Africanized Honey Bees

Today on Gardening in a Minute: Africanized honey bees.

Africanized honey bees have migrated from South America and are gradually infiltrating the European honey bee colonies in the U.S.

Although they’re often referred to as “killer bees,” Africanized honey bees are best described as defensive, as they attack people only when we get too close to their nests. Possible nest sites include wood piles, water meters, trees, and outbuildings.

The best defense against Africanized bees is to remove or block all potential nesting sites around the yard and house. You should also seal all gaps in walls and around chimneys and plumbing, and install screens over other openings, such as rain spouts and vents.

If you do find bees nesting on your property, do not approach them! Contact your county Extension agent or a certified pest controller.

For more information about Africanized bees and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.