

Yellow Jackets: If you have yellow jackets plaguing your summer barbecues, you need to follow the yellow flyers back to their nest. Yellow jackets live and hatch in holes in the ground. While it is advised to hang a trap only on the day of your event, contrary to popular belief, the more yellow jacket traps you set, the more yellow jackets you'll have to contend with because when a soldier dies, the Queen doubles her duty to produce more warriors for the colony. The hard part is finding the nest. Once you've located it, instead of buying a spray, call Vector Control. A professional will come free of charge, dress in a bee keeper's suit, and go to work spraying the nest with long hoses to kill the queen. The problem with commercial repellents is that they can't get far enough into the tunnels. When my yellow jacket issue arose, Vector informed me that the underground nest was probably at least thirty feet of winding chambers filled with thousands of yellow jackets.

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Agapanthus budding. Deer will eat the buds and blooms so plant in protected areas.

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