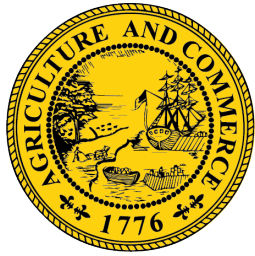


Issue 45: May 7, 2026 – May 26, 2026



VISIT OUR WEBSITE • AGR.GEORGIA.GOV/YELLOW-LEGGED-HORNET

YELLOW-LEGGED LEDGER

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • TYLER HARPER, COMMISSIONER

Since our last update, the Plant Protection team has observed increased hawking activity around beehives, a sign that the Yellow-legged Hornet is beginning to transition into its secondary nesting phase. As activity increases, it is more important than ever for Georgians to remain vigilant and watch for nests like those pictured below. If you suspect you have identified a Yellow-legged Hornet nest or notice hawking behavior around your hives, please contact the Plant Protection team at yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov.



A Yellow-legged Hornet with a bee in Talahi Island. (Photo by GDA)



A Yellow-legged Hornet exhibiting hawking behavior. (Photo by GDA)

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.

Update by the Numbers:

New Traps Deployed (Since January 2026): 1,111

Total traps deployed (August 17, 2023 – May 26, 2026): 3,222

Hornets found (May 7, 2026 – May 26, 2026): 108

Nests found & eradicated (May 7, 2026 – May 26, 2026): 6

Total nests found & eradicated (August 2023 – May 26, 2026): 150

- 2026: (1) 2025 secondary nest found in 2026 | 33 embryo nests found | 1 primary nest
- 2025: 4 embryo nests | 5 primary nests | 53 secondary nests

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- 2024: 4 embryo nests | 3 primary nests | 40 secondary nests
- 2023: 5 secondary nests



Abandoned Embryo Nest found in May 2026. (Photo by GDA)



Primary nests found and eradicated from Skidaway Island in May 2026. (Photo by GDA)



Primary nest found and eradicated from Wilmington Island in May 2026. (Photo by GDA)

See a Nest? Report It to Yellow.legged.hornet@agr.georgia.gov

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.



The banner features a black background with the word "BOLO" in large, bold, yellow letters. On either side of "BOLO" is a circular seal of the Georgia Department of Agriculture, featuring a plow, a sheaf of wheat, and the year 1776. Below "BOLO" is a yellow horizontal bar with the text "YELLOW-LEGGED HORNET" in bold black letters.



Embryo Nest



Primary Nest



Secondary Nest



SCAN TO REPORT

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>