

Spotted Lanternfly

Spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) is a new and emerging pest in the United States. Its preferred host is tree-of-heaven; however, it can be a serious pest on a wide variety of important agricultural crops, including grapes, fruit trees, hops, and ornamentals.

Spotted Lanternfly Identification



Spotted Lanternfly Impacts

Nymphs and adults damage plants by sucking sap from stems, trunks, and leaves. They also secrete large amounts of honeydew which hosts pathogens such as sooty mold.

Get Involved!

Spotted lanternfly is not currently in Amador County but is likely to first infest tree-of-heaven populations if it arrives. Mapping known tree-of-heaven populations allows for strategizing control efforts. Reporting any sightings of tree-of-heaven will help our inspectors when we begin our 2023 Weed Management Program. In some cases, we can apply herbicides to control young plants prior to the development of extensive roots. At no cost to you.

Contact Us

If you have questions about tree-of-heaven identification and control, please contact us:
Amador County Department of Agriculture
209-223-6487
agriculture@amadorgov.org

Tree-of-Heaven



Tree-of-Heaven Identification

Tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) is a fast-growing, deciduous tree native to China and Taiwan. Growing to 65 feet or taller, trees develop a taproot and lateral roots, which sprout stems and forms thickets.

Tree bark is smooth and gray, leaves alternate and pinnately compound, stems have large heart to shield-shaped leaf scars, leaves and stems have a rancid peanut butter or popcorn-like smell when crushed.