Pest Alert

Spotted Lanternfly

*Lycorma delicatula* (WHITE) *(Hemiptera: Fulgoridae)*

The Spotted Lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula* (White), an invasive planthopper, was discovered in Berks County, Pennsylvania in 2014. It is native to China, India, Vietnam, and introduced to Korea where it has become a major pest. This insect attacks many hosts including grapes, apples, stone fruits, and tree of heaven and has the potential to greatly impact the grape, fruit tree, and logging industries. Early detection is vital for the protection of Connecticut businesses and agriculture.

**Identification:**
The Spotted Lanternfly adult is approximately 1” long and 1/2” wide at rest. The forewing is grey with black spots and the wings tips are reticulated black blocks outlined in grey (A, B, C). The hind wings have contrasting patches of red and black with a white band (A). The legs and head are black; the abdomen is yellow with broad black bands. Immature stages are black with white spots, and develop red patches as they grow (D,E).

**Hosts:**
In the fall, adults congregate on tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) (F), willows (*Salix* sp.), and other trees, in groups of up to 20. Egg masses will be laid on medium to large trees, on trunk, branches, and limb bases. After hatching in the spring, nymphs will move off the tree and search out new hosts, including several kinds of agricultural crops. In Korea, it has been reported to attack 65 different species, 25+ of which are known to grow in Pennsylvania.

**Signs and Symptoms:**
Trees, such as tree of heaven and willow, will develop weeping wounds. These wounds will leave a greyish or black trail along the trunk (G). This sap will attract other insects to feed, notably wasps and ants. In late fall, adults will lay egg masses on host trees and nearby smooth surfaces like stone, outdoor furniture, vehicles, and structures. Newly laid egg masses have a grey mud-like covering which can take on a dry cracked appearance over time (H). Old egg masses appear as rows of 30-50 brownish seed-like deposits in 4-7 columns on the trunk, roughly an inch long (I).

**What to do:**

*Take a picture:* Photographs of any life stage (including egg masses) can be submitted to CAES.StateEntomologist@ct.gov.

Please include contact information, location, and when the photo was taken in your report.

*Collect a specimen:* Specimens of any life stage can be turned in to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station insect office for verification. Directions for submission are on the reverse side of this alert.

*Report a site:* If you can’t take a specimen or photograph, email CAES.StateEntomologist@ct.gov and leave a message detailing your sighting and contact information.

For up to date information, visit: www.ct.gov/caes

Original Publication By: Lawrence Barringer, Entomologist Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
SPOTTED LANTERNFLY SAMPLE SUBMISSION FORM

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station can provide identification. Please complete this form to be submitted with the specimen(s).

SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:

1. All specimens should be dead. Place live specimens in freezer overnight.

2. Specimens should be placed in a hard container or vial, such as a prescription pill bottle. (DO NOT submit specimens between two pieces of clear tape!)

3. If you are mailing your specimen, use a padded envelope, such as for mailing CD’s.

4. Specimens from different locations (if applicable) should be placed in different vials.

5. A completed sample submission form including contact information must accompany the specimen container(s).

REQUIRED INFORMATION:

Name of Submitter:

Contact Information: Telephone: Email:

Address where specimen was collected:

Date Collected: Plant Host/Habitat:

Name of Person Who Collected Specimen:

Comments/Special Instruction:

Mail the vial/container and completed form, or deliver in person to:

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
ATTN: Insect Inquiry Office - SLF
123 Huntington Street
P.O. Box 1106
New Haven, CT 06511-1106