

The **Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*)** is an invasive pest that is native to China and other parts of Asia. First discovered in Pennsylvania in 2014, the insect has since spread to other states in the eastern United States. The insect is a threat to agriculture, as it feeds on a wide variety of plants, including fruit trees, grapes, and ornamental plants.

The Spotted Lanternfly is a winged insect that is about 1 inch long. The adult forewings are light brown with black spots. The hind wings in the front are red with black dots and white with black bars in the rear. The Spotted Lanternfly is easiest to spot during dusk or night as it feeds on plants by sucking the sap from stems and branches. One Spotted Lanternfly egg mass can hold as many as 30-50 eggs. Adults appear in late July through the first hard frost and tend to focus their feeding on the tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). The tree of heaven is a non-native invasive tree in Indiana.

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/pests-diseases/hungry-pests/the-threat>



Credit: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture