

# Pest Alert

Arizona Department of Agriculture  
Plant Services Division - Entomology



## Spotted Lanternfly

**Vulnerable Arizona Host Plants:** Grapes & fruit trees; primary host is Tree of Heaven, an invasive tree that is established in the Verde Valley, Cottonwood, Clarkdale, and Sedona.

This pest was detected in Berks County, Pennsylvania on September 22, 2014, and a quarantine was put in place on November 1, 2014. This insect is considered a serious threat to U.S. grape, fruit tree and logging industries.



**Figure 1A:** Adult spotted lanternfly with wings spread (Holly Raguza, PA Dept. Ag), **Figure 1B:** Adult spotted lantern fly (Lawrence Barringer, PA Dept. Ag), **Figure 1C:** Nymphal spotted lanternflies – younger nymphs are red with black and white (Park et al. 2009)

**Scientific name:** *Lycorma delicatula* (White) (Order: Hemiptera, Family: Fulgoridae)

**Other common names:** Spot clothing wax cicada (Yoon 2011)

**Origin and Known Distribution:** Originally from SE Asia (China, India, Japan, Vietnam), it has now been introduced to Korea and detected in Pennsylvania (September 2014).

**Host Plants:** Primary host is Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), and grapes (*Vitis spp.*). Documented on 65 different species in Korea. PA Dept. Ag has documented that 25 of these species are present in PA, including many hardwood trees.

**How to Identify:** Approximately 1" long and 1/2" wide. This unique looking plant hopper has black spotted front wings with an outer edge a reticulated pattern, and hind wings with patches of red, white and black (Figures 1A and 1B). This insect is a strong jumper, but poor flyer. Egg masses look like rows of seeds, and when fresh, they are covered with a grey pitch-like deposit (see Figure 2). Nymphs are black with white spots, but the upper body of the nymph turns red in the 4<sup>th</sup> instar (stage).

**Detection:** Examine trees and stored items for adults. Damage to host plant includes weeping wounds, leaving a dark trail along trunk and attracting wasps. These weeping wounds can encourage the growth of mold. Adults are known to congregate together.

Egg masses should be searched for in the fall and can be found on any flat or protected surface near host plants, including outdoor landscaping equipment, sheds, stones, bark, firewood, remodeling material and tarps.

**How It Spreads:** Movement on host material, including debris, firewood, wood crates or boxes, nursery stock, budwood, perennial plants, grapevines for decorative or nursery stock, and stored product near infested trees.

**Submitting for Identification:** Submit the suspect adult or nymph in alcohol as described in Section 2 of the Entomology Sample Submission Guidelines.

**Resources:** PA Quarantine (<http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol44/44-44/2258.html>)

Author: A. Woodroffe

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**Figure 2:** Adult spotted lanternfly and egg masses (PA Dept. Ag Inspection PPT)

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