Notes and references for Species Concept Dictionary comments (BWARS 2017)

The basic nomenclature follows that set out in Else et al. 2016 Checklist of British and Irish Hymenoptera. However, there have been several important updates to this and these are incorporated in the BWARS 2017 Species Dictionary.

Considerable re-assessment of the higher-level taxonomy and relationships within the Hymenoptera have been undertaken. Bransetter, 2017. *Phylogenomic Insights into the Evoliution of Stinging Wasps and the origin of Ants and Bees* has been taken as setting out the most recent view. The superfamilies used in the Species Dictionary follow those set out in Bransetter, not those of Else et al. 2016.

These are (in a British Isles and Ireland context):

Chrysidiodea; Vespoidea; Tipiodea; Pompiloidea; Scolioidea; Formicoidea; Apoidea

Following Edwards and Else 2017 (submitted for publication 2018) the bees are all treated as a single family, the Apidae, in this they follow the approach taken with the Ants, which are all considered within the Formicidae. Further rationale for this may be found in that volume.

Bransetter points out the remaining confusion in assigning the 'Specidae and Crabrionidae' to monophyletic groupings. For the moment the Species Dictionary retains the major groupings (Crabronidae, Sphecidiae) of Else et al., awaiting further clarification.

Some useful key references:

Bitsch et al, 1993; 1997; 2001, Faune de France 79; 82; 86.

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