

# Over the Back Fence

## *Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter*

### “Knee-High by the Fourth of July”

Summer, what a great time of the year! From going to county fairs to look at livestock and eating fair food, to farmers markets to see what local producers have been hard at work with this year, and gardens that are starting to give bountiful harvest. It really is a true indication of summertime. The 2024 Harrison County 4-H and Agriculture Fair are now in the books. Thank you to the volunteers, community members, and sponsors who helped to make these fairs a success! It is great to see a showcase of young talent within the livestock industry with the shows, projects being exhibited, and everyone willing to lend a helping hand. I am looking forward to see what the rest of the summer holds. Once again, thank you to everyone!

*Aniel Camm-Wilson*







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## Ag Spotlight- 4-H members

We would to say a special thank you to our 4-H youth that participated in a livestock project! You are the future of the agriculture industry!

**The Harrison County 4-H and Agriculture Fairs are now complete.**

**Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy the variety of fair fun.**

**Whether it was watching 4-H livestock shows, viewing the 4-H Exhibit Hall and Homecomers Hall projects, watching the Demo Derby in the new Grand Stand, grabbing a steak from the Cattlemen's booth, or simply enjoying some delicious fair food, we appreciate that you came to have a good time and view all of the agricultural aspects the fair has to offer each year.**

**We hope to see EVERYONE next year for even more fun at the Harrison County 4-H and Agriculture Fair.**



# FEATURED ANR EVENT

Register Now!

812-738-4236



## ***Rooted in Ag***

### Chicken Teriyaki

***July 23rd at 6:00pm***

Join ANR Educator, Ariel Camm, at the Rooted In Ag: Chicken Teriyaki class on Tuesday, July 23rd at 6:00pm at the Extension Office. Learn how agriculture plays a key part in the chicken teriyaki we enjoy. You even get to make and take home your own teriyaki to enjoy afterwards!

Class size is limited, so call the Extension Office at 812-738-4236 or stop by!



Extension - Agriculture  
and Natural Resources



**\$5**

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# HARRISON COUNTY EXTENSION ANR EVENTS

## Harrison County Cattlemen's Association FIELD DAY



Join the Harrison County Cattlemen's Association and Harrison County Purdue Extension for a Field Day at Cameron Churchill's Farm on Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 10:00am-2:00pm. Lunch will be provided.

### WHAT WILL BE DISCUSSED:

- Beef Cattle Production
- Rotational Grazing
- Cattle Minerals

### Field Day Location:



Cameron Churchill's Farm  
4880 Adams Rd. Depauw, IN 47115

**NO FEE!**  
RSVP GREATLY  
APPRECIATED!

### RSVP to the Extension Office:

☎ 812-738-4236

✉ [camm@purdue.edu](mailto:camm@purdue.edu)

HARRISON COUNTY  
CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION



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# OTHER ANR EVENTS

## 2024 OISC Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Information Form

**WHAT:** An **OISC Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Program** designed to collect and dispose of suspended, canceled, banned, unusable, opened, unopened or just unwanted **pesticides** (herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, miticides, etc.) is being sponsored by the Office of Indiana State Chemist (OISC). This disposal service is free of charge up to 250 pounds per participant. Over 250 pounds there will be a \$3.00 per pound charge. This is a great opportunity for you to legally dispose of unwanted products at little or no cost.

**WHO:** All public and private schools, golf courses, nurseries, farmers, ag dealers, public, cities, towns, municipalities and county units of government or others receiving this notice are eligible to participate.

**WHEN:** 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Local Time

**WHERE:** **August 13, 2024: Keystone Cooperative – Porter County**  
210 East 400 South Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

**August 14, 2024: NISWMD – Steuben County**  
2320 West 800 South Ashley, Indiana 46705

**August 15, 2024: Becks Foundation Seed Facility – Tipton County**  
6159 West 550 North Sharpsville, Indiana 46068

**August 20, 2024: Premier Ag – Daviess County**  
11815 US-50 Loogootee, Indiana 47553

**August 21, 2024: Kova Fertilizer – Decatur County**  
1330 N. Anderson St. Greensburg, Indiana 47240

**August 22, 2024: Hendricks County Fairgrounds**  
1900 E. Main St. Danville, Indiana 46122

**HOW:** Complete the enclosed **Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Participant Form** to the best of your ability. Mail, fax or e-mail the completed form to Nathan Davis at 765-494-4331 or [cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu](mailto:cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu) no later than **Fri., August 9, 2024**. Questions may be directed to Nathan at 765-494-7108. Then bring your leak free and safe to transport containers to the collection site. **DO NOT** mix materials.

**\*\*\*Empty pesticide containers will not be accepted, please follow label directions for proper disposal of empty pesticide containers\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Bulk containers not documented on form will not be accepted\*\*\***

# 2024 OISC Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Participant Form

I have the following pesticides (herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, miticides, etc.) to bring to the OISC Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Program. I understand that there will be no charge for disposal of up to 250 pounds of pesticides per participant.

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
(If Applicable) (Add Multiple Branches on Back)

Please indicate at which location you will be participating.

☐ Porter County – August 13

☐ Daviess County – August 20

☐ Steuben County – August 14

☐ Decatur County – August 21

☐ Tipton County – August 15

☐ Hendricks County – August 22

**\*\*\*Empty pesticide containers will not be accepted, please follow label directions for proper disposal of empty pesticide containers\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Please advise below if bringing container sizes 55 gallons or above (Drum, Mini Bulk), bulk containers not documented on form will not be accepted\*\*\***

List of pesticide products to be disposed:

1. Trade Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ☐ Solid \_\_\_\_\_ Pounds ☐ Liquid \_\_\_\_\_ Gallons ☐ Aerosol

Drum or Mini Bulk? ☐ Drum (# of Drums) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Mini Bulk (# of Mini Bulks) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Trade Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ☐ Solid \_\_\_\_\_ Pounds ☐ Liquid \_\_\_\_\_ Gallons ☐ Aerosol

Drum or Mini Bulk? ☐ Drum (# of Drums) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Mini Bulk (# of Mini Bulks) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Trade Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ☐ Solid \_\_\_\_\_ Pounds ☐ Liquid \_\_\_\_\_ Gallons ☐ Aerosol

Drum or Mini Bulk? ☐ Drum (# of Drums) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Mini Bulk (# of Mini Bulks) \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN BY August 9, 2024, to Nathan Davis, at [cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu](mailto:cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu) OR 765-494-4331 (fax). Questions may be directed to Nathan at 765-494-7108. Additional pesticide products to be disposed of may be listed on the back of this form or a separate sheet.

Email Completed Form



# OTHER ANR EVENTS

## Farmer's Markets



Harrison County Farmer's Market season began on April 20th and will occur every Saturday from 8:00am-12:00pm at New Hope Wesleyan Church parking lot. Wednesday evenings 3:00-6:00pm are also available!

1390 Old State Highway 135 NW  
Corydon, IN 47112



The Corydon Farmer's Market is open every Friday from 4:00-7:00pm at:

124 South Mulberry St. Corydon, IN 47112

Contact (930) 237-0862 for more information

## Purdue Fruit and Vegetable Field Day



Please join us again this year for the Purdue Fruit & Vegetable Field Day, presented on July 18, 2024, at the Purdue Meigs Ag Center, 9101 S 100 E, Lafayette, IN 47909. Registration starts at 8 a.m., and educational tracks are scheduled between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Lunch is included in registration.

The 2023 field day was a hit. It featured Purdue Extension's specialty crop research to 90 attendees, who left with positive feedback. Excited for 2024, the event promises interactive demonstrations on topics like weed and insect management, pollinators, soil health, apple orchard systems, bird control in vineyards, and more. As a bonus, all attendees will receive a free Vegetable Crops Hotline newsletter subscription! For more information about the field day, visit the Purdue Fruit and Vegetable Field Day web page.

<https://vegcropshotline.org/purdue-fruit-and-vegetable-field-day/>

## Purdue Small Farm Education Field Day



Please join us for the Purdue Small Farm Education Field Day on July 25, 2024, at the Purdue Student Farm, 1491 Cherry Lane, West Lafayette, IN 47906. Registration starts at 8 a.m., and the educational tours will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. A food truck will be on site for lunch purchases.

The 2023 Purdue Small Farm Education Field Day was a huge success! This year's field day will again offer demonstration stations where you can interact with specialists and learn about a variety of topics: food safety updates, packhouse tours, weed and insect management, crop production, and more. As a bonus, all attendees will receive a FREE Vegetable Crops Hotline newsletter subscription and a FREE ice-cold treat from the Kona Ice truck, compliments of HLA and Purdue Extension.

<https://vegcropshotline.org/article/purdue-small-farm-education-field-day-on-july-25-2024>

## Hoosier Hay Contest 2024



This contest is open to any hay or baleage producer in Indiana. However, entries must be submitted by the farm who owns or manages the acreage where the forage was grown. Hay or baleage sample, entry form and fees (\$14/hay sample and \$20/baleage sample) must be postmarked by September 30, 2024. The fee includes a reduced cost for a detailed forage test. Each sample will need its own entry form and fee. Samples may be submitted between June 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024.

Visit this link for full details and information:

<https://indianaforage.wordpress.com/upcoming-events/>

# OTHER ANR EVENTS



Extension

## AREA 2 PESTICIDE APPLICATOR PROGRAM

**Tuesday, November 12, 2024**

Obtain Private (PARP) and Commercial Applicator Credits:  
CAT 1, 11, 14 & RT

- **Cover Crops & Soil Nutrition in Corn & Soybeans with introduction to Transitioning to Organic - Ashley Adair, Purdue Organic Ag Specialist**
- **Update on Weed Control in Corn & Soybeans - Bill Johnson, Purdue Weed Science Specialist**
- **Worker Protection Standards - Local Extension Educator**

### **PURDUE EXTENSION CLARK COUNTY**

**9:00 - 11:00 am**

Clark County Community Bldg.

9608 Highway 62

Charlestown, IN 47111

**Info or RSVP: Heidi Potter**

812-256-4591 or

hlpotter@purdue.edu

### **PURDUE EXTENSION WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Washington County Fairgrounds

4-H Building

118 N Fair St

Salem, IN 47167

**Info or RSVP: Danielle Walker**

812-883-4601 or

dhowellw@purdue.edu

### **PURDUE EXTENSION HARRISON COUNTY**

**6:00 - 8:00 pm**

247 Atwood Street

Corydon, IN 47112

**Info or RSVP: Ariel Camm**

812-738-4236 or

camm@purdue.edu

### **Program Reminders:**

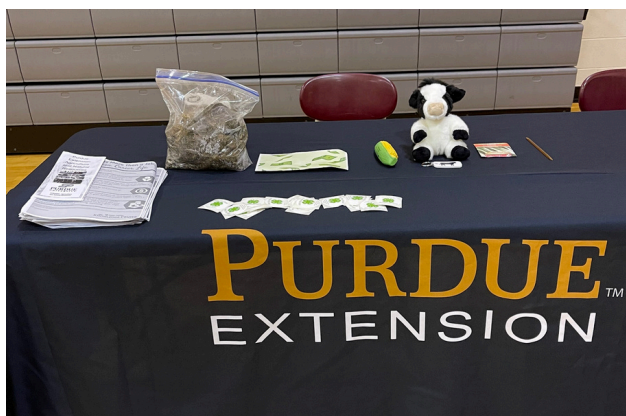
- Participants earn PARP & CCH credit by attending one program only.
- Program is free due to sponsorship by the IN Corn Marketing Council and IN Soybean Alliance
- RSVP's appreciated by Friday, November 8, 2024, but not required.



Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution. If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Tom Springstun, ANR Educator, prior to the meeting at 812-752-8450 or [tsprings@purdue.edu](mailto:tsprings@purdue.edu) by Friday, November 8, 2024.

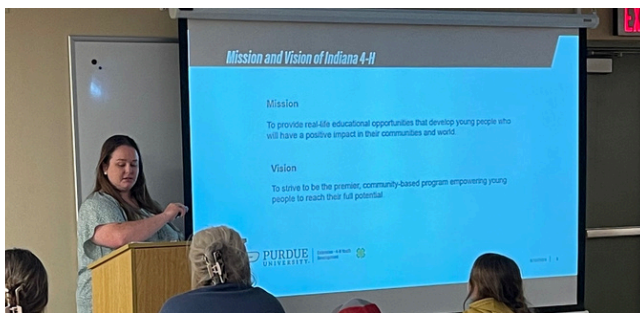


# ANR RECAP



## *Career Day*

ANR Educator, Ariel Camm-Wilson, set up a booth at New Middletown Elementary School for their Career Day. She talked about agriculture careers, how Purdue Extension serves the Agriculture community, the services offered by Purdue Extension. Ariel also explained her background and involvement in agriculture and how it led her to her current career!



## *4-H Quality Livestock Care Training*

New 4-H Educator, Anna Denny, and ANR Educator Ariel Camm-Wilson, hosted the final Indiana Quality Livestock Care Training on May 13th. Everyone learned various procedures which will help them to properly take care of their livestock. They learned the relationship between livestock producers in 4-H and Agriculture, proper show ring ethics, relationships between veterinarians, how to maintain the well being of animals, and what to look for when detecting diseases.



## *May Achievement Day*

The Harrison County Extension Homemakers thank Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, Ariel Camm-Wilson, for her presentation on truly “Living Life in Full Bloom.” It highlighted soil health, different types of flowers and their lifecycles, cool season & warm season crops, and various types of gardens perfect for any gardening needs or desires.



# ANR RECAP



## *Mini Greenhouse & Seed Craft*

There are times when it's good to get dirty! Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, Ariel Camm-Wilson guided the Mini's through planting seeds in their own mini-greenhouses. Miss Mary led garden and seed crafts. Both Ariel and Mary ended the workshop with a game of naming plants, fruits, and vegetables starting with each letter of the alphabet. The Mini's did great with all the activities! The story for the evening was "Miss Maple's Seeds".

Our Mini 4-H'ers were also introduced to the new 4-H Educator, Anna Denny.

Thank you to all who participated and helped at this fun-filled workshop.



## *Livestock & Poultry 101*

Livestock & Poultry 101 lasted over the span of 4 weeks in 4 sessions total with 7 participants.

This was a great program for beginners, anyone new to livestock, or those who may be looking to venture into new territory in expanding their farm. It was an opportunity to learn research-based information pertaining to all aspects of animal care and husbandry. This workshop allows producers to make informed decisions before acquiring livestock and to incorporate best practices once those animals become part of the farm operation.

The first 2 general sessions talked about various topics such as why you want to raise livestock, feed components, VCPR (vet client patient relationship), pastures, types of hay, grasses, fencing, different animal types, tagging, and budgets.

The last 2 sessions were more specific to certain species: 1 session for beef cattle and 1 session for sheep & goats. These species-specific sessions targeted information about the species background, health issues, birthing, breeds, and specific nutrients.

Ariel's presentation was packed with essential information and also allowed the opportunity for any individual questions to be addressed and open discussions to occur.



## *The Art of Crafting Caramel*

On June 11th at the Extension Office, Harrison County ANR Educator, Ariel Camm, and Clark County ANR Educator and owner of Summer Solstice Farms, Heidi Potter, hosted a fun and interactive workshop about raising dairy goats, dairy goat farm management, and how to make goat milk caramel with delicious samples to take home!

Summer Solstice Farms is located in Southeastern Indiana, where Heidi raises dairy goats, chickens, Dexter cattle, and

vegetables! Everyone had a great time exchanging stories about dairy goat farming.

Participants ranged from beginners who may be interested in or thinking about dairy goats to seasoned dairy goat producers, and those who just like caramel!



# ANR RESOURCES

## Indiana State Fair

The Indiana State Fair is right around the corner! Find yourself some good food, livestock shows, shopping vendors, events, and so much more by visiting the Indiana State Fairgrounds between August 2nd - 18th (Closed Monday). For more information, visit: <https://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair>



The Art & Nature of Fun  
PRESENTED BY NEWFIELDS

## Soil Sample Testing

### SUBMITTING TO A&L LABS:

Your local Extension Office can submit soil samples for you to A&L Labs. Typical turn around for results is 10-14 days.

### BASIC ANALYSIS:

Measures the organic matter, available phosphorus, exchangeable Potassium, Magnesium, Calcium, Soil pH, Cation Exchange Capacity, Percent Base Saturation of Cation Elements.

Call the Harrison County Extension Office at 812-738-4236 with any questions!

### 2024 Soil Sample Pricing

**\*pricing subject to change**

1 Sample - \$19.00	6 Samples - \$84.00
2 Samples - \$29.00	7 Samples - \$90.00
3 Samples - \$45.00	8 Samples - \$100.00
4 Samples - \$54.50	9 Samples - \$110.00
5 Samples - \$64.00	10 Samples - \$120.00

## Indiana Pesticide Applicator Core Training Manual

Are you or someone in your family or business needing to get licensed as a pesticide applicator? This manual makes a great study guide and contains all of the information to help pass the CORE pesticide applicator exam.

**COST OF THE MANUAL IS \$45.**

### Topics include:

Applicator certification, pest management, handling pesticides, transporting pesticides, pesticides in correlation to the environment, pesticide labels, and calibration and maintenance.

Stop by the Harrison County Extension Office Monday-Friday from 8:00am-4:30pm to grab yours!



## Monthly Extension Challenge Kits

### July 21st is National Ice Cream Day!

This month's challenge kits were gone in record-time of 2 days! We can't wait to see how these challenges turn out! Keep an eye out for August's challenge kit announcement!

**WHAT:** What is an Extension Challenge Kit? Our monthly challenge kits provide instructions and most materials to do a DIY educational project or two on your own. The kits are geared towards ALL Harrison County community members, and focus on Extension education areas such as Agriculture and Natural Resources, Health and Human Sciences, and/or 4-H Youth Development. Our kits are FREE, but come in limited quantities so be sure to check in with us at the first of each month.

**WHEN:** We release our challenge kits at the beginning of each month in the Extension Office. You can come in Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm to pick yours up in person. Check our Facebook for information at the first of each month regarding challenge details, and feel free to call the office to see if kits are still available (limited quantities).



# Seed Drill Rental

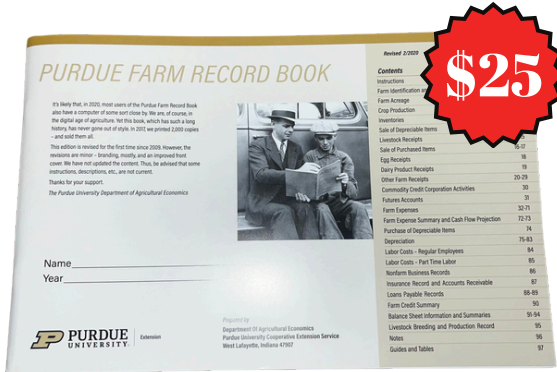
Looking to rent a seed drill for food and pollinator plots or native grasses, cool season grasses, and small grains?

Contact the Harrison County SWCD, Soil and Water Conservation District Office at 812-738-8121 Extension 3 and ask for Virginia or Marla.



# Farm Record Book

The Farm Record Book is a 100-page book enabling farmers to keep accurate and effective farm records.



- Farm Identification and Income Tax Notes
- Farm Acreage
- Crop Production
- Inventories
- Sale of Depreciable Items
- Livestock Receipts
- Sale of Purchased Items
- Egg Receipts
- Dairy Product Receipts
- Other Farm Receipts
- Commodity Credit Corporation Activities
- Future Accounts
- Farm Expenses
- Farm Expense Summary and Cash Flow Projection
- Purchase of Depreciable Items
- Depreciation
- Labor Costs- Regular Employees
- Labor Costs- Part Time Labor
- Nonfarm Business Records
- Insurance Record and Accounts Receivable
- Loans Payable Records
- Farm Credit Summary
- Balance Sheet Information and Summaries
- Livestock Breeding and Production Record
- Notes
- Guides and Tables

**Pick Up at the Extension Office:**  
247 Atwood St. Corydon, IN 47112

**Call with any questions:**  
812-738-4236

# Harrison County Master Gardeners 2024 Meetings



We meet on the Third Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at the Harrison County Extension Office. Visit the Purdue Extension Harrison County ANR page for more information about Master Gardeners or contact Ken Tingler at [ktingler@yahoo.com](mailto:ktingler@yahoo.com) or 812-734-0373

- July 18th
- August 15th
- September 19th
- October 17th
- November 21st
- December 19th

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/harrison/ANRHomePage.html>

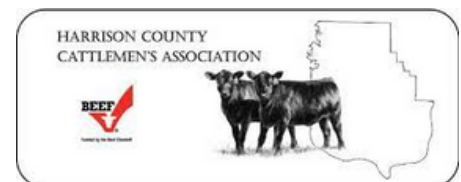
# Harrison County Cattlemen's Association

We meet on the First Wednesday of every other month at 7:30pm at the Extension Office (even numbered months).

Visit the Purdue Extension Harrison County ANR page for more information about the Harrison County Cattlemen's Association.

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/harrison/ANRHomePage.html>

- August 7th
- October 2nd
- December 4th



# Bull Soundness Exams

The Harrison Co. Cattlemen's Association is offering to cover the cost of 1 bull soundness exam for the year 2024.

- CURRENT members ONLY (2024 dues are paid)
- \*\*1\*\*BSE per current member for the 2024 year
- Utilize ANY vet, anytime during 2024
- Vaccines, farm visit, any additional costs NOT included
- Call or text 502-554-5124 for information on reimbursement. Must provide proof of payment/services.





# AG EDUCATION & INFORMATION

## “MURDER” HORNETS: SHOULD YOU PANIC? PROBABLY NOT. HERE’S WHY.

PURDUE EXTENSION ENTOMOLOGY | ELIZABETH BARNES, CLIFF SADOF AND BROCK HARPUR

Headlines all over the country have been sounding the alarm about “murder” hornets. Should you be worried? Yes and no. The presence of these hornets in the United States is bad news for bees and beekeepers alike but there’s no need to panic yet.

### Where did they come from and where are they right now?

The Asian giant hornet originally came from tropical and temperate Asia. We are currently only aware of introductions in British Columbia and Washington State. It’s very unlikely that you’ve encountered one if you live in other parts of North America.

### Are they in Indiana yet?

No, they have not been seen in Indiana nor have they been seen in any states near us. It is highly unlikely that there are any Asian giant hornets in Indiana.

### What’s with the name?

The name murder hornet is a misnomer. They’re not malicious. They’re just hungry, efficient hunters. If you’re interested in learning more about this hornet, try looking under one of its other names: Asian giant hornet, giant Asian wasp, giant Japanese hornet, giant sparrow wasp, or, if you know a bit of Japanese, オオスズメバチ.

### Are they going to hurt me or my family?

To date, only a single colony has been discovered in Washington state. It remains unclear how successful members of that colony were at overwintering and if they established new colonies this spring. Therefore, you’re very unlikely to encounter an Asian giant hornet. However, should you find a colony, don’t approach them as their stings can be serious and can even lead to death. Beekeepers are the most likely to encounter Asian giant hornets and should keep aware of the states in which this hornet has been found. In general, you should use the same caution that you do with any stinging insect. They are not generally aggressive but will defend their nests or the beehive they are attacking. They generally nest in wooded areas in abandoned borrows in the ground.

### How do they impact bees?

Unlike Asian honeybees (*Apis cerana*), the European honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) we keep in the United States don’t have any defenses against these hornets\*. Asian giant hornets mark beehives with a scent that attracts other hornets. They quickly kill the bees in the hive often by decapitating them. Once they are finished with this process, some of the hornets guard the beehive while the other hornets collect and kill the larval bees. The hornets then bring the bee larvae back to their nest to feed to the larval hornets. This process generally occurs in late summer and early fall. These hornets also eat many other types of insects like praying mantises and large caterpillars.

### How are they different from native or already introduced hornets?

The simplest difference? They are BIG and have a bright yellow head. These hornets are much larger than any other wasp or bee in North America. You can find a handy [size comparison here](#).

### Can we prevent them from becoming a problem?

Officials in both Washington state and in Canada are working hard to eradicate them. There’s hope of stopping them if we act aggressively right now and sustain our efforts in the coming years. It’s much easier to stop invasive species before they have the opportunity to establish and multiply. You can help by [learning about the invasive species](#) that are likely to be in your area, keeping an eye out for them, and letting someone know if you see them using the resources below.

### What should you do if you see one?

You probably will not see an Asian giant hornet in Indiana anytime soon but if you think you’ve seen this hornet or any other invasive species you should report it! Follow the steps we recommend on [reportINvasive.com](#):

- [The GLEDN Phone App](#)
- [EDDMaps](#)
- 1-866 NO EXOTIC (1-866-663-9684)
- [depp@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:depp@dnr.IN.gov)
- Contact your [local extension educator](#) for help!

### Further reading:

- [Asian Giant Hornet information from Washington State](#)
- [Information from The Entomological Society of America](#)
- [Asian Giant Hornet Factsheet](#)

\*The Asian honeybee (*Apis cerana*) has a series of really dramatic defense mechanisms that can protect them from these hornets. Once they’ve detected that their hive has been marked for attack by the Asian giant hornet the bees work together to make a warning noise that essentially lets the hornets know that they’re prepared for a fight. Many times, the hornets will give up at this point and look for another hive. If the hornets do still land on the hive the bees will cover the hornet in a giant living ball of bees and vibrate so much that it raises the temperature of the ball high enough to kill the hornet.



Asian giant hornets have bright yellow heads and a distinctive large body size.

(Image taken by LiCheng Shih of flickr.com)



Large wasps in Indiana, from left to right, bald faced hornet, European hornet, cicada killer (not to scale).

(Photo Credits: John Obermeyer, Entomology, Purdue University)

# RAIN AND MOSQUITOS GO HAND IN HAND

*Mosquitoes can transmit diseases to humans and some animals*

PUBLISHED ON MAY 23RD, 2024 | MORNING AG CLIPS

LAGRANGE, Ind. — In Indiana, when it rains, you can count on a flush of mosquitoes a few days later. Mosquitoes need water to develop and we have had no shortage of water this spring.

Mosquitoes breed best in stagnant water, where they are protected from fish and other animals that will eat their larvae. Common breeding grounds include swampy areas, flood waters, woodland pools, slow flowing areas of lakes and streams and ditches where the aquatic growth slows the movement of water and protects the larvae. Mosquitos can also develop in tree cavities, old tires, rain barrels, gutters, flower pot saucers – in other words, just about anything that can hold water. I have seen several hundred mosquito larvae in just a cup of water!



*Mosquitoes need water to develop and we have had no shortage of water this spring. (Erik Karits, Unsplash)*

Most of our mosquito species in Indiana lay eggs on the surface of water or in low places where water usually accumulates. Eggs hatch in less than 3 days after contact with water. The larva, also known as wrigglers, can mature in 7-10 days and then go into a cocoon stage, where they morph into an adult. Two or 3 days later, the adult mosquitoes emerge.

Only the females take a blood meal. Protein in animal blood is needed to produce the eggs. A typical female can lay 100-400 eggs. The male's mate, and die fairly soon after emerging.

A Mosquito's body is about 90% water, so on a warm sunny day, they tend to hide in the shade, or their little bodies just evaporate. When the sun begins to set, the skeeters begin their search for blood. Removing rank vegetation from the edges of property can reduce resting places, but if you live near woodlands, you're probably going to experience mosquitoes regardless of efforts to remove excess plant growth.

For personal protection, when possible, wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants with enough thickness to prevent mosquito mouth parts from reaching the skin. Dark colors attract mosquitoes, so wear light tones if you're going to be outside. Mosquitoes are often most active at dawn and dusk. If possible, stay indoors or in a tightly screened area to avoid bites at these times.

Repellents are very useful in protecting against mosquito bites and are available under various trade names. Those that contain the active ingredient diethyl toluamide (DEET) are the most effective. Only use repellents that are registered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These are proven to be effective when used according to label directions. For concern about products for use on children, choose those products that indicate on their labels that they are safe for use on children.

Citronella candles are popular, but may be of limited effectiveness because of outdoor wind movement. A granular repellent containing naphthalene compounds can be applied on lawns and other mosquito-infested areas. It effectively keeps mosquitoes repelled for several hours, but you have to put up with the smell of mothballs.

Mosquitoes can transmit diseases to humans and some animals. Mosquitoes may transmit West Nile Virus to dogs, cats, horses and humans or heartworms to dogs. We had a major outbreak of Eastern Equine Encephalitis a few years ago, which killed many horses and a few people in northern Indiana and southern Michigan. An EEE vaccine is available for horses, but it must be administered annually to be effective.

During times of high infestations, keep pets inside the house, a screened-in kennel or porch area. Avoid walking your pet during prime mosquito "feeding time". Check with a veterinarian for preventative measures and symptoms to look for.

If you live in a mosquito infested area, it might be wise to coordinate efforts within a neighborhood. For example, if you make extra efforts to limit mosquitoes on your 3-acre lot in the middle of a 150-acre wooded area, the effectiveness will be minimal because the skeeters will simply fly in from next door.

Purdue has publications on controlling mosquitos at

<https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publichealth/insects/mosquito.html>

— Jeff Burbrink, Extension Educator – Ag & Natural Resources, Purdue Extension – LaGrange County



# CICADAS IN SPRING! – PURDUE LANDSCAPE REPORT

PUBLISHED ON APRIL 9, 2024 | PURDUE EXTENSION - FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Purdue Landscape Report: Hoosiers are in for a special treat this spring. If you have lived in Indiana for more than a year, you have probably grown accustomed to the singing of cicadas in the later days of summer. However, in some years, cicadas will emerge in the spring. This occurred in 2021 when most of the state was inundated in periodical cicadas as Brood X emerged from their 17-year development. This year, two broods will emerge concurrently: Brood XIII and Brood XIX. Brood XIII is a 17-year cicada, while Brood XIX is a 13-year cicada. The emergence of these two broods isn't unusual, but this year is special because they will emerge at the same time. Their schedules haven't aligned for over two hundred years! The last time these two cicada songs were heard together, Thomas Jefferson was in the White House. While this may sound like Indiana is about to be covered in cicadas, there are a few facts that may change your expectations.

There are two types of cicadas in the Midwest: annual cicadas and periodical cicadas. Annual cicadas, as the name implies, are seen each year. They normally spend two to five years underground, but there are enough of them that we see them emerge each year. Annual cicadas emerge individually, not as a group, and we see them towards the end of the summer, thus their other common name, “dog day cicadas”. Periodical cicadas have a much different life cycle. They remain in the ground as nymphs for either thirteen or seventeen years, feeding on the roots of the trees they will eventually climb. Around April, the broods will emerge together using a combination of temperature and their own internal clock. Both types of cicadas feed on deciduous trees and tend to inhabit areas where eggs were laid during previous emergences, giving them a low likelihood of moving to new areas. Annual cicadas are green with black eyes, and periodical cicadas have dark-colored bodies with red eyes and orange legs, making it easy to differentiate them as we enter the early summer and both types are present.

The term “brood” cicada biology is referring to a group of cicadas that share the same developmental time and the same physical area. A brood will often contain several different species, though they will all belong to the genus *Magicicada*. Cicadas in a brood do not need to be genetically related to each other. Some broods are very small and cover a small area, whereas others can cover a significant portion of the Midwest. For example, Brood XII, a brood of 17-year cicadas, last appeared in 2023 and has only been detected in Allen and Orange counties. On the other hand, Brood X, also known as the Great Eastern Brood, covers the entirety of Indiana and several other states. Brood XIII and Brood XIX both cover several states, but they will have very little overlap in Indiana. Only eight western counties, between Posey and Jasper counties, will experience Brood XIX, and three northern counties (Lake, LaPorte, and Porter) will see Brood XIII. Nowhere in Indiana do the broods overlap. Essentially, while there will be a lot of cicadas emerging all at once, the lack of overlap will mean this emergence will be notable, but nothing compared to the Brood X emergence a few years ago.

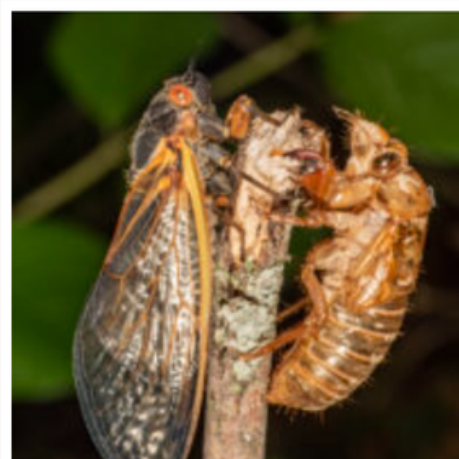


Figure 1. The cicada emergence will include the 13 and 17 year broods. Photo by John Obermeyer.



Figure 2. The cicada broods will have minimal overlap in most of Indiana. Photo by John Obermeyer.

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