

Press Release: October 19, 2023

Spotted Lanternfly Adult Females Are Laying Eggs

Some areas of Ocean County have seen more Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) activity this year and other areas less. As cold weather approaches, SLF adults are still feeding on plant sap, and the females are gravid with eggs. While the adult SLF will be killed by frost, their eggs will overwinter and hatch next spring. The females will lay their eggs on any relatively flat outdoor surface: tree branches, outdoor furniture, RVs, fences, children's toys, etc.

Be on the lookout for gray putty-like egg masses that are about the size and shape of your thumb. Crushing the egg masses or scraping them off into a baggie with rubbing alcohol will help reduce next year's SLF populations.



SLF Egg Mass

Stop the spread of Spotted Lanternflies! All of NJ is in the SLF quarantine area. This insect is a great hitchhiker and continues to spread to new areas. Therefore, before moving outdoor items or vehicles out of state, you must check them for SLF adults and eggs.

As the battle against the SLF continues, our local fauna is catching on to help us control these invaders. Some of the observed top predators of the SLF are chickens, cardinals, catbirds, blue jays, tufted titmouse, praying mantids, yellow jackets, orbweaver spiders, wheelbugs, and ants. Research is ongoing for use of biological controls like parasitic wasps and native fungi that are environmental friendly to help with control SLF populations.




SLF Gravid Female

For more information about the Spotted Lanternfly, please check out Rutgers Spotted Lanternfly page at <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/pests-diseases/spotted-lanternfly/homeownerresources/>

Questions? Visit our office at 1623 Whitesville Rd in Toms River. Contact us at 732-349-1246 or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RCEOceanCounty/> and Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/rceoceancounty/>

Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) Life Stages, Where to Look, and Management

											
LIFE STAGES											
Egg Masses Instars 1-3 (Black nymphs) Instar 4 – (Red nymphs) Adults	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	Nov - Jan
WHERE TO LOOK											
Tender Plants / New Growth Woody Plants Hard Surfaces	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	Nov - Jan
MANAGEMENT											
Scrape Egg Masses Squish or Stomp Sticky-bands or Circle-traps Contact Pesticides* – last resort	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	Nov - Jan

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