New World Screwworm

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Montana Department of Livestock

Source: USDA Agricultural Research Service

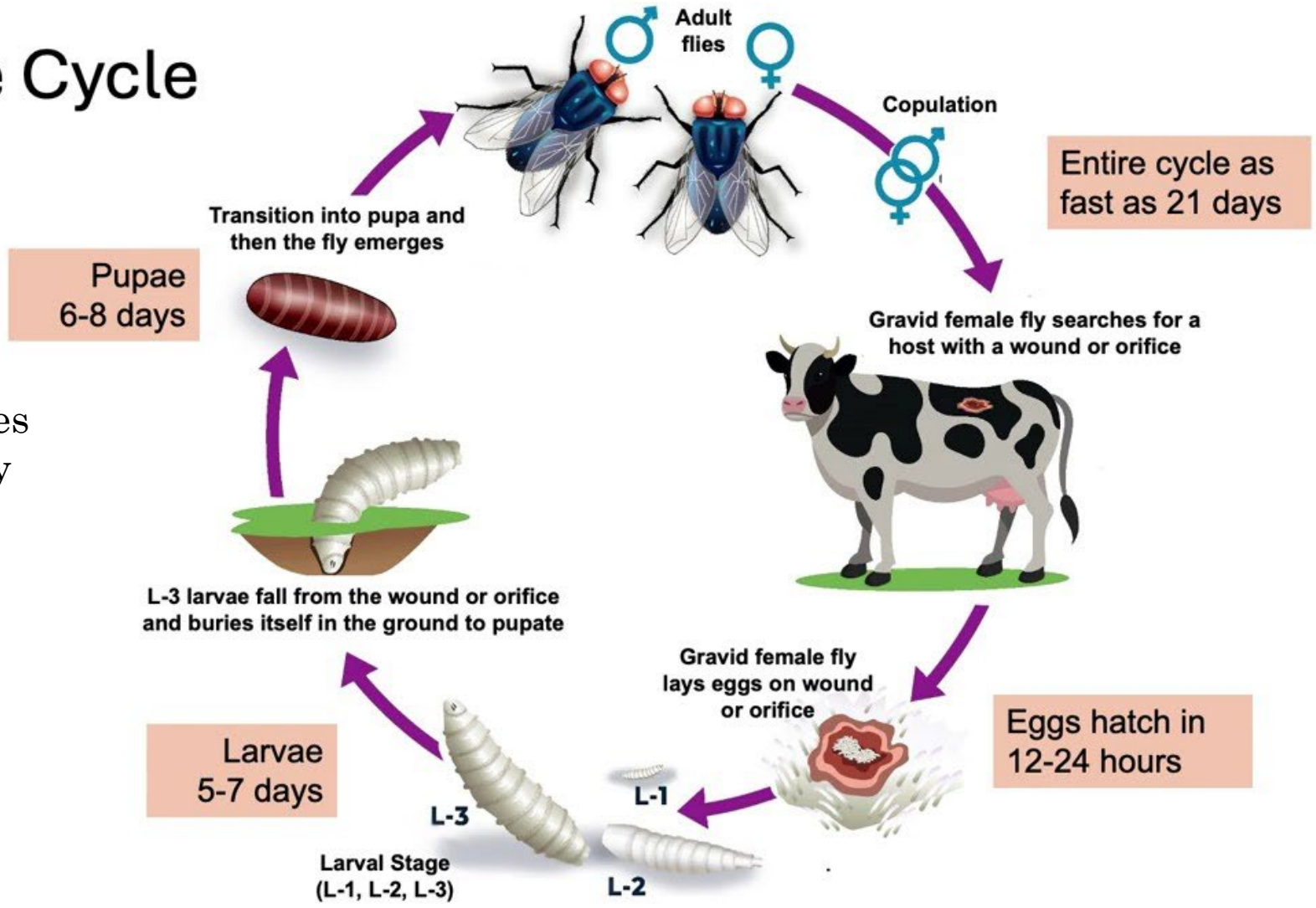
Cochliomyia hominivorax

- Parasitic fly native to the Western Hemisphere
- Eradicated from the United States in the 1960s
  - Small outbreak in Florida Keys in 2017
- Control is primarily through the release of sterile males (sterile insect technique (SIT))

Lifecycle: How screwworms spread

- **Eggs:** Female screwworm flies lay hundreds of eggs on the edges of wounds or mucous membranes such as the eyes, mouth, nostrils, and genitals. These wounds can include anything from natural injuries to surgical sites, such as castration wounds, dehorning sites, or new ear tags in livestock. One female can lay up to 3,000 eggs in her lifespan.
- **Larvae**: Within 12–24 hours, the eggs hatch. The larvae burrow into healthy, living tissue, causing pain and extensive tissue damage.
- **Pupation**: After 3–7 days of feeding, mature larvae drop to the ground to pupate in the soil.
- **Adult flies**: Adults emerge in about a week. Females mate once and can fly up to 125 miles, making them highly mobile vectors of disease.

NWS Life Cycle

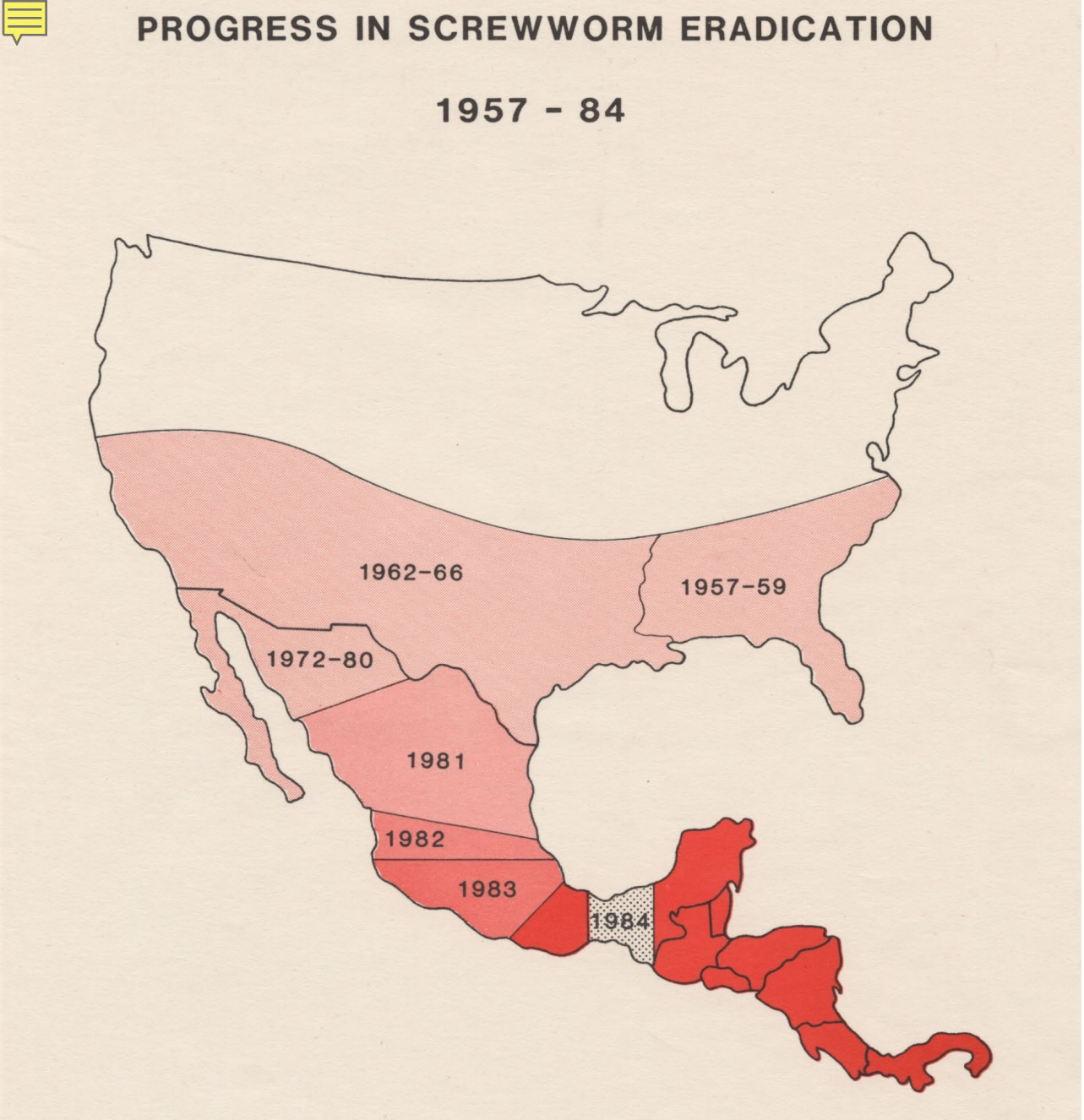


Adult flies prefer warmer temperatures and have historically only been able to overwinter in southern Texas, Florida, California, Arizona and New Mexico.

Not just livestock

While screwworms are often associated with cattle or livestock, it's important to understand that they can infest any living warm-blooded animal:

- Pets like dogs and cats
  - Important to educate owners who travel with their pets!
- Wildlife including deer and raccoons
- Humans, especially those with open wounds, surgical sites, or poor wound hygiene
  - A rare U.S. human case was reported in Maryland in August 2025 in a traveler returning from Central America.



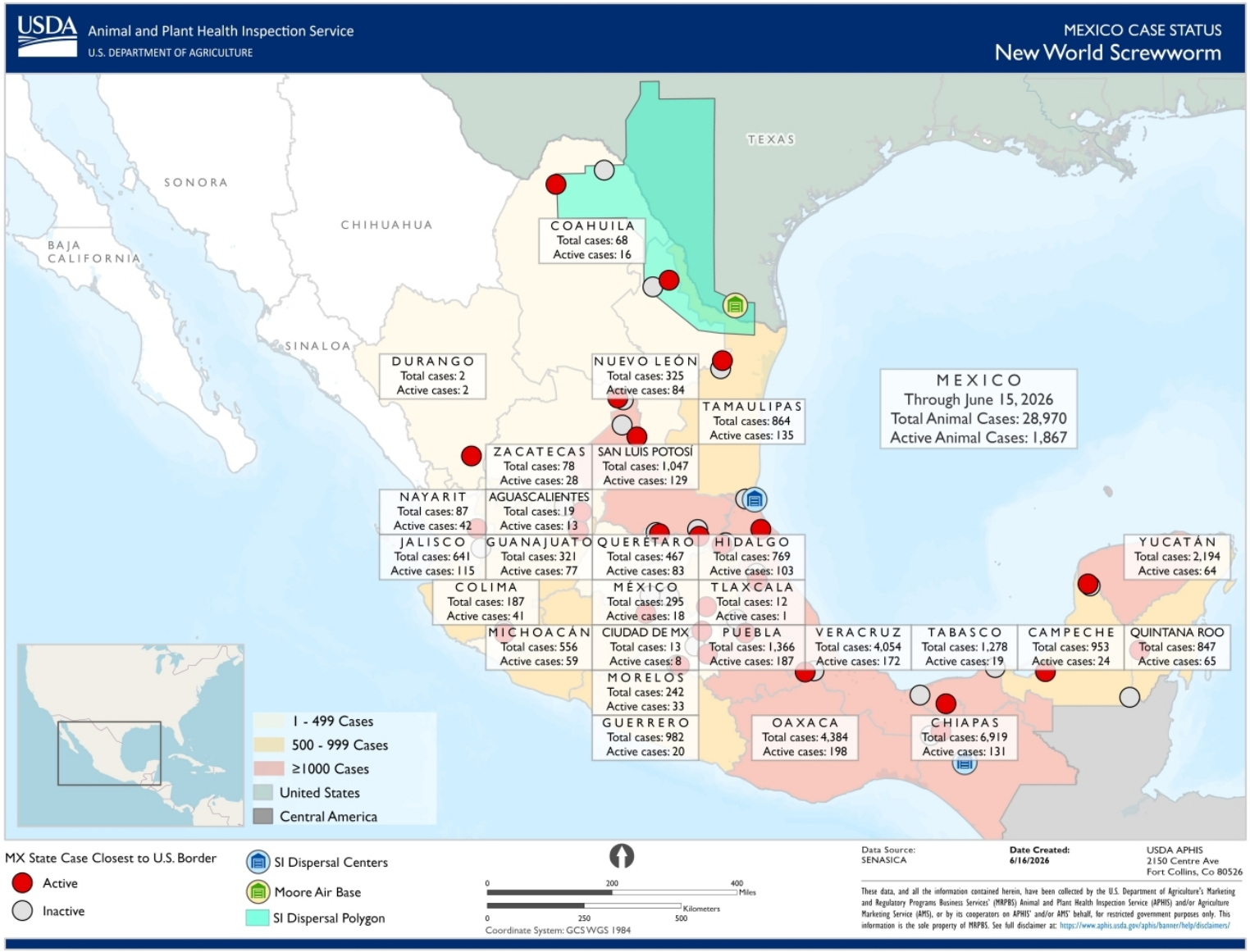
Source: USDA National Agricultural Library

NWS Distribution

- Ideal environmental conditions for survival and activity are temperatures of 77-86°F and relative humidity of 30-70%.
- Freezing or a soil temperature consistently below 46°F will destroy the pupae.

NWS – Northern movement

- Considered endemic in Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and countries in South America
- Previous biological barrier established at Darien Gap
  - Panama – August 2022
  - Costa Rica – 2023
  - Nicaragua – early 2024
  - Honduras – mid 2024
  - Mexico – late 2024



Jun. 13, 2026	Nuevo León	Bovine	10 days	~59 mi
Jun. 13, 2026	Nuevo León	Ovine	3 years	~60 mi
Jun. 12, 2026	Tamaulipas	Bovine	5 years	~91 mi
Jun. 11, 2026	Nuevo León	Canine	5 years	~96 mi
Jun. 11, 2026	Nuevo León	Canine	6 months	~96 mi
Jun. 10, 2026	Nuevo León	Bovine	15 days	~42 mi
Jun. 10, 2026	Coahuila	Bovine	7 years	~69 mi
Jun. 10, 2026	Nuevo León	Bovine	1 month	~78 mi
Jun. 10, 2026	Tamaulipas	Bovine	5 days	~85 mi
Jun. 10, 2026	Nuevo León	Feline	2 months	~87 mi
Jun. 10, 2026	Nuevo León	Canine	10 years	~96 mi
Jun. 10, 2026	Nuevo León	Canine	10 years	~97 mi
Jun. 9, 2026	Nuevo León	Bovine	8 days	~40 mi
Jun. 9, 2026	Nuevo León	Bovine	25 days	~65 mi
Jun. 9, 2026	Nuevo León	Bovine	35 days	~65 mi
Jun. 9, 2026	Nuevo León	Canine	8 years	~97 mi
Jun. 9, 2026	Nuevo León	Canine	3 months	~97 mi
Jun. 8, 2026	Nuevo León	Caprine	4 years	~46 mi
Jun. 8, 2026	Tamaulipas	Caprine	8 years	~62 mi
Jun. 8, 2026	Tamaulipas	Bovine	18 months	~62 mi
Jun. 8, 2026	Coahuila	Caprine	5 years	~72 mi
Jun. 8, 2026	Nuevo León	Canine	2 years	~90 mi
Jun. 8, 2026	Nuevo León	Canine	8 years	~96 mi
Jun. 7, 2026	Nuevo León	Equine	8 months	~27 mi
Jun. 7, 2026	Coahuila	Bovine	5 days	~59 mi
Jun. 6, 2026	Nuevo León	Bovine	3 months	~62 mi

Active cases in Mexico as of 6/15/2026

Casos activos por entidad y municipio:

ENTIDAD/MUNICIPIO	TOTAL DE CASOS
TAMAULIPAS	136
SAN LUIS POTOSI	135
CHIAPAS	132
JALISCO	123
HIDALGO	107
NUEVO LEON	91
GUANAJUATO	79
QUINTANA ROO	77
YUCATAN	75
MICHOACAN	63
QUERETARO	61
NAYARIT	47
COLIMA	41
MORELOS	35
Total	**1,922**

Informe de casos acumulados de Gusano Barrenador del Ganado en México del 20/11/2024 al 15/06/2026.

Agricultura
Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural

SENASICA
SERVICIO NACIONAL DE SANIDAD, INOCUIDAD Y CALIDAD AGROALIMENTARIA

29,390
Casos acumulados

Casos acumulados por especie:*

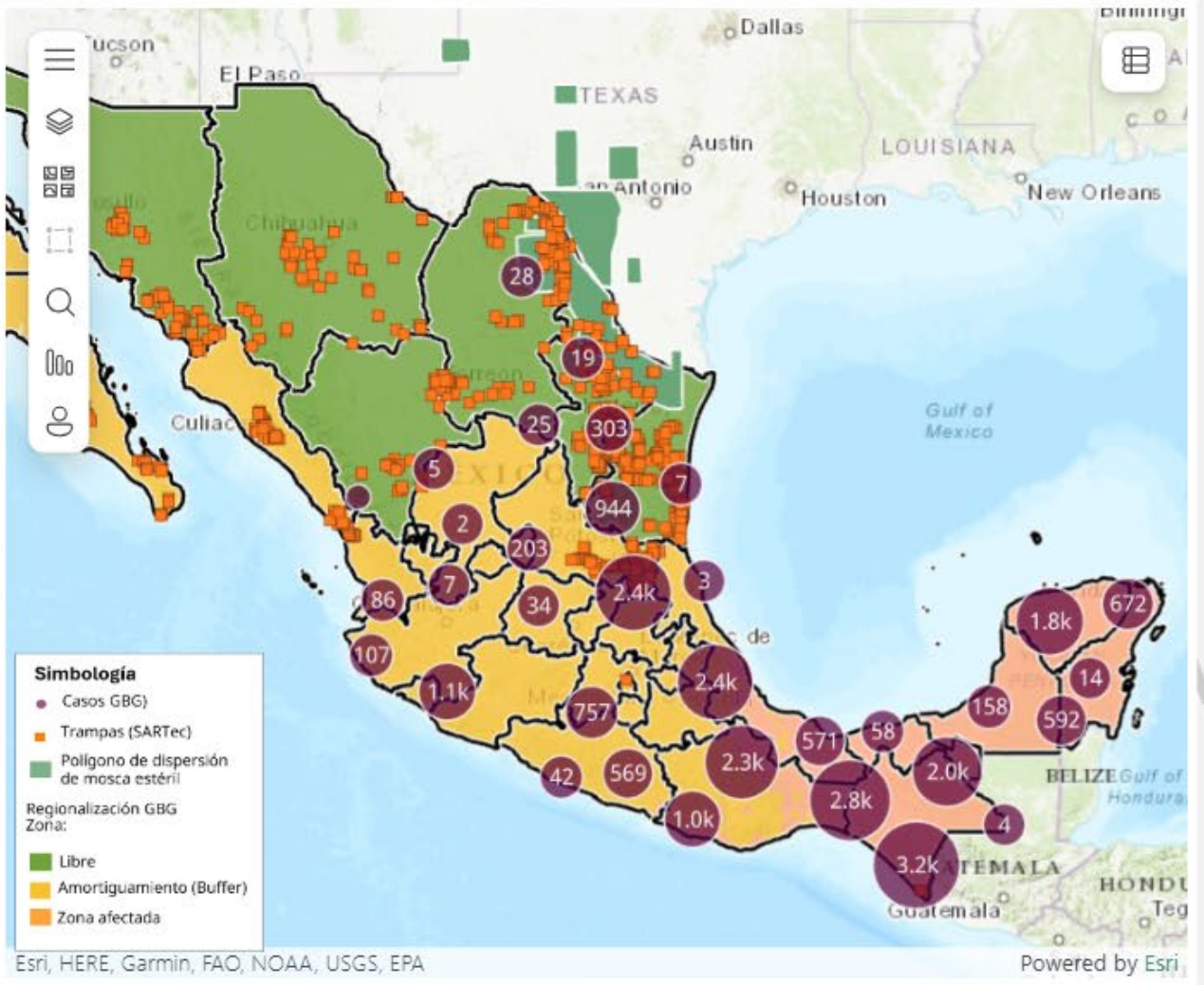
Casos activos

Casos acumulados

Casos acumulados por entidad y municipio:

ENTIDAD/MUNICIPIO	TOTAL DE CASOS
YUCATAN	2,235
PUEBLA	1,384
TABASCO	1,279
SAN LUIS POTOSI	1,062
GUERRERO	993
CAMPECHE	963
QUINTANA ROO	876
TAMAULIPAS	867
HIDALGO	781
JALISCO	649
MICHOACAN	560
QUERETARO	476
NUEVO LEON	334
GUANAJUATO	326
Total	**29,390**

Casos acumulados:



*A partir del 28 de mayo de 2026 y en observancia de las disposiciones normativas, la consulta de los datos sobre casos en humanos se remite formalmente al Boletín Epidemiológico emitido por la Secretaría de Salud. Cabe mencionar que, el sistema conserva los casos acumulados previamente registrados.

Consultar aquí

New World Screwworm Confirmed Detections

Download Data

As of June 18, 2026, last reported animal detection June 12, 2026
Data updated daily by 6PM (ET)

Outbreak Situation Last 30 Days

Total Animal Cases

12

Domestic Cases	Wildlife & Feral Cases
12	**0**
9 Active 3 Inactive	0 Active 0 Inactive

Fly Trap Detections

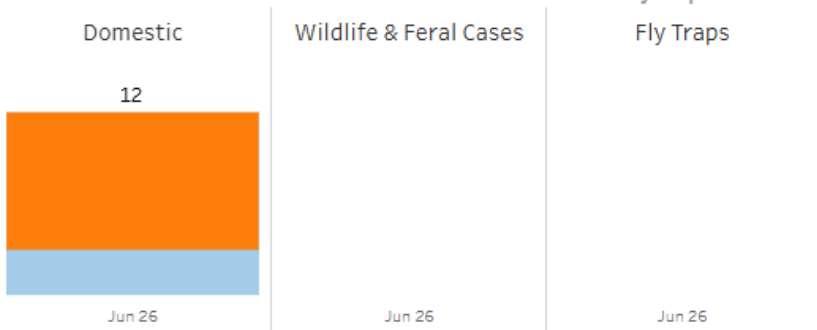
0

Note: Only wild flies are reported. A detection means at least one wild fly was found in trap.

Cases by Month

Bars reflect most recent 4 months

Active Cases
Inactive Cases
Fly Trap Detections



Map of Counties with Detections Last 30 Days

Time Period: Last 30 Days
Selected Type: (All)
County Status: Active Inactive Fly Trap Detection

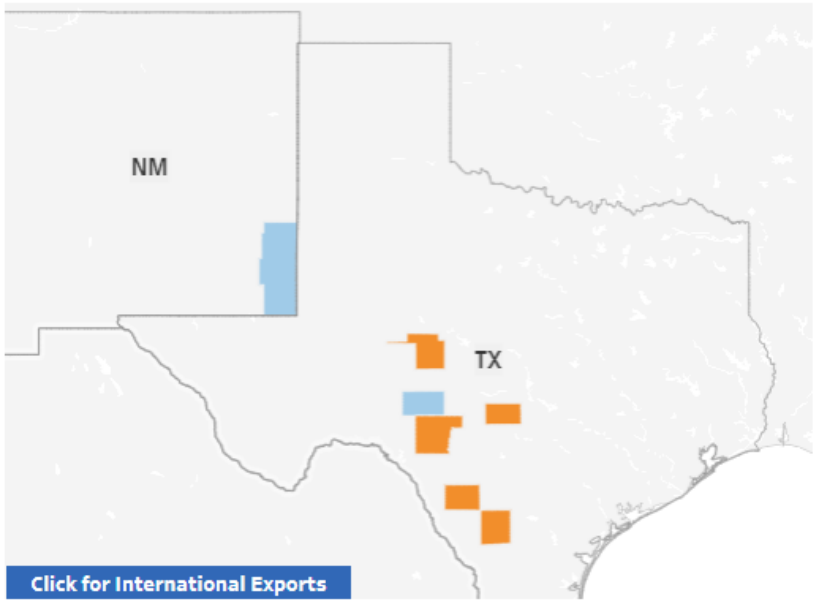


Table of Cases

State: (All)
Animal Type: Domestic
Animal Species

The first reported case of New World Screwworm in the United States occurred June 3, 2026. Since that date, the United States has recorded 12 case(s) in 2 states, 12 in domestic animals and 0 in wildlife.

Confirmed Date	State	County	Case Type	Animal Type	Species	Status
12-Jun-2026	Texas	Sutton	Domestic	Domestic	Sheep	Inactive
11-Jun-2026	Texas	Edwards	Domestic	Domestic	Cattle	Active
					Goats	Active
		Tom Green	Domestic	Domestic	Cattle	Active

Interactive Map of NWS Zones

Find address or place

0 — 1 mi — 1

New World Screwworm Zone Search

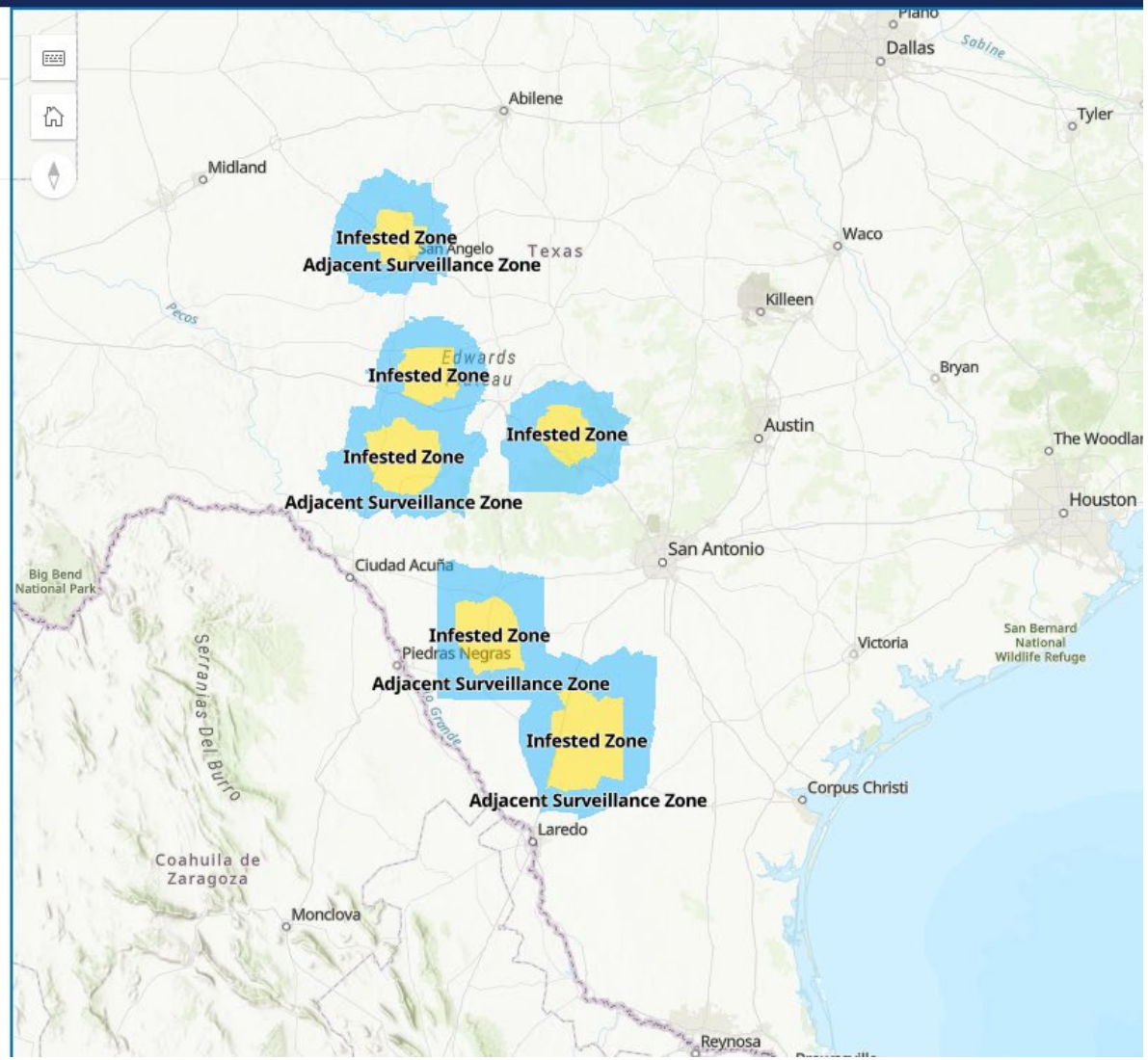
Search an address to see if you are in a New World screwworm zone.

Use one of the following search methods:

- Click the search box and type in an address or choose **Use current location**
- Click within the map

Results will include information about features of interest.

Use my location



New Mexico Interactive Map of NWS Zones - Be Alert, Not Alarmed!

Find address or place

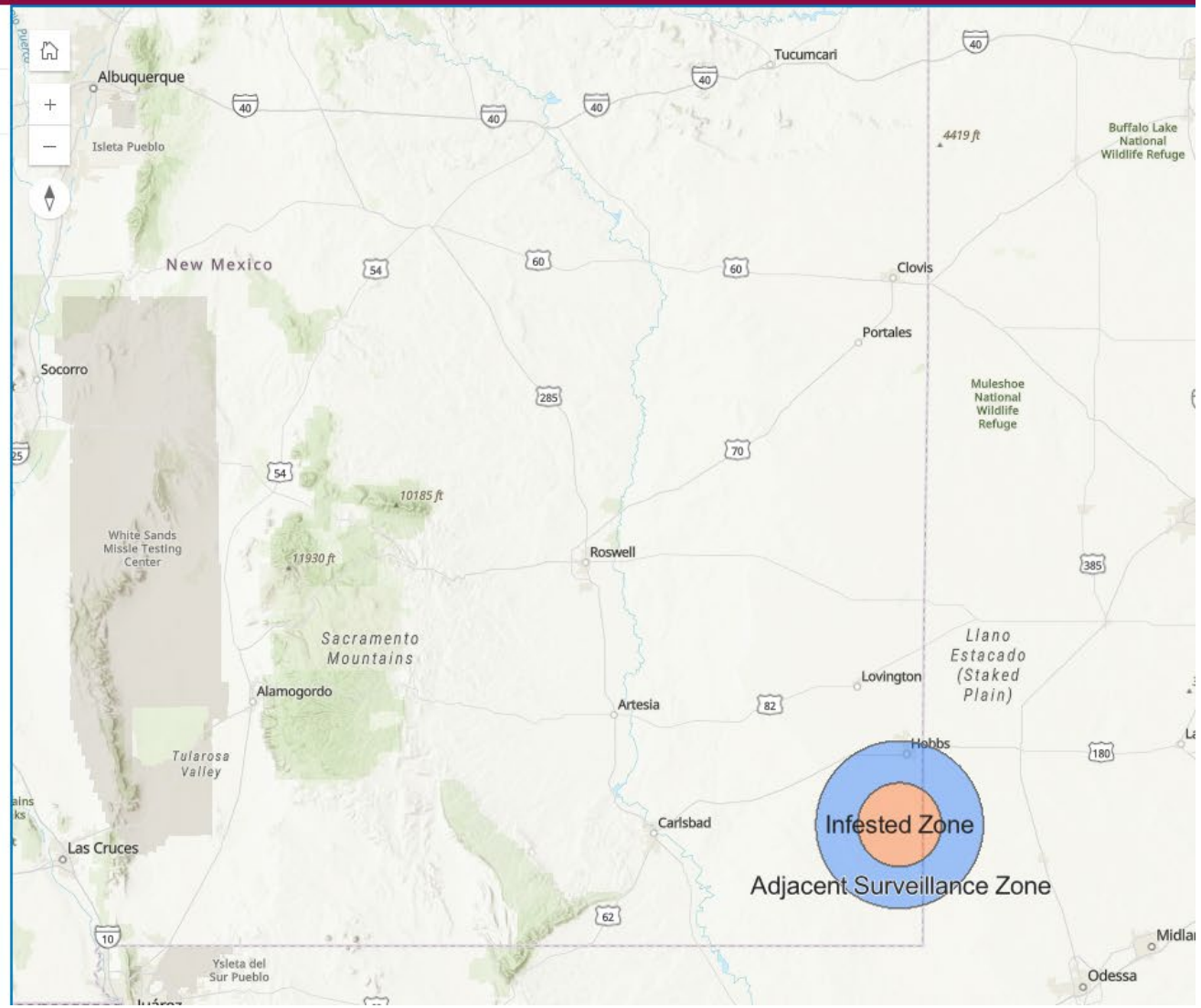
New World Screwworm Zone Search

Search to learn more about a location and its surrounding area.
Use one of the following search methods:

- Click the search box above and type in an address or choose **Use current location**
- Click within the map

Results will include information about features of interest.

Additional information can be found at screwwormnm.org.



Source USDA

The larval stage of the NWS is responsible for inflicting significant injury, mortality, and economic loss.

Signs of NWS in Animals

Larvae inhabit the wound of any warm-blooded animal.

- Foul-smelling wounds with visible maggots
- Signs of pain, depression, or behavioral changes such as tail swishing or kicking or isolation away from the herd (restlessness)
- Biting or licking at wounds
- Lesions in navels, ears, and dehorning or branding sites
- Wounds that worsen instead of healing

Source: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

What to do if you suspect NWS

Contact your local veterinarian or the MT Department of Livestock (406-444-2976)

If instructed:

- Collect larvae from multiple wound sites using gloves and forceps.
- Take pictures.
- Place in 70% alcohol inside a tightly sealed vial.

Animals will initially be quarantined and will be held until:

- NWS is ruled out or confirmed.
- Appropriate treatment is completed.
- The supervising veterinarian verifies the animal is screwworm-free.

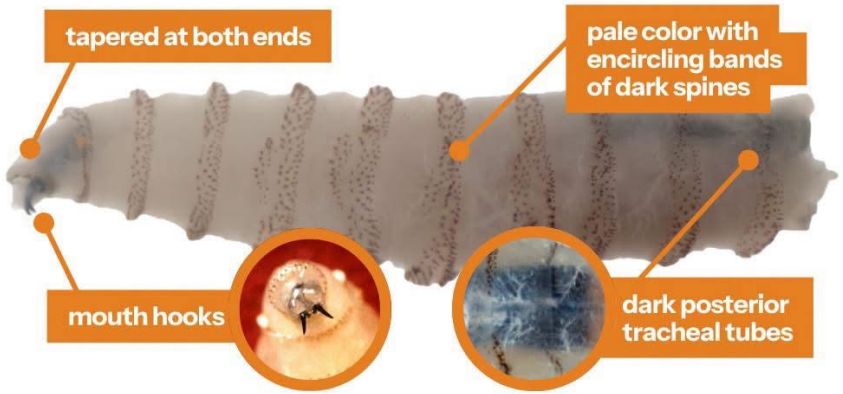
Identification:

- Mature larvae can reach 17 mm in length (2/3 of an inch) and have spines that protrude from the body and wrap around in a spiral giving them the name screwworm. Official identification of larvae is based largely on the presence or absence of dual internal breathing tubes.
- Adult New World screwworms, *Cochliomyia hominivorax*, are metallic blue blow flies with three distinct stripes that run down the top (thorax) of the fly just behind the head with large orange eyes.
- If it is shiney and stripey, send it!

USDA

How to identify the New World Screwworm LARVAE

Screwworm larvae (maggots) burrow into a wound and can cause extensive damage by tearing at the hosts' tissue with sharp mouth hooks.



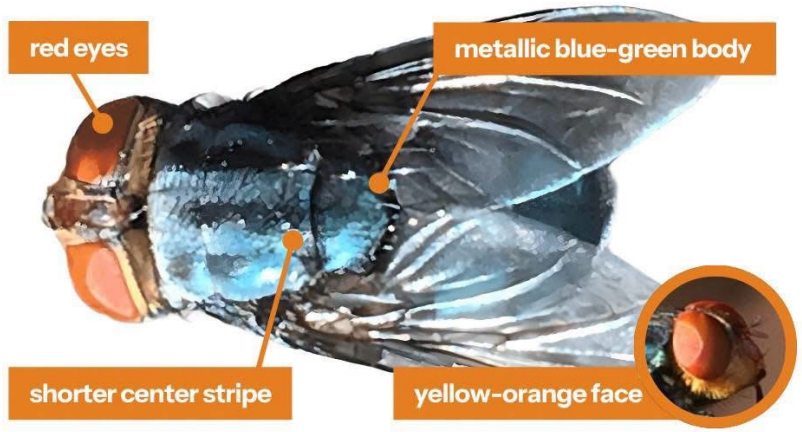
INSPECT. REPORT. PROTECT.

SCREWWORM.GOV

USDA

How to identify the New World Screwworm ADULT FLY

Adult screwworm flies are about the size of a common housefly (or slightly larger).



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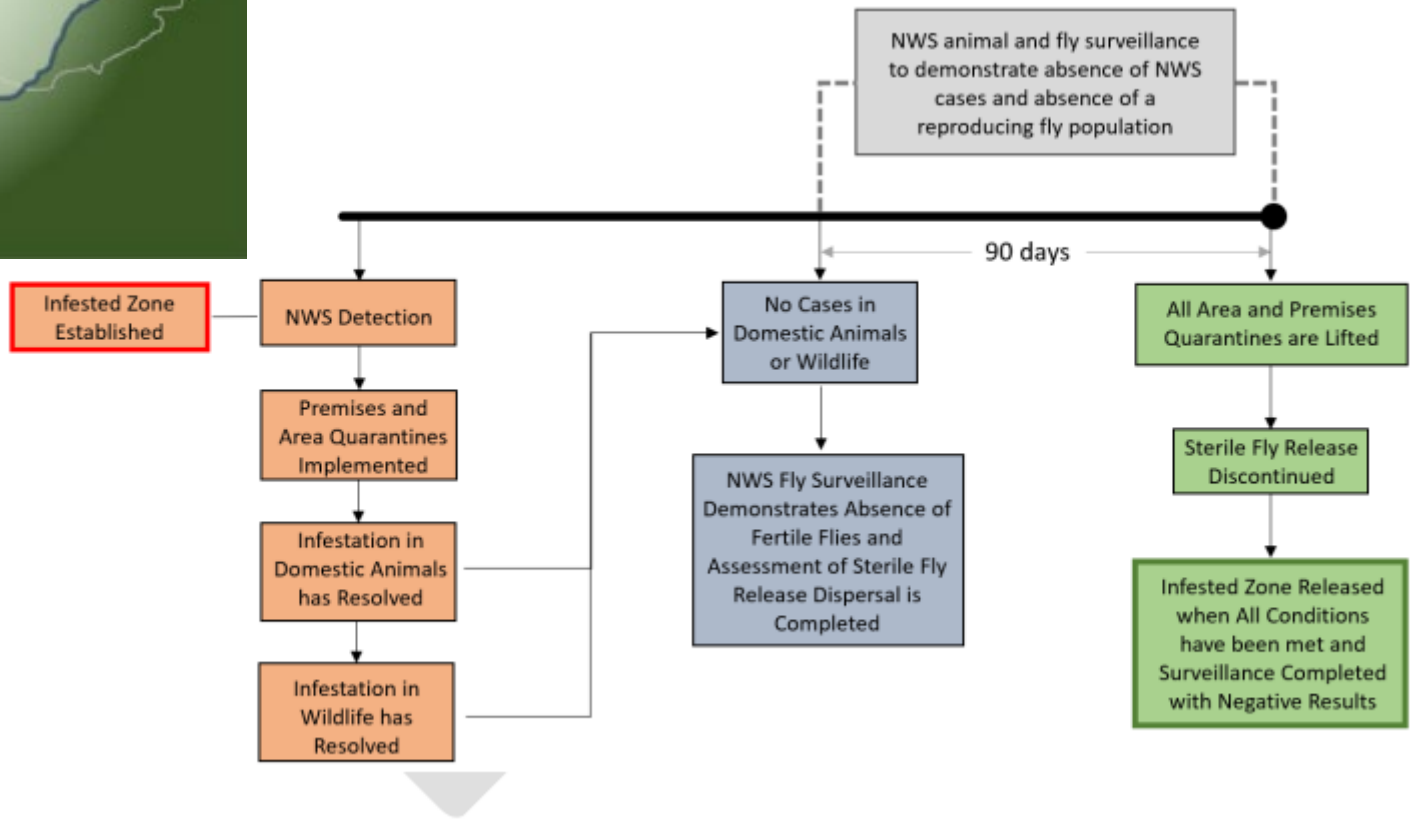
Infested Zone



Managing an NWS Response: Key Activities

01 Effectively manage a coordinated response and communications with stakeholders and the public

- Establish USDA regulatory authorities to respond to an NWS outbreak
- Use a unified approach across Federal Agencies and with the State(s) and define Federal Agency Roles
- Identify responsibilities between USDA APHIS and State animal health officials
- Communicate with key federal, State, and Industry partners to support timely surveillance and response

02 Reduce spread to non-infested animals and prevent NWS from establishing in new areas

- Immediately establish minimum 20 km Infested Zone, 20 km Adjacent Surveillance Zones, and Fly Surveillance Area around animal and wild fly detections
- Quickly implement area quarantines and movement requirements for domestic animal premises located within Infested Zones and on Epi-linked and Suspect Premises
- Perform animal movement tracing on premises with infested animals as quickly and completely as possible; prioritize tracing needs based on risk of NWS establishment in new areas
- Conduct epidemiological investigations and analyses to inform the response
- Conduct domestic animal surveillance
- Quickly identify specimens (larvae and flies) and maintain timely and accurate surveillance

03 Manage NWS on infested premises

- Follow USDA APHIS and State guidelines and requirements for managing myiasis and any required euthanasia and/or disposal

04 Implement NWS Surveillance and Management Strategies in Wildlife

- Conduct surveillance in wildlife to aid in determining presence of NWS
- Adhere to sampling guidance when conducting surveillance
- Manage transport and shipment of wildlife
- Manage infested wildlife

05 Implement NWS fly surveillance and management strategies

- Establish fly surveillance structure and activities in Infested Zone and Fly Surveillance Area
- Coordinate and conduct fly surveillance in an affected area
- Deploy Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) throughout Adjacent Surveillance Zone and Fly Surveillance Area

06 Maintain continuity of business (COB)

- Implement COB plans to facilitate the managed movement of animals

07 Ensure information flow and management

- Record and report all NWS Fly Trapping and Sterile Fly Release Activities using USDA's Emergency Management Response System (EMRS)
- Record and report domestic and wildlife field data using EMRS
- Utilize EMRS to manage and track Active and Passive Surveillance Activities
- Utilize EMRS to manage the outbreak and meet national and international reporting requirements

08 Identify and maintain resource requirements

- Continually assess equipment, supplies, and personnel needs

Response

Control

- Preventive measures:
  - Treat wounds promptly and maintain sanitation
- After infestation:
  - Topical larvicides (e.g., coumaphos, permethrin), cleaning and removal of larvae
  - EPA regulated
    - Pesticides for the control of NWS

Pesticides Registered for Control of Screwworm

Several pesticides are currently registered for use against screwworm (adult flies and/or larvae), which means these products met EPA's efficacy data requirements for screwworm under 40 CFR 158.1748:

Product Name*	EPA Registration Number	Registrant	Active Ingredient(s)	Use Site(s)
Claire® Bed Bug, Lice and Dust Mite Spray *Alternate brand name:* Claire® Lice Killer	706-110	PLZ Corp	Permethrin	Beef cattle, horses, sheep
PRAMEX® Multi-Use Insecticide Spray 30231	1021-2685	McLaughlin Gormley King Company, D/B/A MGK®	Permethrin	Beef cattle, horses, sheep
887 Multi-Use Insecticide Spray	10900-86	Sherwin-Williams Consumer Brands Group	Permethrin	Beef cattle, horses, sheep
Co-Ral® Coumaphos Flowable Insecticide	11556-98	Elanco US, Inc.	Coumaphos	Beef cattle, non-lactating dairy cattle, horses
Permethrin Insecticide Spray Alternate brand name: Catron® IV	11556-171	Elanco US, Inc.	Permethrin	Beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, and horses
Eradicator II Multi-Purpose Insect Spray *Alternate brand names:* Clobber Lice, Dust Mite & Bedbug Multi-Purpose Insect Spray Raider Bed Bug, Lice and Dust Mite Multi-Purpose Insect Killer	44446-80	QuestSpecialty Corporation	Permethrin	Beef cattle, horses, sheep
CT Residual Spray *Alternate brand names:* Prozap® Screw Worm Aerosol	47000-100	Chem-Tech, Ltd.	Permethrin	Beef cattle, dairy cattle, horses, sheep, goats,

Animal Drugs Approved or Conditionally Approved by FDA for NWS

Product	Approval or Conditional Approval?	Indication(s)	Species Freedom of Information	Summary
Dectomax-CA1 (doramectin injection) injectable solution	Conditional Approval	Prevention and treatment of infestations caused by larvae of *Cochliomyia hominivorax* (myiasis), and prevention of reinfestation for 21 days in cattle.	Cattle	cNADA 141-616
Exzolt Cattle-CA1*	Conditional Approval	Prevention and treatment of infestations caused by New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) larvae (myiasis) and treatment and control of cattle fever tick (*Rhipicephalus microplus*) in beef cattle 2 months of age and older and replacement dairy heifers less than 20 months of age.	Cattle	cNADA 141-617
Credelio Quattro-CA1	Conditional Approval	Treatment of infestations caused by New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) larvae (myiasis) in dogs and puppies.	Dogs	cNADA 141-619

**extralabel use of this animal drug is not permitted*

FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine

Working with animal drug sponsors to identify potential products and seek to have them approved or otherwise authorized for the prevention or treatment of New World screwworm (NWS) myiasis

Emergency Use Authorizations Issued by FDA for NWS Animal Drugs

Product	Indication(s)	Species	Marketing Status	Links to additional information
Credelio (lotilaner) chewable tablets	Treatment of infestations caused by New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) larvae (myiasis) in dogs and puppies.	Dogs	Rx	FOI Summary Letter of Authorization Fact Sheet for Veterinarians Granting Letter
Credelio CAT (lotilaner) chewable tablets	Treatment of infestations caused by New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) larvae (myiasis) in cats and kittens.	Cats	Rx	FOI Summary Letter of Authorization Fact Sheet for Veterinarians
Ivomec (ivermectin) injectable solution	Prevention of infestations caused by New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) larvae (myiasis) when administered within 24 hours of birth, at the time of castration, or at the appearance of wound in cattle, except for female dairy cattle producing milk for human consumption and calves that will be processed for veal.	Cattle	OTC	FOI Summary Letter of Authorization Fact Sheet

FDA Emergency Use Authorizations

On August 18, 2025, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a declaration that enables FDA to issue Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs) for animal drugs to treat or prevent infestations caused by NWS.

The FDA through an EUA can authorize the flexible, faster use of certain animal drug products that may be approved for other purposes, or available in other countries, but not formally approved for NWS in the U.S.

Questions?

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