

**Bees, Wasps and Ants Recording Society (BWARS)**  
<http://www.bwars.com/>

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- The UK Bees, Wasps and Ants Recording Society (BWARS) is a subscription-based amateur recording society operating under the aegis of the UK Biological Records Centre (BRC). The Society is affiliated to the British Entomological and Natural History Society.
- The Society aims to promote the recording of aculeate Hymenoptera in Great Britain and Ireland, and to foster links with similar societies and interested individuals throughout Europe.
- There are some 280 members (including museum and university professionals and overseas “Corresponding Members”) whose activities are directed by a small committee which guides policy.
- The Society exists to gather distribution and biological data on the aculeate hymenoptera (which includes many important pollinators), to provide advice and training to society members and the general public, and to promote understanding of aculeates.
- The Society has no conservation remit, and is prepared to make its data freely available to anyone who wants access to it – this includes conservation agencies (both statutory and voluntary), University researchers, pollination ecologists, taxonomists, planners and developers.
- The Society provides advice to the national Aculeate Conservation Group (ACG) (the advisor body to the 3 statutory countryside agencies in England, Scotland and Wales).
- Data is handled by 2 senior members of the Society who, along with other specialists, verify the data, and in conjunction with the National Biodiversity Network team, aim to validate incoming records. The digitally held dataset on British and Irish bees currently stands at about 170 000 records
- The Society publishes 2 newsletters a year, and (in association with the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology) a part of the Provisional Atlas of the Aculeate Hymenoptera of Britain and Ireland every 2 years (in which some 60 species are mapped at the resolution of 10x10km)

