

Best Management Practices for Beekeepers in Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine Area

Here is a list of some best management practices (BMP) for beekeepers dealing with Spotted Lanternfly (SLF).

1. Learn about SLF. Visit the PA Department of Agriculture's website at http://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/PlantIndustry/Entomology/spotted_lanternfly/Pages/default.aspx and Penn State Extension's website at <https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly> for pictures and accurate information about SLF.
2. Be aware of the quarantined areas in Pennsylvania. The list is updated if SLF is found in a new county. Visit this website for up-to-date quarantine information: http://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/PlantIndustry/Entomology/spotted_lanternfly/quarantine/Pages/default.aspx
3. If you are in the quarantined area or plan to travel into the quarantined area, be aware of the guidelines for beekeepers and the checklist. Some beekeepers may need a permit to move hives or equipment within PA. Beekeepers will need a permit to move hives to another state. Contact State Apiarist for more information.
4. Watch a free training session to learn more about SLF. Additional information can be found at www.agriculture.pa.gov (click on "Spotted Lanternfly" found under "Hot Topics", then click on the blue box labeled "Quarantine" near the bottom of the page, then click on "PA Permitting" in the right menu).
This information may also be presented at a local beekeeping organization. Contact the State Apiarist to arrange for this training.
5. Be sure family, employees, friends and others helping with the bees are aware of the risks SLF pose and the necessary precautions which should be taken.
6. Do not place colonies or equipment under a tree line in an area with SLF. There are several reasons for this.
 - Colonies of bees and/or equipment under trees may be more likely to have SLF lay eggs on it.
 - If present, the nymphs or adults can easily be transported if the equipment is moved.
 - If the adult SLF are secreting honey dew, anything it lands on becomes a sticky mess.

Park vehicles and trailers as far away from the tree line as possible.

7. Keep windows closed on vehicles and trailers.

8. Remember that not all areas in a quarantined county are infested with SLF. If you must travel through an infested quarantine zone, avoid any lengthy stops if possible. Stop lights, normal traffic patterns are not a concern. If you are stopped for a while, remember not to park under trees, close the vehicle's windows, and check for hitchhiker SLF (adults, nymphs, and eggs depending on the time of year) before leaving. Kill any SLF you may find.

9. Store unused equipment in a garage, shed, barn, etc., keeping the door and unscreened windows closed. If this is not possible, cover the unused equipment securely with a tarp. SLF will lay eggs on many types of firm surfaces, including smooth bark trees, rusty metal, outdoor furniture and covers, recreational vehicles, lawn tractor and mowers, mower decks, grills and covers, tarps, mobile homes, tile, stone, siding, pool liners and covers, play equipment, deck boards, or anything stored outside. Become familiar with what the egg mass looks like. It can appear to be a smear of mud.

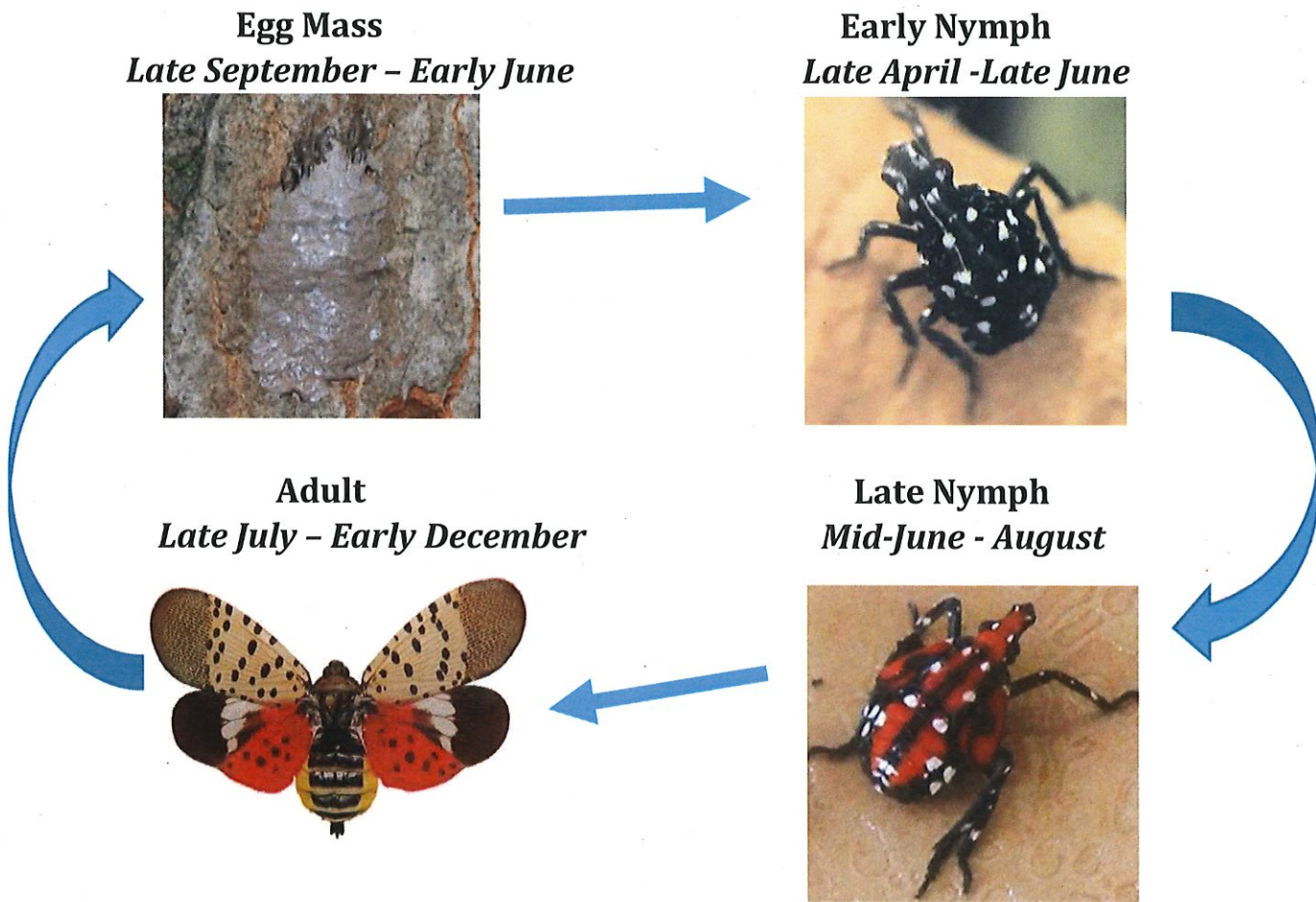
10. Depending on the time of year, look for the various life stages of SLF on equipment, including hive stands, cinder blocks, trailers, vehicles, and hive boxes. Look under items, as well as, on all outside areas. Remember that different life stages may be present at any time. During the months of July-December, equipment and vehicles must be monitored for adults which might fall into crevices and move out of the area. Look before you leave. This is imperative action before moving to a new site.

10. If possible, catch and kill SLF at any life stage. Egg masses can be scrapped with a stick or small plastic card, placed in a bag, and then squashed. Nymphs and adults can be caught, placed in a bag, and squashed as well or dropped into a small bottle containing Isopropyl alcohol.

11. Be vigilant for signs of SLF on Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus), Walnut, Maple, and Apple trees. Egg masses are also likely to be on young Black Birch and young Black Cherry. While SLF can be found on many different plants and trees, they prefer, and may need Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus) to reproduce. Recommend the removal of the female Ailanthus trees and reduction in the male trees using herbicide treatments from July 1 – October 15. A few male “trap” trees may be helpful. Read about the ways to help control SLF on this website: <https://extension.psu.edu/shopby/spotted-lanternfly> . Remember that simply cutting down an Ailanthus tree (Tree of Heaven) will not kill it. Many more trees will sprout and grow at the site if the correct treatment is not followed.

12. Monitor for signs of SLF in or near orchards, vineyards, or near fields where hops are grown. SLF has also been found on a number of other plants.

13. If SLF or egg masses are identified, and the county is not currently quarantined, consider yourself a mandatory reporter to the PA Department of Agriculture. Collect a specimen and/or take a picture and report to the Invasive Species Hotline at 866-253-7189 or badbug@pa.gov.



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