

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

LYCORMA DELICATULA

Hosts and Range

The spotted lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula* (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae), feeds on over 65 plants and has a strong preference for tree-of-heaven, grapevine, orchard trees, maple and black walnut. SLF is native to Asia and was first detected in North America in Pennsylvania in 2014. It is now established in at least 12 states, most of which are on the eastern seaboard, but it has been found as far inland as Ohio and Indiana.



Identification and Symptoms

Spotted lanternfly nymphs are initially black with white spots, but then become red as they develop. The adults have spotted wings held tent-like when at rest and a wing span of 1.5 inches when spread. Spotted lanternfly females lay eggs on a variety of smooth surfaces including tree trunks and branches, rocks, stones, lawn furniture and vehicles. Egg masses are gray, 1.5 inches long, and resemble a splotch of gray clay. As they feed, lanternflies excrete a sticky sugary substance called honeydew. When large numbers are feeding, the honeydew accumulates under the insects, and sooty mold develops. Feeding causes yellowing and wilting of foliage, branch dieback, and affects fruit quality and yield on plants such as grapevine.

Firewood

The best method of controlling the SLF is

to prevent its introduction. Since egg masses are laid on any smooth surface, they are the life stage that is most at risk of being transported to a new location. It is recommended that infested wood debris and firewood not be moved long distances. If traveling for recreational activities, it is recommended that people leave firewood at home and instead buy local firewood at the destination. If departing from a location with a known SLF population, all vehicles, trailers, boats and camping equipment should be inspected for SLF life stages. Articles considered to be at risk include plants, lumber, firewood, industrial or construction materials and equipment, stone, shipping containers (for example, wood crates or boxes),

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Firewood movement is a major pathway for the introduction of destructive invasive pests to new ecosystems. By using local or heat treated firewood, the public can prevent the accidental movement of these damaging pests.

outdoor household articles (examples: grills, mowers and outdoor furniture), recreational vehicles and any means of conveyance. When a SLF infestation is found in a new area, a quarantine is established to limit the spread of the pest through human activities.

Additional Information

<https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly>



Spotted lanternfly egg masses contain 30-50 eggs and are protected with a mud-like covering, giving them their unique cracked-mortar appearance.



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