

The Oriental Clay Wasp (orientalische Mörtelwespe), a new inhabitant in Germany (see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sceliphron_curvatum)

Nest of mud cocoons detected on my balcony in November 2019:



I collected them and put them into a bowl so that they would not freeze to death in winter. In May and June 2020 they drilled a hole and eclosed:



And this is the imago of a clay wasp (roughly 2 cm long) – I had to catch it in a glass so that I could take a picture:



I contacted a scientist dealing with this species (Dr. Christian Schmid-Egger, Deutsche Wildtierstiftung) and he congratulated me (“Eine schöne Art, und auch nett, wenn sie mal auf dem eigenen Balkon nistet.”).

This year I found new cocoons which will hopefully eclose in June.