

ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS



KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—PLANT PROTECTION AND WEED CONTROL

Spotted Lanternfly- *Lycorma delicatula*



The Spotted lanternfly (SWLF) is an invasive planthopper that has recent detections (2014-present) in Pennsylvania, Virginia, New Jersey and Delaware. The SWLF is established in thirteen Pennsylvania and quarantines are in place. It is not known if populations are established in Virginia, New Jersey and Delaware although surveys have detected the insects. The SWLF is native to China, India and Vietnam. It has become a major pest in Vietnam after introduction. It feeds on more than 20 plant families and there are four nymphal instars. In Korea the introduced insects have become a major pest of the grape industry. In 2010, a survey showed that the total number of acres in grapes in Kansas vineyards was

342.1 acres on 73 farms and the industry has been increasing. The total value in 2010 was \$401,150 and has continued to rise.

The insect shows a feeding preference for tree of heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*. Tree of heaven is itself an invasive species producing an abundance of seeds and crowds out other plants in disturbed areas.

As phloem feeders, typical damage shows as oozing sap on the trunks of plants. The honeydew produced by the insects can lead to the growth of sooty molds. Larger nymphs and adults often congregate on the trunk and feed together. The young nymphs which are black and white in color feed in the canopy, on leaf petioles and smaller stems.

If you suspect that you have found SWLF contact Plant Protection and Weed Control (785) 564-6698 or kda.pwpc@ks.gov



Feeding Damage



Large congregation of SWLF



Fourth Instar Spotted Lanternfly