

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE INVASIVE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

With over 70 species of trees and plants to feed on, this destructive pest is best known for decimating agricultural crops as well as residential and commercial landscaping.

1

SPOTTED LANTERNFLIES PREFER TO JUMP

Spotted lanternflies are a part of a group of insects known as planthoppers – both nymphs and adults have a powerful jump.

2

HONEYDEW (not a melon)

When spotted lanternflies feed on host plants, they suck in sap and excrete 'honeydew' which can attract other insects, and cause black, sooty mold to grow on trees. Honeydew can also attract ants, bees, hornets, and wasps, which may become a secondary pest problem.

3

TREE OF HEAVEN

Spotted lanternflies prefer to feed on the tree-of-heaven. This fast-growing, ornamental shade tree was wildly popular for its ability to adapt and grow in poor soil conditions.

It has since become an invasive plant in urban, agricultural, and forested areas.

4

HITCHHIKERS

Adult spotted lanternflies can fly, but they can't fly far and use hitchhiking as their primary mode of transportation – making their way from Pennsylvania into 10 other states: Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia.

5

EGGS DON'T FREEZE

Adults lay their eggs in the fall on hard surfaces (trees, decks, houses, rocks, etc.) and are protected with a putty-like covering. The egg masses, containing approximately 30–50 eggs, will survive freezing, winter temperatures and emerge as nymphs in the spring.

