

# Spotted Lanternfly

## New Invasive Pest!

Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive insect that was first found in Pennsylvania in 2014. Since then it has now been found in; New York, Delaware, and Virginia. New Jersey and Maryland are on high-alert. The affected area was only 174 sq miles in 2016, in 2017 it was 3,000 sq miles. Although this insect can walk, jump or fly short distances. It's long-distance spread is helped by people who move infested material or items with egg masses (see image 2).

This may look like a moth (top image), but it is really a plant hopper. Even though it has wings it can only fly very short distances. This insect is a potential threat to several important crops including grapes, fruit trees and timber trees. It's absolute favorite is, Tree of Heaven but it also frequents; Willow, Maple, Poplar, Apple, Pine and Prunus (plum, cherries, peaches, apricots, almonds and more).

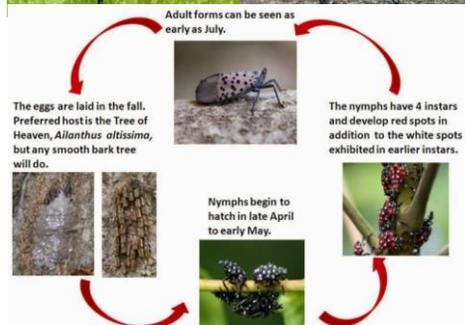
See the life cycle image below. Adults (image 1) mate then find a place to lay eggs (image 2), where they are protected under a waxy substance. The egg mass starts out shiny then turns brownish (see yellow inset) in the fall. Once they hatch they go through 3 stages where they are black and white (image 3). Then the fourth stage they are orange and black with white spots (image 4).

## Control

These insects suck the sap from the plant, weakening it and making it susceptible to fungus, other insect and weather conditions. With almost all sap sucking insects, *FL Tree & Shrub Systemic Insect Drench* is the first choice. An application will last up to a year, so one in the spring should protect all year. Unfortunately, it is not registered in these states; CA, CT, DC, MD, NJ and NY.

If drench is not an option, *HY 38 Plus* and *HY Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4* both leave a residue that lasts up to 3 weeks, but these can not be used on edibles. On edibles; *FL Broad Spectrum Insecticide*, *NG Horticultural Oil* or *FL Triple Action* are natural and somewhat effective, repeat 7 to 10 days.

Finally control the "Tree of Heaven" and you will reduce this insect. Due to the aggressive nature of this plant you need to use a chemical treatment. Either mix and spray or use *HY Triclopyr Ester* straight on stumps to kill the plant and potential suckers. Apply monthly for up to two years to attain control. *HY KillZall 365* will be effective in areas with no other plants.



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