Greenhouse Pest Message, August 31, 2022 Leanne Pundt, UConn Extension

## Spotted Lanternfly is on the move in CT by Mary Concklin, IPM Program Coordinator

In mid-August adults were confirmed in Norwich (New London County) and this week in 2 locations in New Milford (Litchfield County). These confirmed populations are in addition to the ones already known in Fairfield County (Greenwich, Stamford, New Canaan, Darian, Norwalk, Westport & Fairfield) and New Haven County (West Haven, Cheshire, Milford & Orange).

Keep an eye for the adults and nymphs. If you see them, take a picture, then kill them. Send your picture and address to <a href="ReportSLF@ct.gov">ReportSLF@ct.gov</a>

Look on Tree of Heaven, a preferred host plant, as well as grapes, apple trees and stone fruit trees.

By: Mary Concklin, UConn Fruit Message, Spotted Lanternfly Update, August 30, 2022 <a href="https://ipm.cahnr.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3216/2022/08/Spotted-Lanternfly-Update-August-30-2022.pdf">https://ipm.cahnr.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3216/2022/08/Spotted-Lanternfly-Update-August-30-2022.pdf</a>



The life cycle of the spotted lanternfly. Credit: Penn State.

For more on Spotted Lanternfly from the CT Agricultural Experiment Station: https://portal.ct.gov/caes/caps/spotted-lanternfly---slf



## **Hunter Flies and Poinsettias**

Poinsettias are looking good without too much whitefly pressure. I am starting to see some beneficial hunter flies (*Coenosia attenuata*). They may be introduced into your greenhouses on incoming plants. Hunter flies love pot crops such as poinsettias as well as gerbera daisies.

Hunter flies may be confused with shore flies, but hunter flies are about twice the size of shore flies. They also have wings that are **clear** and may appear iridescent as these generalist predatory flies perch on plant leaves, pipes, or other objects in the full sun.

The female hunter fly adult has a dark gray body with black legs while the male has yellow legs.

Adults lay their eggs in the growing media and their larvae also prey upon fungus gnat larvae and shore flies in the growing media. It is thought that this old-world hunter fly was introduced into North America via potted plant materials.

Adult hunter flies are generalist predators that attack adult fungus gnats, and shore flies as well as adult whiteflies and leafminers.



Figure 1: Close-up of adult hunter fly perching on a poinsettia leaf. Photo by L. Pundt

If you see a lot of hunter flies, on your sticky cards, it is best to remove the

sticky cards.



Figure 2: Hunter flies on Yellow Sticky Card. Photo by L. Pundt

At our recent UConn Extension Greenhouse Biological Conference, it was suggested that we provide more information on how to get started in using biological controls.

Please see, Starting a Biological Control Program for Greenhouse Insect and Mite Pests, a short 6-minute video for you!

On UConn: The Greenhouse Channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJbcMQSF8bqpuzNjGUPweTw

English Version: <a href="https://youtu.be/g4q5jNPS-4s">https://youtu.be/g4q5jNPS-4s</a>

Spanish Version: <a href="https://youtu.be/epicBvEAwsI">https://youtu.be/epicBvEAwsI</a>

Funding provided by USDA NIFA CPPM grant 2021-70006-35582.

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