vespa tropica

Common Name

Greater banded hornet

A new invasive species for Guam

A new species of hornet was recently found on Guam and identified by entomologists at the College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CNAS), University of Guam as *Vespa tropica*, also known as the greater banded hornet.

These wasps are large and aggressive, therefore a possible health hazard to individuals with allergies to bees and wasps as well as children and the elderly. The sting from this large wasp is very painful.

Where are these hornets from?

Vespa tropica is found in China, Japan, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore, India, and the Philippines. These wasps raid the nests of other wasp species to take larvae back to their own nest to feed their larvae.

The greater banded hornet has a distinct, bright yellow band around its abdomen. They build their nests in hollow trees and other protected areas or underground. Queens are about 30mm in size and the workers average 24-26mm, which is slightly larger than the diameter of a quarter.

Fact sheet

Extension entomologist Dr. Aubrey Moore has prepared an informative fact sheet on the greater banded hornet. Fact sheets on *Vespa tropica* and other recently arrived invasive species may be downloaded from cnas-re.uog.edu/guam-new-invasive-species-alerts/.



Source: Olympia Terral.



Top side of greater banded hornet nest found on Guam.



Back side of greater banded hornet nest found on Guam.