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YELLOW-LEGGED LEDGER

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • TYLER HARPER, COMMISSIONER

Issue 9: June 22, 2024 – July 3, 2024

Update by the Numbers:

New traps deployed: 0

Total traps deployed (August 2023 – July 2024): 989

Hornets found (January 2024 – July 2024): 22 queens | 68 workers

Hornets found (June 24, 2024 – July 3, 2024): 0 queens | 27 workers

Nests found & eradicated (June 22, 2024 – July 3, 2024): 0

Total nests found & eradicated (August 2023 – June 2024):

- August 2023 – December 2023
 - Secondary nests: 5
- January 2024 – July 2024
 - Embryo nests: 4
 - Primary nests: 2
 - Secondary nests: 0

Updates:

Job Alert: Yellow-Legged Hornet Trappers Needed

Two new part-time trappers started on July 1, 2024, and two more will begin on July 16. The goal is to hire 7-10 employees to monitor traps.

The Plant Protection Division is still searching for additional part-time YLH hornet trapper to join them. These seasonal positions will help support our eradication efforts with a salary between \$15 - \$17 per hour. If you reside in Chatham, Bryan, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, or McIntosh Counties and are interested, please apply [here](#).

Updates from the Plant Protection Team

- Out of an abundance of caution and to ensure that all ground is covered, the PPD team continues trapping efforts up and down Georgia. To date, YLHs have only been found and eradicated in the Savannah area.
- Our goal for 2024 was to deploy at least 1,000 traps and we've now nearly reached that goal – placing 989.

How to Report Sightings and Nests

If you come across a yellow-legged hornet nest, please take a photo and report it using the online [YLH reporting form](#) or by emailing yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov. It's crucial to ensure that the queen is eliminated if you remove a nest to prevent her from establishing another nest elsewhere. If you're unsure about removing a nest, please contact the GDA for assistance.

Helpful Resources:

Terms to Know:

- **Embryo Nests** are built by queens so that they can begin forming a colony and often are the size of a tennis ball. Embryo nests are usually found in early spring.
- **Primary Nests** are nests built by worker hornets once they emerge from embryo nests. They can be the size of a grapefruit. Primary nests are usually found in early summer.
- **Secondary Nests**, the final stage of a hornet colony, are much larger than embryo and primary nests. These nests, often found atop trees and larger than a basketball, were successfully eradicated from the Savannah area in 2023. They typically appear from late summer to fall.

Georgia Hornet Watch: Join our Facebook [group](#) dedicated to the yellow-legged hornet in Georgia. Share insights, stay updated on YLH developments, and collaborate on efforts to eradicate this invasive species!

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



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>.

