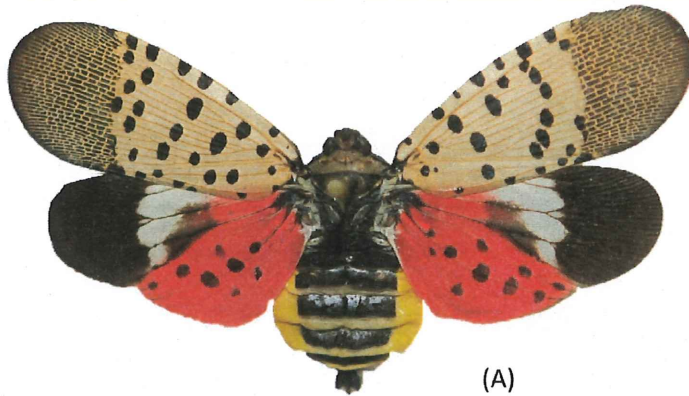


# Pest Alert

## Spotted Lanternfly

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



(A)

The spotted lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula* (White), an invasive planthopper, was first discovered on September 22, 2014 in eastern Berks County, Pennsylvania. It is native to China, India, Vietnam, and was unintentionally introduced to Korea where it has become a major pest. This insect prefers to attack tree of heaven, but it will feed on many other host plants including grapes, apples, stone fruits, and has the potential to greatly impact the grape, fruit tree, and forest products industries. Early detection is vital for the protection of Pennsylvania businesses and agriculture.



(B)



(C)



(D)



(E)



(F)



(G)



(H)



(I)

(A) Spotted lanternfly adult showing the forewings and hind wings (B) Adults at rest on bark (C) Lateral view of an adult (D) 1st instar nymph (E) 4th instar nymph (F) Adult feeding on wild grape, *Vitis* sp. (G) Weeping sap trail on bark (H) Egg mass (oothecum) covered in coating (I) Old hatched egg mass on tree trunk.

### Identification:

The spotted lanternfly adult is approximately 1" long and 1/2" wide at rest. The forewing is gray with black spots and the wing tips are reticulated black blocks outlined in gray (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. Young nymphs are black with white spots, and in the last (4<sup>th</sup>) instar develop red patches (D, E).

### Hosts:

In the fall, adults congregate on tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), willows (*Salix* spp.), and other trees in groups of up to 20. Egg masses are laid on the trunk and branches of medium to large trees. 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 tree species, 25+ of which are known to grow in Pennsylvania.

### Symptoms and Signs:

Trees, such as tree of heaven and willow, will develop weeping wounds. These wounds will leave a grayish 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 other structures. Newly laid egg masses have a gray mud-like covering that 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:

**If you see egg masses, scrape them off, double bag them and throw them away.** You can also place the eggs into alcohol or hand sanitizer to kill them. Please report all destroyed egg masses on our website listed below.

**Collect a specimen:** Specimens of any life stage may be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Entomology Lab for verification. Directions for submission are on the reverse side of this alert.

**Take a picture:** A photograph of any life stage (including egg masses) can be submitted to [Badbug@pa.gov](mailto:Badbug@pa.gov).

**Report a site:** If you can't take a specimen or photograph, call the Automated Invasive Species Report Line 1-866-253-7189 and leave a message detailing your sighting and contact information.