

Spotted Lanternfly Life Cycle in Virginia

The Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) overwinters in an egg mass (diagonal lines) that begins shiny gray but quickly turns to a dull brownish gray. The eggs hatch in early May and the nymphs (red bars) are present until late July when they become adults (yellow bars). Adults start to lay eggs in September. The life stages can overlap and, depending on the time of year, multiple stages can be found at the same time.



Multiple egg masses
Size- about 1.5 inch (33 mm) long



Young nymphs
Size- up to 3/8 inch (4 mm) long.



Mature nymphs
Size- 7/8 inch (12 mm) long



Adult
Size- about 1 inch (25 mm) long

Eggs

Nymphs

Adults

Eggs



Prepared by Eric Day, Doug Pfeiffer, Theresa Dellinger, Mark Sutphin and Beth Sastre. Photos left to right: Cluster of 5 egg masses; nymphs, showing black with white spots coloration for 1st-3rd stages; red 4th stage; and adult. (Photo of eggs by Mark Sutphin, photos of nymphs and adult by Eric Day)