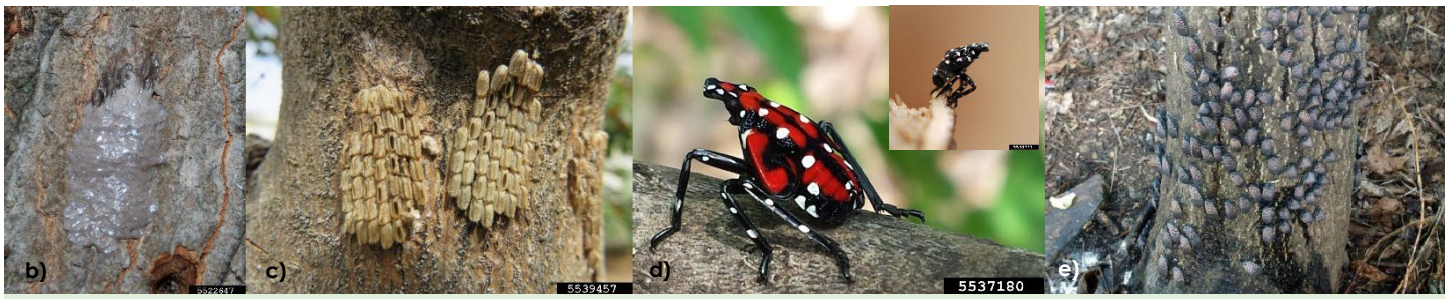
NCDA&CS
Plant Industry Division
Plant Protection Section

PEST ALERT

Spotted Lanternfly

Lycorma delicatula (White)
(Hemiptera: Fulgoridae)

Spotted lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula* (White), is an invasive planthopper that was first detected in the United States in Berks County, Pennsylvania, in 2014 and has since become established in 17 states. This pest was first discovered in North Carolina in June 2022. Continued awareness and reporting of spotted lanternfly sightings is critical for protecting North Carolina businesses and agriculture.



a) Spotted lanternfly adult (photo by Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture); b) Spotted lanternfly egg mass (photo by Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture); c) Spotted lanternfly eggs after hatching (photo by Kenneth R. Law, USDA-APHIS-PPQ); d) Late stage spotted lanternfly nymph with early stage nymph in inset (photos by Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture); e) Spotted lanternfly adults on *Ailanthus* with damage to tree evident in weeping wounds (photo by Emelie Swackhamer, PennState Extension)

HOSTS:

This insect is a known pest of grapes, stone fruits, apples, maples, roses, hops, willows (*Salix* sp.), chinaberry (*Melia azedarach*), and tree of heaven (TOH; *Ailanthus altissima*). The known host list contains over 70 species of plants. TOH appears to be the preferred host for late stage nymphs and adults.

IDENTIFICATION:

Adults of spotted lanternfly are approximately 1" long and 0.5" wide. Their forewings are light gray with black spots with wing tips patterned with lines of small black blocks. The hindwings are red and black with a white band. Their bodies are yellow with black bands down the middle. The immature stages are black with white spots which develop into red and black with white spots in the later stages.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:

This pest damages trees causing them to develop weeping wounds that leave a dark trail of sap down the trunk. This sap attracts other insects, such as wasps and ants, and can lead to the formation of fungal mats at the base of trees. In late fall, adults will lay egg masses on host trees and other smooth surfaces like outdoor furniture and equipment. These egg masses have a gray, mud-like appearance.

WHAT TO DO:

Collect a specimen. If you suspect you have found spotted lanternfly, please collect a specimen and report it to ncagr.gov/SLF. We will assist you with specimen submission.

Take a picture: If you aren't sure if what you're looking at is spotted lanternfly, please submit a photo of any life stage with our reporting tool at ncagr.gov/SLF. If the insect flees before you can take a picture, please take one of the area where it was found.

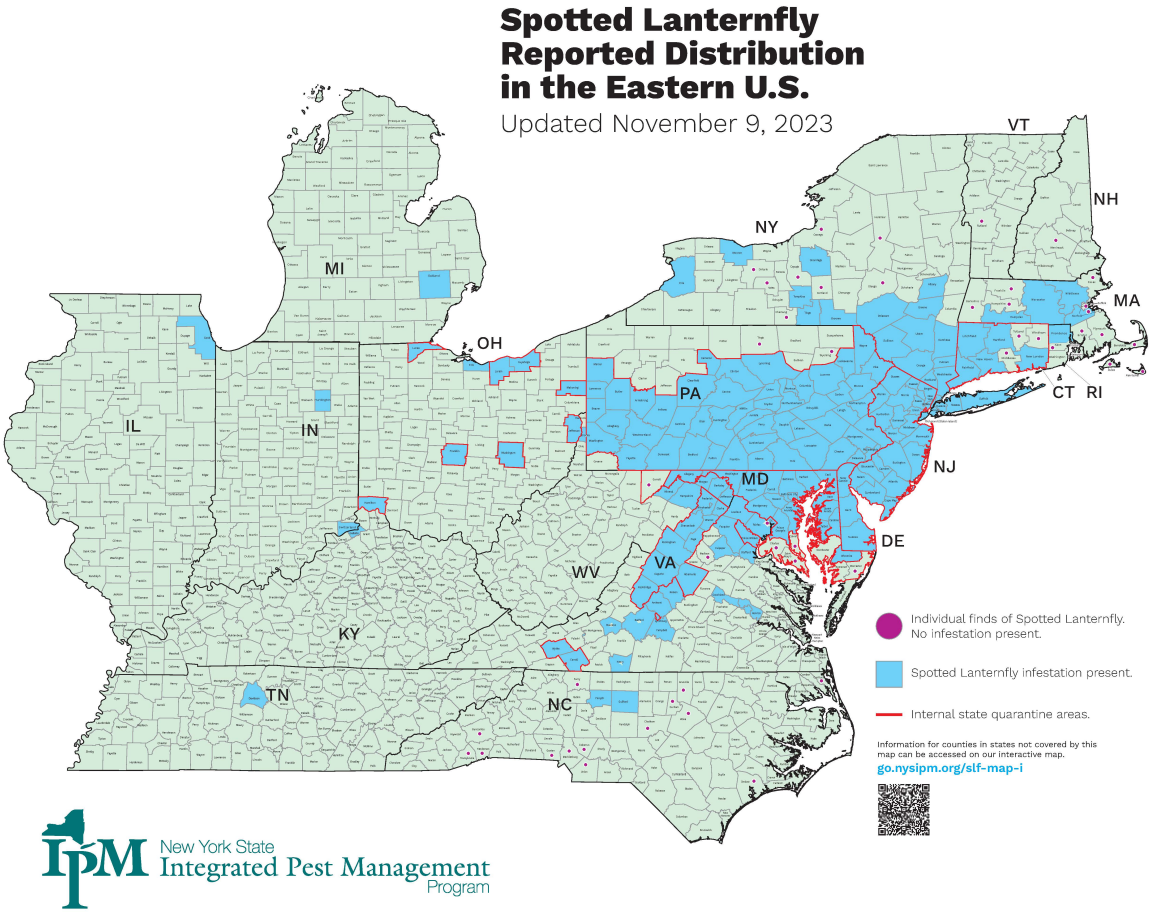
Report a find: When reporting a potential find, please include the location & date of the find and the photo of the insect or location. Please DO NOT post to social media until NCDA&CS completes their investigation.

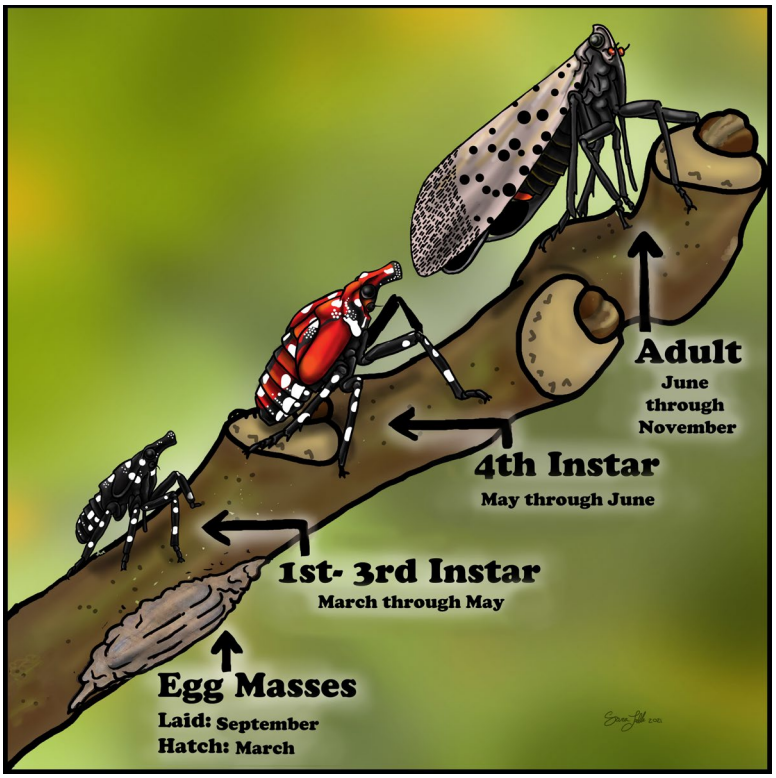
Note: Currently, several counties in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia, and Ohio have been placed under quarantine for spotted lanternfly, and as of November 2023 the pest has been intercepted in CT, DE, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, MI, NC, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, TN, VA, and WV. Please see the Spotted Lanternfly Known Distribution Map and Life Cycle on the back of the handout. Check ncagr.gov/SLF for updated maps, links to regulatory requirements if you plan to travel to quarantine areas, and to learn more about spotted lanternfly.

Steve Troxler, Commissioner of Agriculture
Dr. Bill Foote, Plant Industry Division Director
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

For up to date information please visit:
www.ncagr.gov/SLF

Visit **ncagr.gov/SLF** to see the updated map and learn more about this pest





Spotted lanternfly lifecycle (date ranges may vary based on temperatures at your location)