



# National Bee Unit - A Monitoring Trap for the Asian Hornet

## Materials and tools for making the trap:

- A 2 litre plastic bottle - look for pop or fizzy water bottles which have ridged sides with the bottom section marginally wider than the middle. The one pictured is from Asda, but other stores may stock them;
- Two lengths of plastic coated garden wire – approx. 150mm and 300mm long;
- A 100mm square off-cut of **epoxy** coated (not loose woven) wire *Varroa* floor mesh (available from some beekeeping suppliers);
- A 150mm square off-cut of rigid black plastic sheet – Wickes surface protection sheet is ideal;
- A piece of stiff cardboard which is cut to the internal diameter of the bottle (just under 100mm);
- A sharp knife and/or scissors;
- Sheet metal cutters;
- A fine point soldering iron (or a nail held with pliers and heated in a gas flame);
- Pliers;
- Stapler;
- 'Pop' riveter and rivets;
- A fine marker pen.



**Fig. 1** Materials and tools

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## Method

The instructions for this are available online at [www.nationalbeeunit.com/downloadDocument.cfm?id=1056](http://www.nationalbeeunit.com/downloadDocument.cfm?id=1056)

with a video available on Youtube  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CR6MUekAjMo>



**Fig. 9** Completed trap ready to add bait

**Note:** This trap is meant for monitoring in areas where the Asian hornet is not yet established. Please report the sighting immediately (sending a photograph if possible) to: [alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk), the NBU office and your Regional Bee Inspector.

### **Where should I hang traps?**

Traps should be hung in sunny areas, avoiding deep shade where hornets are unlikely to forage. Traps can be hung in trees and on hive stands, in and around affected apiaries, at the height of a person.

### **How to empty the trap**

**Release all other live insects.** In order to preserve as many non-target species as possible traps should be visited and emptied regularly; ideally **daily**.

### **How do I know if I have caught an Asian hornet?**

For further guidance on identification, there is an ID sheet for the Asian hornet:

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/index.cfm?id=4>

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