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YELLOW-LEGGED LEDGER

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • TYLER HARPER, COMMISSIONER

Since our last update, the Plant Protection team has continued locating and eradicating yellow-legged hornet nests in the Savannah-area response zone, with recent activity showing hornets moving further into the secondary nest phase. Recent responses on Skidaway Island and Wilmington Avenue underscore the importance of early public reporting as GDA works to track hornet activity and remove nests as quickly as possible.

We encourage all Georgians to remain vigilant and report any suspected yellow-legged hornet nests or hawking behavior around beehives as soon as possible. Early detection is critical to containing the spread of this invasive pest. If you believe you have spotted a nest or observed yellow-legged hornet activity, please contact the Plant Protection Division immediately at yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov.



A YLH nest that was removed on July 3, 2026. (Photo by GDA)

Important reminders:

- Monitoring beehives should be ongoing throughout the entire year.

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- While hawking can happen at any time, it tends to peak before noon and again after 5 PM.
- Please do not attempt to remove a suspected yellow-legged hornet nest on your own. Report it to GDA so trained staff can respond safely.



A YLH nest inspection. (Photo by GDA)

Update by the Numbers:

New Traps Deployed (Since January 2026): 1,227

Total traps deployed (August 17, 2023 – July 129, 2026): 3,338

Hornets found (July 15, 2026 – July 29, 2026): 93

Nests found & eradicated (June 23, 2026 – July 29, 2026): 54

Total nests found & eradicated (August 2023 – July 29, 2026): 168

- 2026: 1 (2025 secondary nest) | 33 embryo nests found | 12 primary nest | 9 secondary nest
 - 2025: 4 embryo nests | 5 primary nests | 53 secondary nests
 - 2024: 4 embryo nests | 3 primary nests | 40 secondary nests
 - 2023: 5 secondary nests
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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>