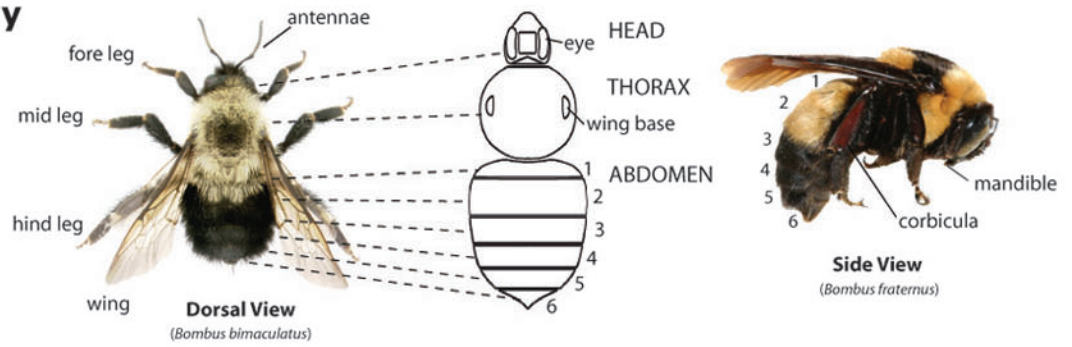




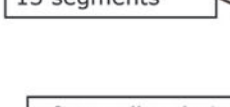





# Bumble bee Anatomy



## Distinguishing Males from Females

Female	Male
<p>abdomen rounded; 6 abdominal segments; tip of abdomen pointed with a sting</p>  <p>shorter antennae: 12 segments</p>  <p>very little yellow hair on face, legs, and underside</p> <p>hind leg expanded into corbicula, a shiny bare concave area framed by elongate hairs, often covered with a pollen ball</p>  <p>mandibles: wide and scoop-like</p> <p>eyes always regular-sized</p> <p>present spring - fall</p>	<p>abdomen more narrow and elongate; 7 abdominal segments; tip of abdomen blunt</p>  <p>longer antennae: 13 segments</p>  <p>often yellow hair on face, legs, and underside</p> <p>hind leg not expanded much, convex, hairy on surface</p> <p>mandibles: narrow and finger-like; bearded</p>  <p>males of some species have large eyes</p>   <p>present mid summer - fall</p> <p>regular-eyed male      large-eyed male</p>

### Queen or Worker?

Aside from differences in color pattern for some species, queen and worker bumble bees differ physically in size, with workers being smaller. Queen and worker sizes vary somewhat across species, but the ranges and averages are:

**Queen** (15 - 27 mm)  
av. = 21 mm



**Worker** (6 - 19 mm)  
av. = 14 mm

Queens visit flowers early in the spring and late in the summer and are uncommon in mid-summer; workers occur from late spring to early fall and are most common in mid-summer

### Carpenter bee?

Carpenter bees (*Xylocopa* sp.) are frequently misidentified as bumble bees. Here are some of the features unique to *Xylocopa*:

