

PEST: Asian Ladybug (*Harmonia axyridis*)

BASIC PROFILE: AL is not a plant pest but it can be a nuisance, especially in the fall when large numbers congregate around structures and homes. AL eggs are small, yellow and barrel-shaped, laid on foliage. Immature forms are active predators on other insects as are the adults. Adult AL beetles (~ 6-8 mm, 3/16"- 1/8") vary widely in color and spot design but nearly all have a "W" shape on their pronotum (the area behind the head). Adults hide in cracks and crevices where they overwinter. Large adult numbers cause problems inside structures because they invade home spaces and become active on warm fall and winter days. Their droppings can stain paint, varnish and wallpaper.

LDAF ACTIVITY: LDAF does not take any action on this beetle because it has been established in the state for a number of years, and it causes no plant pest problems. However, complaints about AL are referred to local parish extension agent offices or to the LSU Ag Center specialists for control recommendations. There are no federal/state restrictions in place for this insect. Once established in an area, it may take several years to reduce populations to manageable levels.



Eggs



Immature Forms

