



The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

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PRESS RELEASE

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CAES Announces Renewal of the Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine for Connecticut

New Haven, CT - The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) in cooperation with USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) continued to detect expanding populations of the spotted lanternfly (SLF) in Connecticut through 2021. **The Director of CAES hereby announces the renewal of the Order of Quarantine for SLF that was established 1 July 2021, effective January 1, 2022.** More information about SLF, the quarantine order and state quarantine requirements can be found at: <https://portal.ct.gov/CAES/CAPS/CAPS/Spotted-Lanternfly---SLF>.

In 2020 and 2021, multiple adult SLF populations were detected in Fairfield and New Haven Counties in the towns of Greenwich, New Canaan, and Stamford, Norwalk, Milford, Orange, and Cheshire. "As this insect continues to expand in Connecticut, it raises ongoing and future concerns for Connecticut's agriculture, hence the renewal of the SLF quarantine as noted in the original order" said State Entomologist Dr. Kirby Stafford. Early detection is important, and the public is urged to report potential sightings of this invasive pest when they become active again in 2022. Currently, the insect is overwintering in egg masses. If you suspect you have found a SLF, snap a picture of it, collect it if possible, and report it to ReportSLF@ct.gov. Companies moving regulated articles from SLF infested towns should enter into a compliance agreement to help mitigate movement of this pest.

Native to China, India, and Vietnam, the spotted lanternfly is an invasive sap-feeding planthopper that was discovered in Pennsylvania in 2014. SLF infestations have been reported in New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, Indiana, New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. The nymphal stage of this insect is currently active with adults appearing late summer. In the fall, adults about 1 inch long can often be found congregating on tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus*), willows and other trees. They will lay egg masses on trees and almost any nearby surface like rocks, decks, houses, outdoor equipment, and furniture, etc. Nymphs of SLF will hatch from the eggs in the spring (late April-June). This insect attacks many hosts and has the potential to severely impact Connecticut's farm crops, particularly apples, grapes, and hops, and several tree species. The secretion of excess sap called honeydew can also be a nuisance for residential infestations. Additional information is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Forestry/Forest-Protection/Spotted-Lanternfly> and <https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly>.

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