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YELLOW-LEGGED LEDGER

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • TYLER HARPER, COMMISSIONER

Update by the Numbers:

As a reminder, you can view our eradication map, [here](#).

New Traps Deployed (Since January 2026): 1,284

Total traps deployed (August 17, 2023 – September 16, 2026): 3,395

Hornets found (September 1, 2026 – September 16, 2026): 861

Nests found & eradicated (September 1, 2026 - September 16, 2026): 10

Total nests found & eradicated (August 2023 – September 16, 2026): 214

- 2026: 33 embryo nests found | 15 primary nest | 51 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

Yellow-Legged Hornet (YLH) Eradication Update:

Since our last update, the Plant Protection Division team has captured 861 hornets and eradicated 10 additional nests. This brings our total to 214 nests destroyed since 2023—all localized within the Savannah, GA, area.

Our team has been working tirelessly, successfully eradicating 99 nests this year alone. While a rising count of uncovered nests might seem concerning, it represents progress for our containment strategy. More eradicated nests mean fewer active colonies heading into the 2027 season. Because each destroyed nest eliminates a breeding queen, these efforts are the most effective way to slow the spread of the invasive YLH and protect Georgia's pollinators.

How You Can Help:

Public vigilance remains our strongest tool. 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](#).

Issue 51: September 1, 2026 – September 16, 2026



A large YLH nest found by the PPD team under a carport in the Sandfly area of Savannah. (Photo by GDA)



Eradication of a YLH nest in the Savannah area. (Photo by GDA)



Large YLH nest found in the Savannah area. (Photo by GDA)

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>