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Q15

Which of the following organisms perform waggle dance for others of their kin to indicate the direction and the distance to a source of their food? (a) Butterflies (b) Dragonflies (c) Honeybees (d) Wasps Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2023 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology
Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Butterflies. No **waggle dance**.

(b)

Dragonflies. Visual hunters; no hive dance.

(c) Official key

Honeybees. The **waggle dance** encodes direction and distance of forage.

(d)

Wasps. Social wasps recruit, but the textbook **waggle dance** is Apis.

Summary

- **Official key is (c) honeybees. Karl von Frisch described the **waggle dance**:** angle to the sun for direction, duration for distance. Butterflies, dragonflies and wasps do not perform that dance.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Waggle dance

Figure-of-eight run on the comb; von Frisch, Nobel 1973.

Round dance

Used for nearby food; no directional waggle.