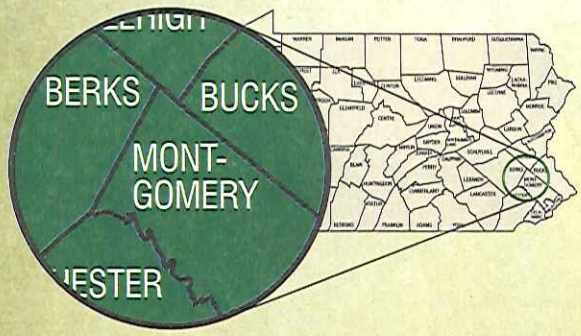
The Spotted Lanternfly *(Lycorma delicatula)* is an exotic insect pest native to China, India, and Vietnam. Already established as a pest in Korea since 2004, Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) was first found in Berks County in Pennsylvania in 2014. Currently restricted to eastern Pennsylvania, SLF is subject to control and eradication efforts. Risks of SLF movement come from transportation of firewood, outdoor equipment, timber, and woody debris.

An up-to-date map of SLF distribution can be found on the Department of Agriculture website, www.agriculture.pa.gov/Protect/PlantIndustry/spotted_lanternfly.



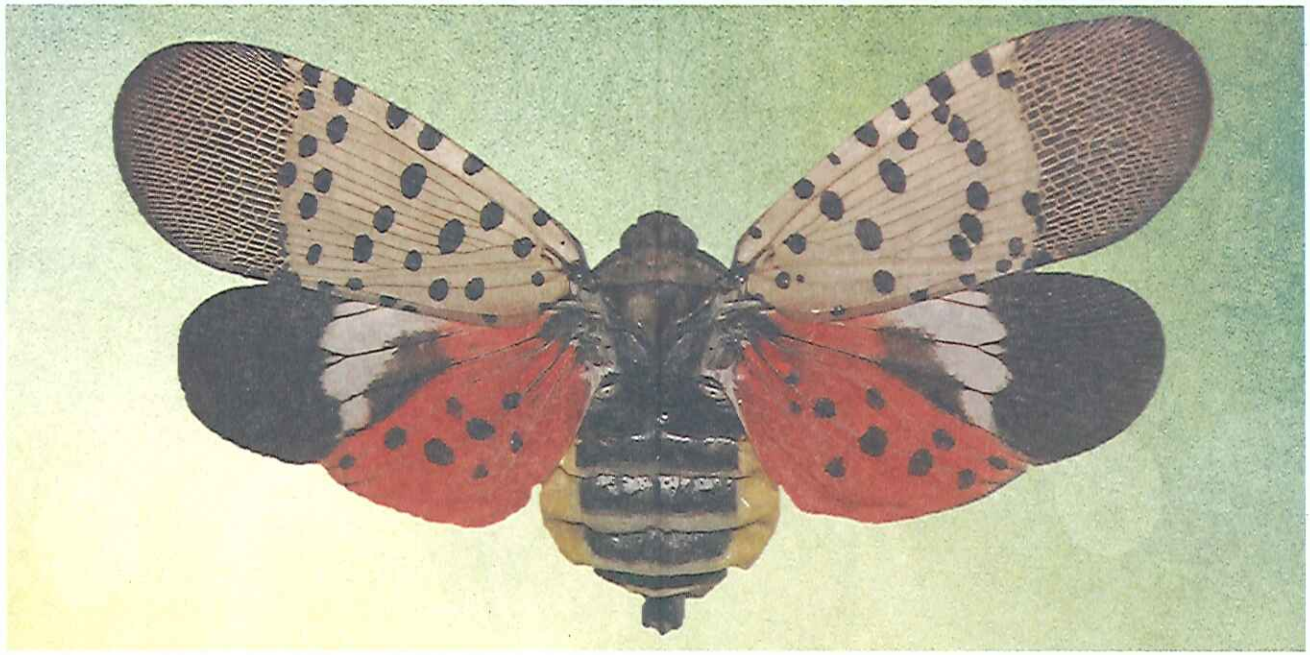
HOSTS

The Spotted Lanternfly can feed on a variety of 70+ plants. Plants such as grapes, cherries, maples, stone fruits, and Tree of Heaven are preferred hosts. As nymphs, SLF will feed on a variety of native and introduced plants. As they approach adulthood, feeding preferences switch to Tree of Heaven and other high-sugar-content sap trees. Feeding damage from large numbers of this pest has the potential to weaken or kill plants, and reduce crop yields in orchards and vineyards.

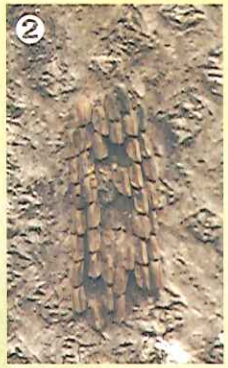
LOOK-A-LIKES

Several other insects such as the Giant Leopard Moth and the Virgin Tiger Moth may be confused with the Spotted Lanternfly due to their appearance. When in doubt … *REPORT IT!*

Email: badbug@pa.gov



SIGNS OF SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

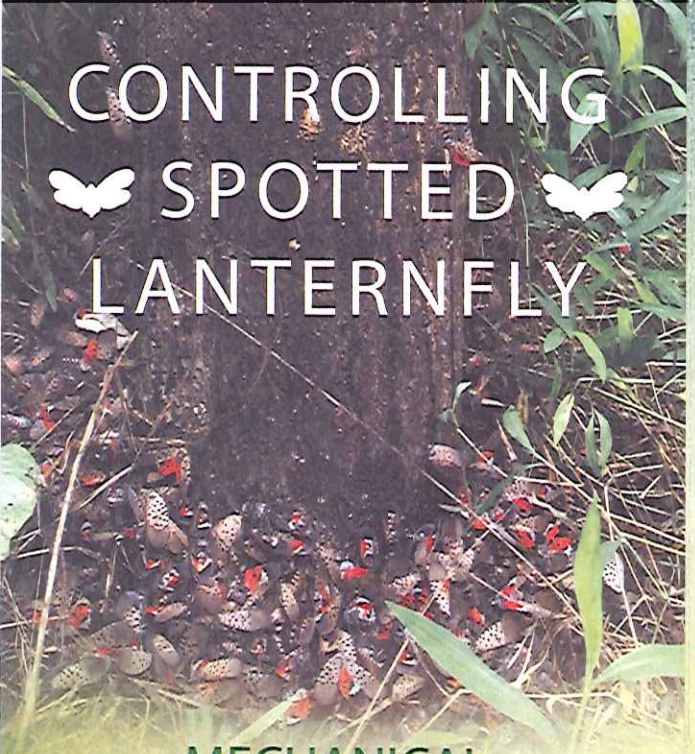


Signs of an infestation vary depending on the time of year. During fall/early winter, the egg masses ① are laid—sometimes in excess of 150 on a single tree in heavily infested areas—on smooth surfaces such as tree bark; fence posts; outdoor equipment such as ATVs, trailers, and boats; and smooth rocks. The egg masses ① resemble 1- to 2-inch-long gray mud smears with 30–50 brown eggs beneath.

In the spring, the egg masses ② turn dark brown and appear cracked and scaly. Young nymphs ③ hatch in spring (May) and feed on various plants. As the nymphs grow ④ they develop red colorization and more prominent spotting. In July, adults appear and start moving to Tree of Heaven and other trees to suck out sap, causing wounds and sap trails ⑤.

Nymphs and adults can be found in both forest and backyard settings. During late summer, large groupings can be found feeding on trees ⑥.

CONTROLLING SPOTTED LANTERNFLY



MECHANICAL

- Egg masses can be scraped from surfaces from October through June.
- Young nymphs can be killed with brown adhesive tree bands from May through August.

HOST REDUCTION and TRAP TREES

- Spotted Lanternfly adults must feed on Tree of Heaven before laying eggs.
- Trap trees are created by removing most Tree of Heaven from a property but leaving a few alive. The live trees are treated with a systemic insecticide before July. In late July when the adults feed from the only remaining Tree of Heaven, they are exposed to the insecticide and die, as seen on the picture above.

More information about host removal and trap trees can be found at:

http://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Protect/PlantIndustry/spotted_lanternfly

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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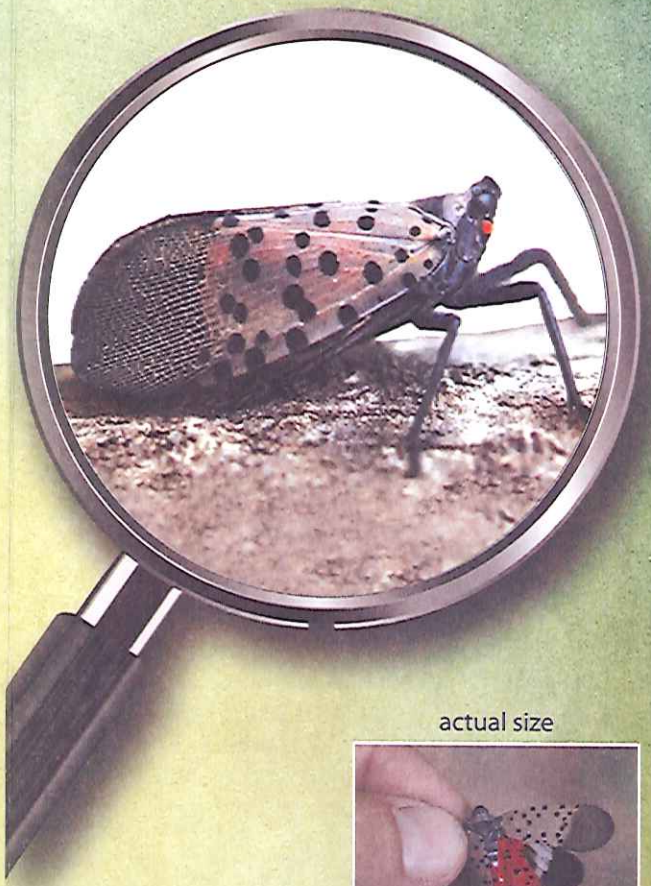
WHAT IS THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY?



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