

**PEST ALERT****Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*)****Adult****Nymph****Egg Masses**

Photos: Adult/Nymph: Lawrence Barringer, PA Dept. of Agriculture, [bugwood.org](http://bugwood.org);  
Egg Masses: Emelie Swackhamer, Penn State University, [bugwood.org](http://bugwood.org)

**WANT TO HELP?**

- Learn how to identify spotted lanternfly
- Inspect your firewood, vehicles, outdoor furniture, and camping gear for egg masses, nymphs, and adults
- Check all your vehicle, gear, and equipment when traveling to and from Rhode Island and scrape off any egg masses

Updated: September 2022



Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive plant hopper insect that was introduced into the United States in 2014. Native to China, this pest is associated with the invasive Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) but can also cause significant damage to economically important plants and it's also a significant nuisance, that could affect the quality of life and enjoyment of the outdoors in RI. SLF was first detected in Pennsylvania in 2014 and has established populations in 14 states counting Rhode Island. It is a threat to many fruit crops such as apples, apricots, cherries, grapes, hops, nectarines, peaches, and plums as well as maple, oak, pine, poplar, sycamore, walnut, and willow trees. SLF does not fly long distances, but it is an able hitchhiker.

**Description:** Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) is plant hopper, a type of “true bug” that uses a stylet (or beak) to pierce plant tissue for feeding. In addition to the spotted patterning, the adult SLF’s unique colors feature scarlet underwings, yellow markings on its abdomen, and tan semi-transparent forewings. Adults about an inch in length and can be found late July into November. The nymph stage appears in June and July and feature strikingly bright red and black bodies with white spotting. Early stage nymphs lack the red color and appear completely black.

**Distribution:** SLF was first detected in Pennsylvania in 2014 and has quickly spread through surrounding states. In Pennsylvania, there has been significant yield loss in vineyards and the insect has become a public nuisance.

**A single adult Spotted Lanternfly was found in Rhode Island in August 2021. The state’s first population was found in Providence County in August 2022.**

For more information or if you suspect you have found an invasive pest, please report it to us:

**[dem.ri.gov/pestalert](http://dem.ri.gov/pestalert)**