



## YELLOW-LEGGED LEDGER

### Update by the Numbers:

Since our last update, the Plant Protection team has successfully eradicated 13 embryo nests in the Savannah area. Since January, the team has deployed 1,055 traps and captured 180 Yellow-legged Hornets—efforts that have directly contributed to the identification and removal of nests.

New Traps Deployed (Since January 2026): 1,055

Total traps deployed (August 17, 2023 – April 17, 2026): 3,166

Hornets found (April 1, 2026 – April 17, 2026): 180

Nests found & eradicated (April 1, 2026 – April 17, 2026): 13

Total nests found & eradicated (August 2023 – April 17, 2026):

- 2026: 1 2025 secondary nest; 16 embryo nests found
- 2025: 4 embryo nests, 5 primary nests, 53 secondary nests
- 2024: 4 embryo nests, 3 primary nests, 40 secondary nests
- 2023: 5 secondary nests



2026 Embryo nest removed in Wilmington Island, GA. (Photo by GDA)

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2026 Embryo nest removed in Rincon, GA. (Photo by GDA)



2026 Embryo nest on a porch in Skidaway Island, GA. (Photo by GDA)



Travis Whitley participated in the A Day in the Woods festival in Alapaha, GA, on April 11, 2026, sharing information about Yellow-legged Hornets and how to spot and report them. He's pictured here with a secondary nest. (Photo by GDA)

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**See a Nest? Report It to [Yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:Yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov)**

As we approach the summer months, we encourage all Georgians to remain vigilant. If you spot an embryo nest like the one pictured, please report it immediately to [yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov).

Early detection and removal are critical. Eliminating these nests now helps reduce the number of much larger secondary nests that typically emerge from late summer through the winter months.

 **BOLO**   
**YELLOW-LEGGED HORNET**



**Description:** Smooth, paper-like nests  
the size of a ping-pong ball

**Last Seen:** Outside on sheds and porches

**Report a Sighting:** [bit.ly/Report-YLH](https://bit.ly/Report-YLH)

As in previous years, we encourage all beekeepers to keep a close eye on their hives for signs of hawking behavior.

**Important reminders:**

- Monitoring beehives should be ongoing throughout the entire year.
- While hawking can happen at any time, it tends to peak before noon and again after 5 PM.

The more detailed information beekeepers and the public can share—such as the direction the hornets are flying—the faster we can locate and address the nests.

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If you'd like to help, feel free to set up a [DIY trap](#). The bait usually ferments within a day or two and is designed to minimize attraction to bees. Please report any hornet activity detected in Georgia directly to us via email ([yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov)) or [online](#). If you're outside Georgia, contact your state's Department of Agriculture.

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### **Come Work with Us!**

We are continuing to review applications for Yellow-legged Hornet Trappers, our goal is to expand to 15–16 part-time trappers, along with two full-time positions, in addition to existing permanent staff. Open positions can be found at: <https://careers.georgia.gov/>.



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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>.**