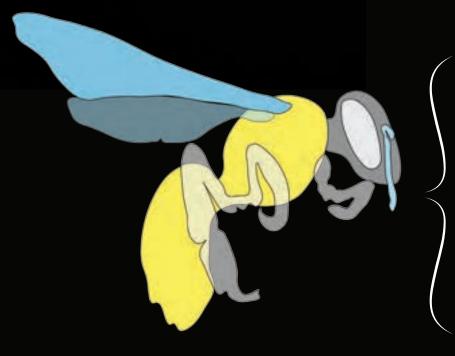
BEE US BEE MIMIC



Western honey bee, *Apis mellifera*

Common drone fly, *Eristalis tenax*



The Bee
Wings: two pair
Body: hairy
Waist: narrow
Eyes: medium
Antennae: long

The Fly
Wings: one pair
Body: less hairy
Waist: thicker
Eyes: large
Antennae: small



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Flies in the family *Syrphidae* have been fooling predators with their impression of bees for millions of years. Learn a few unique traits with the insects face-to-face and you'll be able to tell the difference.

The Bee

The Fly





Bees have two pairs of wings, while flies have a single pair. Bee's bodies are usually hairier and slimmer at the waist compared to the fly





While sometimes hard to see, most bees have long tongues for drinking nectar from deep within flowers. Note the stubby antennae and huge eyes of the fly.





Bees forage deeply into flowers where they drink nectar and collect pollen. Flies forage delicately and take only nectar.