



record what you see

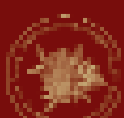
It couldn't be easier. The pack includes an identification chart and record sheet.

If you can't identify a bumblebee, take a digital photo of it and send it to the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, where experts can help: beewatch@bumblebeeconservationtrust.co.uk or Bumblebee Conservation Trust, School of Environmental Sciences, University of Stirling, Stirling. FK9 4LA.

Once you have collected some records please send them to: Tayside Biodiversity Partnership, c/o Floor 13 Tayside House, Dundee. DD1 3RA

or go to www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk and fill in the form online.

Thank you for your support.



Watercolour illustrations by Nick Owens Photographs: Chris Frear/BCT, Ben Darvil/BCT & Lorne Gill/SNH.

We have designed this pack to help you look out for bumblebees in your garden, local greenspace or when you're out and about. As a thank you for your help we have enclosed a free gift of honey lip balm. But as you may know only honeybees produce honey and although closely related, they should not be confused with bumblebees. However, they perform a similar role in the pollination of plants.

Tayside Biodiversity Partnership is looking for help in monitoring our populations of bumblebees. You don't have to be an expert, as we're only looking for the more common species which are found in gardens and open spaces.

we need your help

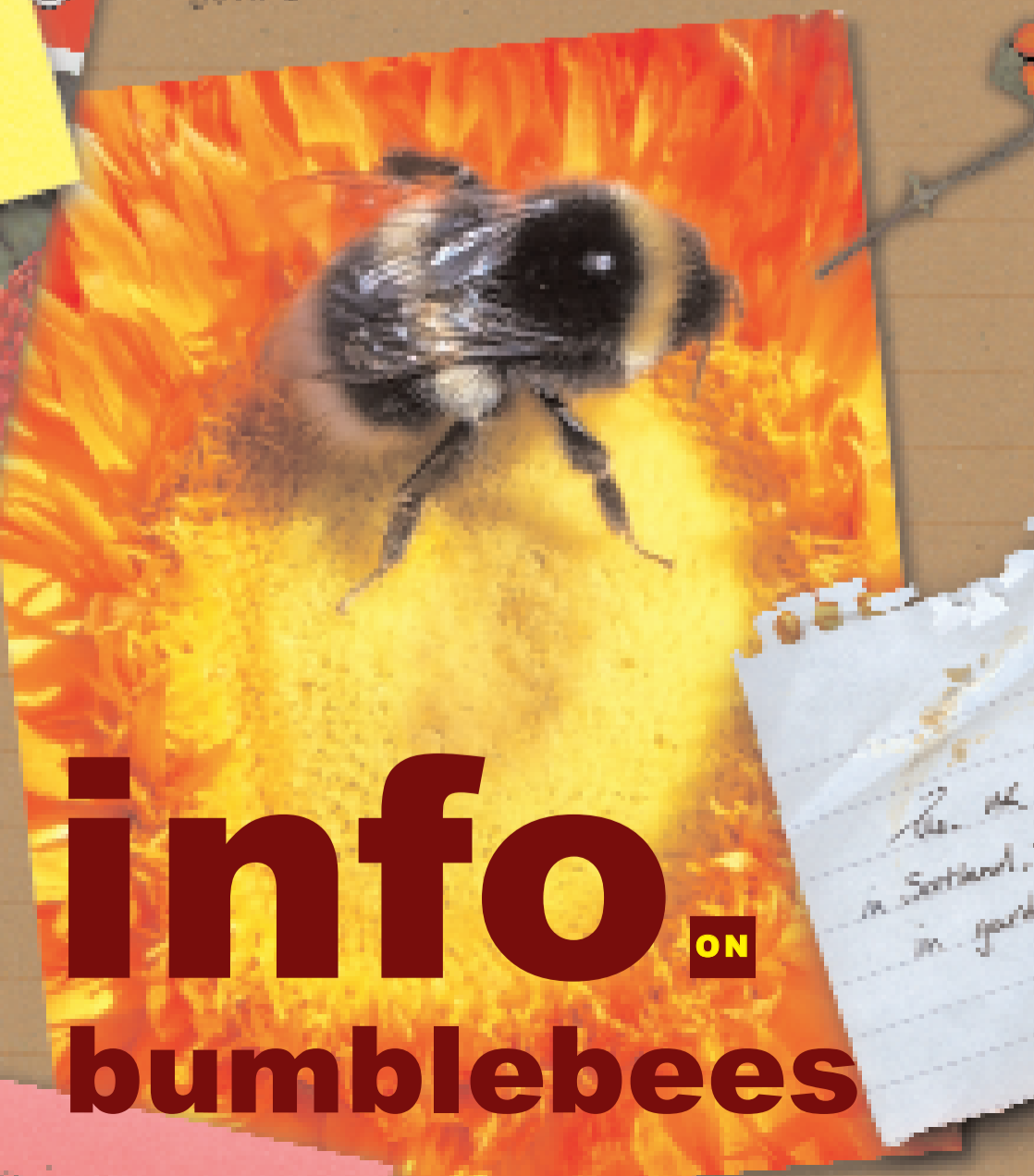
The moss carder bee is also found in Tayside. It is so rare there is a special national plan to help conserve it.

Of the rarer species, the bilberry bumblebee (*Bombus monticola*) is found up in the hills of Tayside and is easily identified by its red abdomen. It is becoming increasingly scarce.

Twelve species of bumblebee are found in Tayside. These include six common species.

bumblebees in tayside

Only young queen bumblebees winter by hibernating. The rest dies in the autumn.



info ON bumblebees

Many of our plants, including wild flowers and even crops, depend on bumblebees for pollination. If there are fewer bumblebees, our countryside could change forever.



Only young queen bumblebees survive over winter by hibernating. The rest of the colony dies in the autumn.

Bumblebees are closely related to, but shouldn't be confused with, honeybees.



The UK has 25 species of Bumblebees in total, but only 5 or 6 common species found in gardens, but only if there are plants they like.



Bumblebees are not aggressive, and only sting if they feel threatened. Only female bumblebees can sting.
Bumblebees are social insects. Their nests are run by a queen and many have up to 400 workers. The queen can reproduce.



Unless it bumblebees have declined or disappeared, it's hard to imagine that the plants we depend on for food are disappearing. These species of bumblebees are really at risk.

Bumblebees



Bumblebees are vital to the agricultural industry. The effect on the harvest of viable crops, including beans and berries, would be catastrophic if bumblebees disappeared.

The Bumblebee Conservation Trust has trained a craftsman, called Gary, to hunt down Bumblebee nests. He helps identify where our bumblebees are.