#### PLANT PROTECTION AGR.GEORGIA.GOV

# **SPOTTED LANTERNFLY**

# Help Stop This Invader



Spotted lanternfly (Lycorma delicatula ; SLF) is an invasive planthopper that feeds on many plants, including grapes, hops, stone fruits, and hardwood trees. When the SLF feeds, it excretes a sticky, sugary fluid that causes sooty mold, which can further damage plants. Its preferred host is tree of heaven (Ailanthus altissima), and today, over 17 States have some degree of infestation.

## **EGG MASS**

# 1 - 3RD INSTAR

# 4TH INSTAR

### **ADULT**

#### September to May

Newly laid egg masses (holding 30-50 eggs) resemble wet, gray putty before turning dull and brown, mirroring a smear of cracked mud. The 1-inch long egg masses can be seen in fall, winter, and spring on a variety of smooth surfaces, such as trees, bricks, stones. fences, grills, equipment, and vehicles.

1 inch (actual size)





#### Late March to June

Late May to July

Nymphs (juvenile spotted lanternflies) are black with white spots and turn red as they develop.



The 1st instar is small (roughly the size of a tick) and grows to 4 inch size (3rd instars)

¼ inch (actual size)



Bright red & ½ inch in size

½ inch (actual size)





### July to December

Adults, roughly 1-inch long and 1/2-inch wide, have a yellow, black-barred abdomen. With large, visually striking wings, adult spotted lanternflies can be easier to spot than other pests. They have brown forewings with black spots at the front and a speckled band at the rear. Their hind wings are scarlet with black spots at the front and white and black bars at the rear.

1 inch (actual size)











## REPORT SPOTTED LANTERNFLIES IN GEORGIA

Use the QR code to report a suspected spotted lanternfly. For questions, email lanternfly@agr.georgia.gov.

# Where to look:

Spotted lanternfly adults and nymphs frequently gather in large numbers on host plants. Adult spotted lanternflies lay egg masses on outdoor surfaces, such as the trunks of plants, brick, stone, grills, lawnmowers, and more.



(Egg masses, covered and uncovered)



(Cluster of adults on the trunk of a tree)

# How to Prevent this Pest:

#### You can stop the spotted lanternfly from overtaking plants:

- **Regular Checks:** Inspect your trees and plants for signs of this pest, particularly at dusk and at night when the insects tend to gather in large groups on trunks and stems.
- Close Car Windows: Spotted lanternflies and their nymphs can enter vehicles unsuspectedly.
   When parked, make sure to keep windows closed. If possible, try to park 15 feet away from trees in a quarantine zone.
- Check Your Vehicle: Before leaving a parking lot or work site, inspect vehicles for eggs or insects. Check doors, sides, bumpers, wheel wells, grills, and roofs. If found, destroy any eggs or insects you find.
- **Winter Prep**: When preparing for winter, check your outdoor items for egg masses, including items you may bring indoors.
- Destroy Eggs: Look for egg masses in your trees (in particular, tree-of-heaven), bricks, stones, and other smooth surfaces. If you find eggs, smash them and scrape them into a plastic zippered bag filled with hand sanitizer or rubbing alcohol to kill them. Then, zip the bag shut and dispose of it in the trash.
- **Travel Checks**: If you're traveling, thoroughly check your vehicle and clothes to avoid moving the pest to your land and other locations.
- Inspect Items Being Moved: If your business involves moving items, check shipping
  containers, propane tanks, pallets, and other items being stored outdoors before they're
  moved offsite. Inspect incoming goods for egg masses and insects.