With its recent arrival in North Wales in 2010, sightings of the Tree bumblebee (*Bombus hypnorum*) have increased across the region. This attractive and welcome addition to our fauna has made its presence known by nesting in garden bird boxes and by visiting our garden plants whilst foraging for pollen and nectar.

Unlike our other bumblebee species the Tree bumblebee typically nests well off the ground, with active colonies inhabiting holes in house roofs, natural tree holes and nest boxes.

Its unique coloration easily distinguishes it from other UK bumblebee species: black head, entirely orange thorax (middle body segment), and black abdomen with a white-tipped tail. If your bee has any yellow or red on it, then it isn’t a Tree bumblebee. When in flight the Tree bumblebee looks like it has three even-sized bands (orange-black-white).

Recent publicity in local newspapers (Daily Post, Chester Chronicle, Flintshire Chronicle) and Radio Wales has generated a surge in records of this species in North Wales. However, we still haven’t received records from Snowdonia, Llŷn Peninsula or most of Anglesey.

Cofnod is eager to receive records of this species from across North Wales. Please let us know where you have seen Tree bumblebees, preferably with a photograph, postcode or grid reference and your contact details. Records can be sent to Richard Gallon (record@cofnod.org.uk), or you can submit them directly on the website by registering for free on our Online Recording System (ORS).

**TREE BUMBLEBEE RECORDING NORTH WALES**