Pest Alert: Spotted lanternfly
Lycorma delicatula

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INTRODUCTION

Two spotted lanternflies (SLF), *Lycorma delicatula*, were found in Oregon for the first time in October 2020. One was in a shipment of planters and ceramic pots delivered to a Benton county business. The other was in a shipment of new shipping boxes to Marion county. Both shipments originated in Pennsylvania. The specimens were dead and dry when found.

SLF was first found in North America during 2014 in Pennsylvania. It is believed to have arrived on shipments of stone from China. Since then, SLF has been detected in 17 eastern states (CT, DE, IN MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VA, VT and WV). California has intercepted dead specimens in shipments. A quarantine is in place for infested counties, but many places where it has been detected are not quarantined (see link to map in references).

SLF has a great affinity for tree of heaven and grape vines, but it has a broad host range of more than 70 plant species that includes apples, cherry, chestnut, hops, maple, peaches, pear, pine, plum, poplar, oak, rose, and walnut.

Adults can hitchhike in vehicles. Egg masses are likely to be the primary means of introduction. Egg masses are attached to hard, smooth surfaces, which may include vehicles, containers, and other manmade items.

Spotted lanternfly egg masses. Unhatched on left, hatched on right.

PEST STATUS

SLF poses a threat to tree fruit and grape production. SLF has been reported as a serious pest of grapevines in Korea. Grapes used for wine are a high value crop in Oregon, valued at over $208 million dollars in 2018. There are concerns that SLF could develop as a significant pest of many fruit tree crops such as apple, cherry, and peach.

While feeding, SLF generate a large amount of honeydew that can lead to sooty mold growth. High levels of feeding can cause weeping wounds on tree trunks, wilting, and possibly even death of plants.

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IDENTIFICATION

Adults: About an inch long, gray with spots on wings. They generate a great deal of honeydew.

Nymphs: The younger stages are black with white spots. The last instar nymph is red and black with white spots.

Eggs: Laid in masses about an inch long. They are typically covered with a wax coating that looks like dry mud. Egg masses where eggs have hatched will have rows of elongate holes (see images on other side). They can be laid on any hard, smooth surface.

Adult female spotted lanternfly with wings spread.

Various stages of nymphs of spotted lanternfly.
Image by Teá Kesting-Handly.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The Oregon Department of Agriculture is not offering control suggestions at this time due to our intention to prevent this pest from establishing in Oregon. **If you believe you have found SLF, notify ODA immediately.** Early detection is vital.

Email: pestreport@oda.oregon.gov
Phone: 503.986.4636

REFERENCES

CA interceptions: ANR News Blog, 2020: https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=39581

Map of 2020 distribution at: https://nysipm.cornell.edu/sites/nysipm.cornell.edu/files/shared/images/SLF-reported-distribution-9-23-20.jpg

Oregon Agricultural Statistics and Directory 2020. https://www.oregon.gov/oda/shared/Documents/Publications/Administration/AgStatsDirectory.pdf

USDA Technical Working group (TWG). 2017. Summary report Spotted Lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula* (White 1845). 42pp.

Wakie, T.T., L.G.Neven, W.L. Yee, and Z. Lu. 2020. Establishment Risk of *Lycorma delicatula* (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae) in the United States and Globally. Journal of Economic Entomology. 113(1): 306-314

MORE INFORMATION

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