What can beekeepers do?

1. Learn to recognise Vespa velutina and report sightings. Hunting behaviour near hives is distinctive.

2. Trapping particularly of mated queens January to March, and September to November. But keep traps in place and charged all summer.

3. Nest destruction. CONSIDER SAFETY before and after.

4. Use reduced entrances ALL YEAR, maximum height 5.5mm, with a mesh floor in place and open, clear roof ventilation.

5. Hive position. Leave grass, weeds and shrubs long, up to height of roof, particularly in front of hive.

Place hives in irregular arrangement, particularly NOT in lines. Asian hornets patrol hive entrances very quickly if the hives are in lines.

6. Store out of use supers, particularly if they contain used comb, so that they are bee (and Hornet) proof.