**GIANT AFRICAN SNAIL**

**LIFE CYCLE**

**Eggs**
Each mated snail can lay up to 1,200 eggs each year

**Hibernation**
The snail can survive in cold conditions and could winter in the Northern United States by slowing down, almost hibernating until spring

**Adult**
Brownish shell covers at least half the length of the snail

Can reach up to 8 inches long and 5 inches in diameter
WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- When fully grown, the shell consists of seven to nine whorls (spirals), with a long and greatly swollen body whorl.
- The brownish shell with darker brown lengthwise stripes covers at least half the length of the snail.

THE HARM IT CAUSES

This pest is one of the most damaging snails in the world because it can consume at least 500 different types of plants. It poses a serious health risk to humans since it can carry a parasite that can cause meningitis. The snails also damage buildings by eating plaster, stucco, and other calcium-rich materials needed to grow their shells. They have no natural enemies and reproduce rapidly, with each mated snail laying about 1,200 eggs each year.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Do not bring or mail fresh fruits, vegetables, or plants into your State or any other unless agricultural inspectors have cleared them beforehand.
- Report any information on illegal snail smuggling/import activity by calling the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s toll-free anti-smuggling hotline at 1-800-877-3835.
- Allow authorized agricultural workers access to your property to inspect for the snail.
- Report any sightings of this pest at HungryPests.com.

For more information visit: HungryPests.com

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
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Program Aid No. 2125-GAS Issued September 2012