



WHAT IS NEW WORLD SCREWORM?

New World screwworm larvae feed on living tissue of warm-blooded animals. They infest open wounds (or natural orifices), causing deep, painful lesions, infections, and potentially death if untreated.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

- Open wounds that worsen or do not heal
- Animals exhibiting restlessness, licking or biting at a wound, or isolating themselves
- Visible maggots in wounds
- Swelling, discharge, foul smell, or unusual tissue deterioration



WHAT YOU CAN DO IN NEW MEXICO

Animal Management & Biosecurity

- Inspect animals regularly
- Maintain strict wound care: clean, disinfect, cover when feasible, isolate animals with open wounds
- Consult your veterinarian prior to moving animals

Veterinarian Engagement

- Talk with your veterinarian about diagnosis and treatment options, including insecticides and larvicides approved for use in New Mexico
- Ask your vet about preventative strategies appropriate to your operation

Why New Mexico Is Taking This Seriously

- The state's livestock sector, rural communities, wildlife populations, and pets are vulnerable
- Early detection and rapid response are essential to prevent spread and protect agriculture

Fly Traps & Surveillance

- State and federal teams place and monitor fly traps in potentially vulnerable counties
- Do not disturb traps if you see them — they are critical for tracking NWS
- If you notice a damaged or tampered trap, please report it to NMDA or the New Mexico Livestock Board immediately

REPORTING SUSPECTED CASES

- If you see any signs consistent with screwworm, report immediately.
- In New Mexico, call the New Mexico Livestock Board (505-841-6161). After hours, call the AgroGuard Hotline (1-800-525-2782) or fill out NMDA's reporting form. (scan QR code)
- Testing kits are available at your local NMSU Cooperative Extension Office (scan QR code)

Reporting form



Testing kits



NMDA is coordinating with USDA-APHIS, New Mexico Department of Wildlife, New Mexico Department of Health, the New Mexico Livestock Board and NMSU Cooperative Extension Service to raise awareness, increase surveillance, and be prepared for rapid response.