exotic pest

Spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) is an invasive planthopper native to eastern Asia. First found in the U.S. in Pennsylvania in 2014, it has since spread throughout the eastern U.S. and recently into the Midwest.

damage

Adult and nymph spotted lanternflies feed by sucking sap from host plants. Heavy infestations reduce photosynthesis and may weaken or kill plants. Preferred hosts include the invasive tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) and grapevines, although spotted lanternfly is known to feed on more than 70 plants, including apple, maple, rose, and walnut. In addition, spotted lanternfly is a seasonal nuisance pest that swarms in fall.

life cycle



spread

Egg masses, adults, and nymphs are "hitchhikers" and are often moved long distances and into new areas on firewood, nursery stock, rail cars, vehicles, shipping containers, bricks, stone, and other materials moved by humans.

how to help

Early detection is the best strategy for keeping spotted lanternfly out of Wisconsin. Always inspect your vehicles, trailers, or any outdoor items when traveling from an area where spotted lanternfly is known to occur. Removing the invasive tree-of-heaven from your property is another important preventative measure.

If you suspect you have found spotted lanternfly in Wisconsin, please report it immediately to slf.wi.gov. A clear photo or physical specimen and a precise location are required for confirmation.



