



## Possible Look-alikes of Spotted Lanternfly Egg Masses in Virginia

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### Introduction

Egg masses of the spotted lantern fly, *Lycorma delicatula* (White), are usually covered with a smooth tan to gray colored coating when fresh (Fig.1). This coating may crack and fall off with age, exposing eggs laid in vertical rows underneath (Fig. 2). Some egg masses are laid with only some or no covering at all. Here are a few other insect egg masses commonly found in Virginia to help you recognize those of the spotted lantern fly. Sizes are not to scale.



Figure 1. Spotted lanternfly egg mass (Kenneth R. Law, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org).



Figure 2. Spotted lanternfly egg mass without a covering and showing hatched eggs (Kenneth R. Law, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org).



Figure 3. Spongy moth (formerly gypsy moth) egg masses (Ward Upham, Karla Salp, Washington State Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org).



Figure 4. Eastern tent caterpillar egg mass (Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org).



Figure 5. Fall cankerworm eggs (PA Dept. of Cons. & Nat. Resources, Forestry, Bugwood.org).



Figure 6. Wheel bug eggs and newly hatched nymphs (Johnny N. Dell, Bugwood.org).



Figure 7. Chinese mantis egg mass (Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org).



Figure 8. Carolina mantid egg mass (Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org).

## Questions?

Contact your local [Cooperative Extension office](#) for more information about spotted lanternfly, or visit the [Spotted Lanternfly in Virginia](#) website at <https://ext.vt.edu/agriculture/commercial-horticulture/spotted-lanternfly.html>.

## Revised

Theresa A. Dellinger, February 17, 2023.

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