The yellowbanded bumble bee was once commonly found throughout much of eastern North America. They can still be found occasionally in isolated patches, but *Bombus terricola* has disappeared from most of its former range in recent years. Your efforts to search for this bee will help document their current range. The Xerces Society and scientists studying bumble bee decline will use this information to promote conservation of remaining yellowbanded bumble bee populations.

**Other common bumble bees of eastern North America**

- *Bombus ternarius*
- *Bombus citrinus* (cuckoo bee)
- *Bombus vagans*
- *Bombus griseocollis*
- *Bombus fraternus*
- *Bombus fervidus*
- *Bombus impatiens*
- *Bombus bimaculatus*

If you find *Bombus terricola*, please contact bumblebees@xerces.org.

Visit [www.xerces.org/bumblebees](http://www.xerces.org/bumblebees) for more information.

**Identifying Bombus terricola**

Workers and queens have yellow on the front of the thorax as well as on abdominal segments two and three. The head and other abdominal segments are black with the exception of a fringe of brownish yellow hair on the far edge of the fifth abdominal segment. Queens are similar to workers except they are larger in size. There is variation in coloration across its range.

**Male or female?**

- **Females** have 6 abdominal segments versus 7 in males.
- **Females** have 12 antennal segments versus 13 in males.
- Female hind legs are wider than male hind legs.

- **Males** have a prominent patch of yellow hair on the front of their faces.
- Male *Bombus auricomus* and *Bombus pensylvanicus* have yellow hair along the rear of the thorax.
- Male *Bombus bimaculatus* males have black hair.

**Females**

- Workers and queens have yellow on the front of the thorax as well as on abdominal segments two and three. The head and other abdominal segments are black with the exception of a fringe of brownish yellow hair on the far edge of the fifth abdominal segment. Queens are similar to workers except they are larger in size. There is variation in coloration across its range.

**Males**

- Male *Bombus auricomus* and *Bombus pensylvanicus* have yellow hair along the rear of the thorax.
- Male *Bombus bimaculatus* males have black hair.

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*Guide developed and illustrated by Elaine Evans,* *The Xerces Society.*

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