Issue 54: October 3, 2026 – November 12, 2026

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YELLOW-LEGGED LEDGER

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • TYLER HARPER, COMMISSIONER

Yellow-Legged Hornet (YLH) Update:

As temperatures begin to drop, Yellow-legged Hornet (YLH) activity around honeybee hives may decrease. However, we encourage beekeepers to continue monitoring their hives for signs of hawking activity. This occurs when hornets hover near hive entrances and prey on honeybees as they enter and leave the hive.

Based on observations from our Plant Protection team, hawking activity can occur throughout the day but is most commonly observed before noon and after 5 p.m. We recommend observing your hives for approximately 30 minutes during these periods to increase the chances of detecting suspicious activity.

To help beekeepers recognize this behavior, our Plant Protection team has prepared short videos demonstrating what YLH hawking activity looks like. We encourage you to watch these videos and remain alert for any signs of activity around your hives.

- https://youtube.com/shorts/PrsN59kSpu0?feature=share
- https://youtu.be/5Wk49ZYkkes

Remember, if you suspect you have spotted a Yellow-Legged Hornet or found a nest, please report the sighting immediately to the Georgia Department of Agriculture at yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov or through the GDA's online reporting page.

November 2026: Yellow-Legged Hornet (YLH) Hives Eradicated in Savannah, Georgia



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Update by the Numbers:

As a reminder, you can view our eradication map, here.

New Traps Deployed (Since January 2026): 1,404
Total traps deployed (August 17, 2023 – November 12 22, 2026): 3,515
Hornets found (October 23, 2026 – November 12, 2026): 1,428
Nests found & eradicated (October 23, 2026 - November 12, 2026): 11
Total nests found & eradicated (August 2023 – November 12, 2026): 286

- 2026: 33 embryo nests found | 19 primary nest | 119 secondary nests
- 2025: 4 embryo nests | 5 primary nests | 54 secondary nests
- 2024: 4 embryo nests | 3 primary nests | 40 secondary nests
- 2023: 5 secondary nests

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