

Bombus ternarius (Tri-coloured Bumble Bee)



Quick Identification: T2 and T3 orange, bordered by yellow on T1 and T4. Face may have yellow or black hairs, sometimes intermixed. Occasionally yellow hairs may be very pale, appearing white. Males very similar to females.

Similar Species: Very distinctive, only *B. rufocinctus* has orange on its abdomen, but this species typically has yellow fur on T2. Pale or worn *B. ternarius* may resemble *B. fervidus* if the orange hairs on T2 and T3 fade to a yellowish colour.

Abundance/Occurrence: The most abundant species found in Algonquin Park, recorded from early June to the end of August.

Favoured Flowering Plants: Prefers Viper's Bugloss when present, but also White Sweet Clover, Milkweed, Wild Thyme, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Asters, English Plantain, and Cow Vetch.



Size variation within a species can be great