

CAUTION: Invasive Species

## Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF)

**Spotted Lantern Fly- (SLF) expanding from Pa., downstate and Mass. A threat- watch for!**

**Impact-** Native to Asia and first appeared in the US in 2014, a highly destructive pest now in NYC, Conn. Southern Tier and in Hudson Valley. Feeds on wide variety of plants and crops such as grapes, hops (O NO!), apple trees, maple, walnut, and more than 70 plant species critical to NY's agricultural economy. SLF feedings stress plants making them vulnerable to diseases and attacks from other insects. SLF also excretes large amounts of sticky "honeydew" which attracts sooty molds that interfere with plant photosynthesis negatively affecting the growth and fruit yields. SLF travels easily and can hitchhike on any stationary object. It can reproduce prolifically.

**How to identify-** Nymphs are black with white spots and turn red before transitioning to adults (active July to Dec.) Adults are approx. 1 1/2 in wide at rest with eye catching wings and lay eggs in Sept. Eggs are laid in groups and each mass usually contains 30-50 eggs. Egg masses are brownish-gray, waxy and mud like when new. Old egg masses are brown and scaly. Sap oozing or weeping from open wounds on tree trunk which appear wet and give off fermented odors are signs. SLF hatch in the spring as wingless nymphs feed and molt several times before finally turning into flying adults typically in July. Spreads primarily through human activity. One inch egg masses may be anything from tree trunks, rocks to vehicles. Freezing temperatures kill the adult, however egg masses may survive the winter. A preferred host is Tree of Heaven\* and grape vines.



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- A. Egg masses
- B. Early nymph
- C. Late nymph
- D. Adult, wings closed
- E. Adult, wings open

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*SLf Egg Mass*



**Action** In addition to looking for the adults, look for egg masses. NYS is implementing quarantines that restrict the movements of goods into NY from quarantined areas including nursery stock, firewood, stone shipments, etc. If you think you found these, take pictures and contact DEC at [spottedlanternfly@dec.ny.gov](mailto:spottedlanternfly@dec.ny.gov) & NYS Dept of Ag. at [Jola.Szubielski@agriculture.ny.gov](mailto:Jola.Szubielski@agriculture.ny.gov). NYS has initiated an active tracking program to prevent establishment. In addition to insecticides, a simple solution of ¼ cup liquid dish detergent and one gallon

of water sprayed on heavy enough to coat them may be effective.

### Tree of Heaven

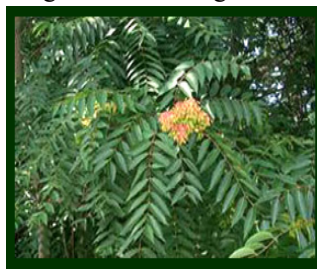
\*Note- another invasive – **Tree of Heaven**, no angel, is the main host of spotted lantern fly. Looks like sumac but grows to 70 ft tall. Left- seeds, center- tree but may also grow as bush. right- leaves and flower



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