

Bumblebees of the World

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Bombus ruderarius

A small, scarce bumblebee species which appears to be declining.

This species is found in Europe and northwest Asia from Ireland and Great Britain in the west to Siberia and northwest China in the east. In southern Europe it prefers higher altitudes up to 2200 m.

It lives in open areas, on species-rich meadows, in dune landscapes, near rivers or on forest edges.

The queens usually create a nesting ball above ground from material they have gathered themselves, such as dry grass, leaves and/or moss. If they do not find a suitable place above ground, e.g. depressions in the ground, then they also nest underground.