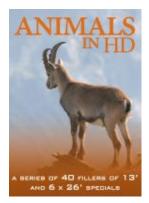
Sociable Wasps



Directed by: M. Maggioni, R. Meddi, A. D'Onofrio Produced by: SD Cinematografica Duration: 13' Versions: Format: HD

The social organization of the hymenopterons, including bees and ants, is incredibly complex. For almost a century, from Darwin onward, zoologists have sought to discover the intermediate stages that lead to such perfection. Studies recently conducted on wasps of the Polistes genus are beginning to supply the answers. We filmed the organization of the gallicus and dominulus wasps and observed the strategy these two species employ in founding their honeycomb. The gallicus is strictly a loner, while the dominulus is very social, even during the period when it is constructing the colonies. The film illustrates, among other things, the battle the female founder engages in to decide who will play the role of queen and consequently inhibit the reproductive capacities of its sisters.





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