

Grasso

POLLINATOR
ALLIANCE, Inc.

MEET THE DRONE BEE

THE MALES OF THE HIVE!

THE LIFE CYCLE

1

Egg

Day (1–3)



2

Larvae

Day (4–9)
(fed royal
jelly!)



3

Pupae

Day (10–23)
(growing
stage)



4

Adult
Drone

Day 24
emerges
from cell!



Total time from egg to adult Drone: 24 days!

DRONE BEE FACTS & ROLE

- ♥ Drones do not collect pollen or nectar.
- ♥ Drones have larger eyes that help them find the queen in flight.
- ♥ They do not have stingers, so they cannot defend the hive.
- ♥ Drones are fed and cared for by worker bees.
- ♥ After mating, a drone will die within minutes.



MORE FUN FACTS ABOUT DRONE BEES!



A typical
honeybee
colonies will
only consist of
5–15%
Drone bees.

They have
bigger, rounder
bodies than
worker bees.

They do not
work in the hive
(no cleaning,
building, or
foraging).

**BUILT
FOR ONE
JOB:
TO MATE!**

During mating
season, they
fly out to drone
congregation
areas (DCA) to
find queens.

A drone
will mate
with only
one queen in
his lifetime.



Drone bees are kicked out of the hive towards the end of the season since they do not contribute to the workforce and eat 2–3x's as much as worker bees.