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## YELLOW-LEGGED LEDGER

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • TYLER HARPER, COMMISSIONER

Since our last issue in mid-December 2024, the Plant Protection Division (PPD) team has remained proactive in their efforts. On January 15, 2025, they discovered and successfully eradicated a secondary nest, in the Savannah area, which was from 2024 but found early in 2025.

Additionally, on March 26, 2025, the team received a report from a concerned citizen regarding a potential nest on her property in Wilmington Island. After investigating, it was confirmed to be an embryo nest—the first one eradicated by PPD in 2025. The nest was successfully removed by the PPD team on March 27, 2025, thanks to the timely notification.



(Pictured: The first embryo nest discovered by the PPD team in 2025, which was successfully eradicated on March 27, 2025.)



As shown in the video, the embryo nest was relatively small. While it may be tempting to handle the removal yourself, we strongly recommend reaching out to the Department at [yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov) to notify us. If the nest is confirmed to be a Yellow-legged Hornet nest, the PPD team will visit the location to safely remove it and ensure the queen is eradicated. The most effective way to prevent the spread of Yellow-legged Hornets is by eliminating the queens.

In terms of hornet activity, PPD continued to capture workers later into the season than expected, with hornet captures occurring as late as the second week of February 2025. The team did not capture any additional hornets until March 19, when they began to catch what they suspect are emerging queens. Since then, they have captured 24 queens.

## UPDATE BY THE NUMBERS

New Traps Deployed (since January 1, 2025): 775

Total traps deployed (August 17, 2023 – March 26, 2025): 2,020

Hornets found (December 20, 2024 – March 26, 2025): 257

Nests found & eradicated (December 20, 2024 – March 26, 2025): 2

Total nests found & eradicated (August 2023 – March 26, 2025): 54

- January 2025 – March 26, 2025: 1 embryo nest, 1 secondary nest
- 2024: 4 embryo nests, 3 primary nests, 40 secondary nests
  - Total: 47
- 2023: 5 secondary nests

## HELPFUL RESOURCES

Yellow-legged Hornet sighting reports can be emailed to [yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov) or submitted only at <https://bit.ly/3Tt2M1u>.



Check out our step-by-step [video](#) guide to help Georgians create effective yellow-legged hornet traps using common household materials.



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**We appreciate your assistance in helping us eradicate this serious threat to Georgia’s agriculture, our state’s number one industry. For more information, visit GDA’s Dedicated Yellow-legged Hornet webpage: <https://agr.georgia.gov/yellow-legged-hornet>.**