

The following is a draft briefing that can be read to staff at your next morning/weekly meeting. Feel free to edit, especially areas highlighted in yellow. Key points that should be stressed are bolded. The briefing is intended to be accompanied by printed copies of the handout provided to help as a visual aid. Please ensure to highlight the adult lifestage in the handout as well as in any accompanying pictures you wish to share.

Draft briefing to read to staff: Spotted Lanternfly High Risk Period

Good **morning/afternoon** everyone. Before we start work today, **I want to remind you about Spotted Lanternfly, an invasive pest that is not established in Canada and must be reported immediately if found.**

Spotted Lanternfly **has not been found in our area yet/ is not established in Ontario yet,** but we must remain vigilant and want to make sure every staff member knows what to look for, and what to do if you find it.

September is one of the highest risk times of the year for detections of this pest. Spotted Lanternfly is at it's adults life stage where they are their most mobile: they can fly, jump, and can easily spread to new areas. This is also a **time when the pest can be accidentally transported on plants, hard goods, vehicles, pallets, containers, and other shipping materials,** particularly those arriving from the eastern United States where the pest is established.

Because of this increased risk, all staff should carefully inspect incoming shipments and remain alert for adult spotted lanternflies in both the nursery and the surrounding landscape.

Whether you work **in the field, production areas, or shipping and receiving,** please stay vigilant. It is important that everyone can recognize what the adult spotted lanternfly looks like. **The handout being provided today shows clear photos of the adult and other life stages.**

If you see a spotted lanternfly, capture it immediately if you can. Use a container, net, or other safe method. If capture is not possible, kill it and keep the specimen. Any suspect insect must be retained and reported to your supervisor right away. Supervisors will then contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) for follow-up.

This pest is a serious concern for the nursery industry. Shipments of nursery stock must be free of spotted lanternfly, and the presence of any life stage can create regulatory issues. **Nurseries cannot ship plants that may be carrying this pest.** Early detection is critical to protecting our business, our customers, and the Canadian nursery sector. Please review the handout and keep an eye out throughout the coming weeks, especially when inspecting incoming shipments, plants, pallets, and other materials. If you see something suspicious, report it immediately.

