

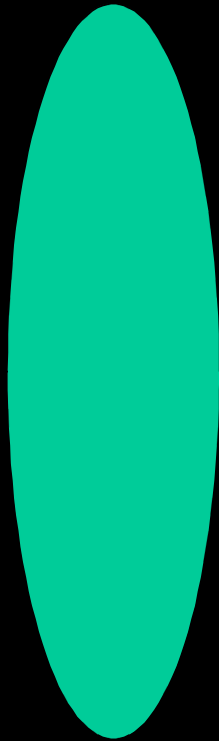
Species and Races of Honey Bees



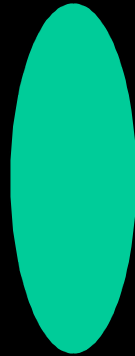
Animalia - Arthropoda - Insecta - Hymenoptera - Apidae

Genus: *Apis*

Scientific Name	Common Name	Native Range / Origin
<i>Apis dorsata</i>	Giant Honey Bee	Southeast Asia
<i>Apis florea</i>	Dwarf Honey Bee	Southeast Asia
<i>Apis cerana</i>	Indian Honey Bee	SE Asia to India
<i>Apis mellifera</i>	European Honey Bee	Europe, Middle East & Africa



Giant



Dwarf



Indian



European

Relative body size of the four major *Apis* species

Apis dorsata

Giant Honey Bee







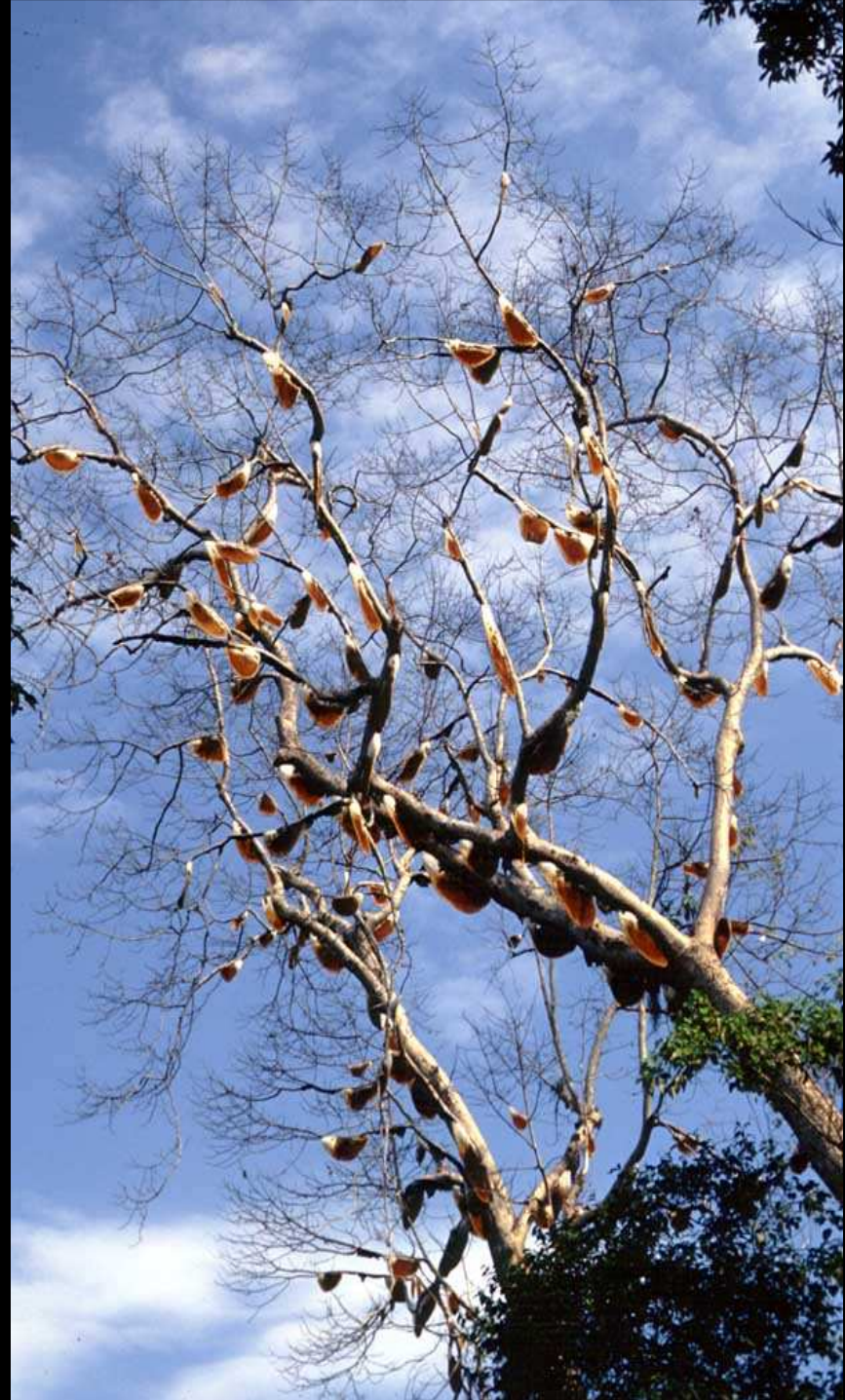
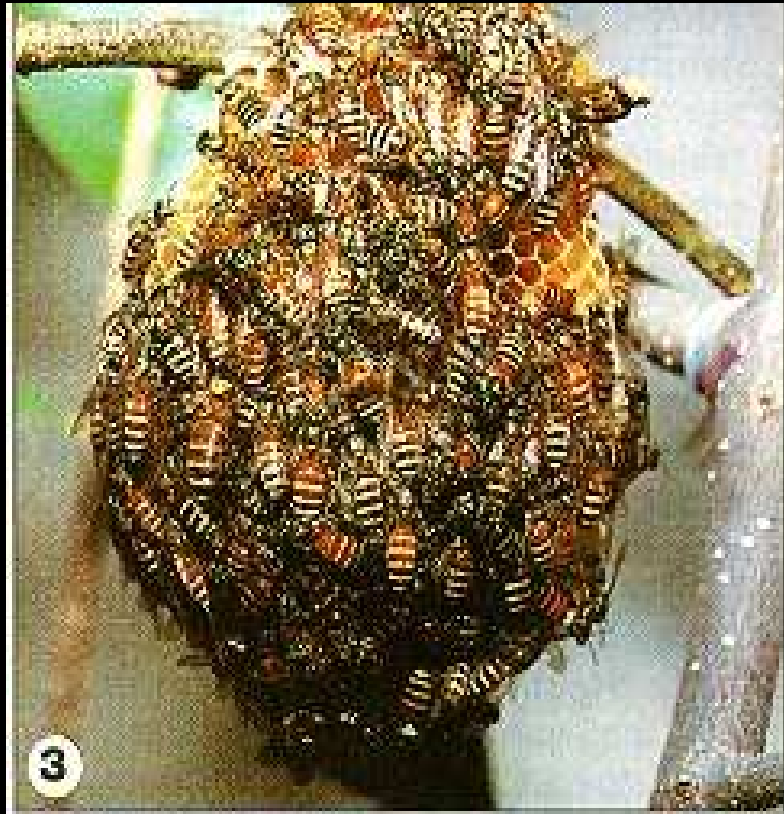


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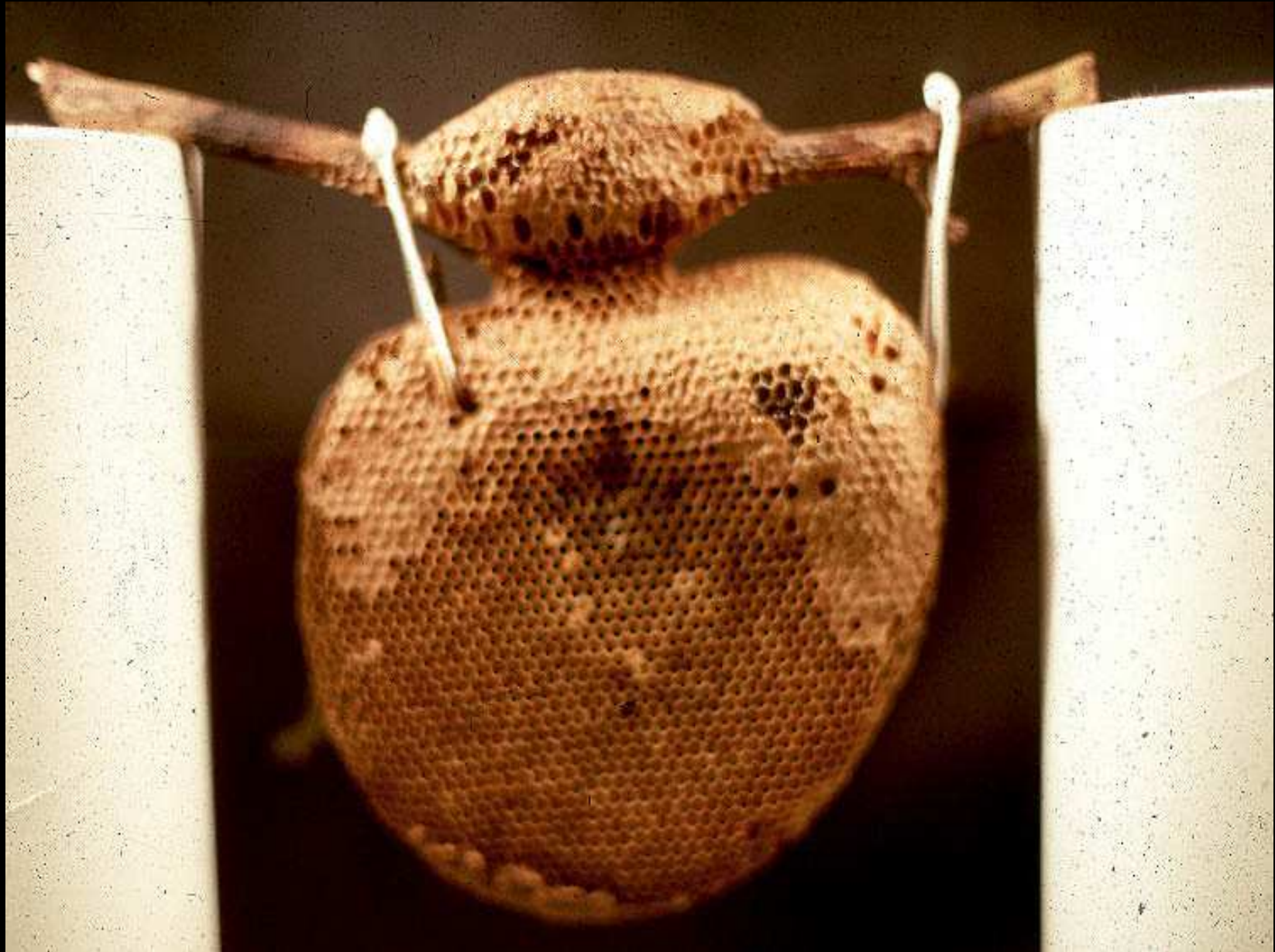




Apis florea
Dwarf Honey Bee



Comb Structure of Dwarf Honey Bee (*Apis florea*)





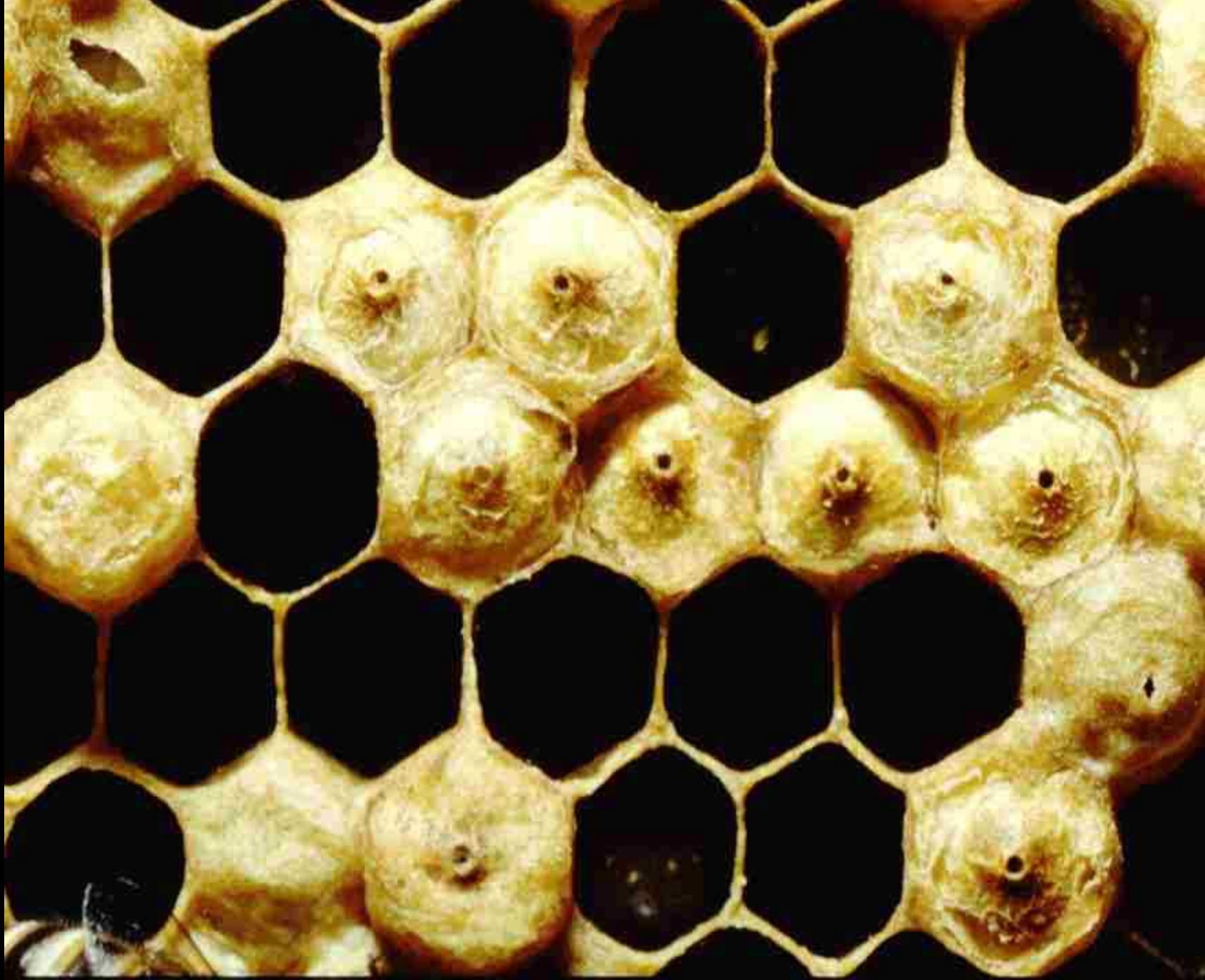
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Indian Honey Bee (*Apis cerana*)





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European Honey Bee

Apis mellifera



Apis mellifera ligustica

Italian race

Apis mellifera mellifera



German race



A. m. caucasica

A. m. carnica

Carniolan & Caucasian races

Characteristics of major *Apis mellifera* races

Characteristic	Italian	German	Carniolan	Caucasian
Latin name	ligustica	mellifera	carnica	caucasica
Origin	Italy	n. Europe	Macedonia	s. Russia
Swarming tendency	fair	fair-strong	strong	weak
Use of propolis	moderate	moderate	moderate	excessive
Temperament	gentle	defensive	gentle	gentle
Robbing tendency	strong	strong	weak	strong
Spring build-up	fast	slow	moderate	moderate
Overwintering	fair	good	good	good

Hybrids



TYPES & HYBRIDS

Italian Hybrids (e.g. “Midnite”, “Starline”, “All-American”)

gentle, good honey producer, little or no parasite resistance, overwintering fair

Old World Hybrids (e.g. “Buckfast”)

very gentle, great honey producer, tracheal mite resistant, overwintering good

Carniolan Hybrids (e.g. “New World Carniolan”)

gentle, fair honey producer, tracheal mite resistant, overwintering fair

Mite-resistant stock (e.g. “SMR”. “Harbo”)

some varroa mite resistance, but poor honey producer

Russian Bees (e.g. “Purple”, “White”, “Green”, etc.)

gentle, good honey producer and overwintering, some varroa mite resistance

Africanized Bees

Apis mellifera x scutellatta





Africanized honey bees



European honey bees

Progression of the Africanized Honey Bee



University of California Cooperative Extension



Hum turns to mayhem

30,000 bees swarm, 'wouldn't go away'

By Todd Neuman
Special for USA TODAY

PHOENIX — The trouble started with a loud menacing buzz under John and Gina Mosele's bedroom floor. Before the nightmare was over, 30,000 bees had swarmed through a window, attacking people and animals alike. "I was in bed when I realized 'killer bees' had arrived. They were just knocking up against the windows, attacking, attacking, attacking," Gina Mosele said. "I was trapped in a car during the nine-hour battle. So I backed up and drove away."



DEATH OF time deal

New swarm of 'killer' bees found

By Jim Erickson
The Arizona Daily Star

19 July 93

Bees from 2 more swarms identified as Africanized

By Jim Erickson
The Arizona Daily Star

Two more swarms of bees trapped in Sasabe have been identified as "killer" honeybees, a "the plouder Arizona."

If the Sasabe swarms represent the first colonies of Africanized bees migrating into Arizona, Tucson residents can expect to see the bees next spring.

2300493

Savage stingers make a beeline for San Diego

By STEVE LA RUE
Staff Writer

They lurked for months in a crawl space under a suburban Phoenix home. Then, on Oct. 9, someone found their nest in an amateurish attempt

of so-called killer bees filled the area that moved in the Phoenix area from Brazil, which first entered the U.S. in 1990.

It is in a three-block area in Phoenix where four or five people were stung and hospitalized. Two dogs lay

dead. It was right around there that J. Creekmore, a police officer from Peoria, Arizona, had

trapped a swarm of killer bees in a house in the Imperial Valley as

in San Diego, California.

think it was Africanized honeybees of Brazil, Mexico's recently

By STEVE LA RUE



This map shows the progression of the bees since 1957, when they escaped from a research facility in Brazil.

'Killer bees' called likely culprits

By STEVE LA RUE

Africanized bees are said to sting 10 times more often, and to pursue victims much farther than indigenous European bees, which are much less aggressive.

The dead bees from Mexico City, as shipped to a laboratory in Mexico City, are being identified. It is expected that the results will be available next year.

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