



Georgia Beekeepers Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Africanized Honey Bees Confirmed in Georgia

Albany, Georgia – October 21, 2010

A test of honey bees that were involved in a stinging incident in Albany, Ga. on October 11, 2010 came back today as positive for Africanized Honey Bees. This is the first positive result or incident of Africanized Honey Bees in Georgia. Since 2005 the Georgia Beekeepers Association has worked closely with the Georgia Department of Agriculture and the University of Georgia to help educate public safety officials, beekeepers, and the public at large about the coming Africanized Honey Bee.

The only effective method to reduce Africanized Honey Bee incidents is for local beekeepers to maintain safe and healthy European Honey Bee colonies. These biological “bubbles” of European Honey Bees can reduce the numbers of Africanized Honey Bee genes in a given area. “It is for this reason the Georgia Beekeepers Association will continue to pursue our mission to promote the common interests and welfare of Georgia beekeepers and the beekeeping industry through prevention and awareness,” said David Reed, President of the Georgia Beekeepers Association.

Now that Africanized Honey Bees have been found in Georgia, the Georgia Beekeepers Association will continue to educate everyone about the Africanized Honey Bee. Public safety officials, the public, and beekeepers can learn more about to prepare for Africanized Honey Bees by visiting our Africanized Honey Bee page. www.gabeekeeping.com/ahb.html

Any and all questions regarding Africanized Honey Bees should be directed towards the Georgia Department of Agriculture – Plant Protection Division or the University of Georgia Honey Bee Research Lab.

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