

Protocols for the Potential Detection of New World Screwworm in Livestock

Livestock Producer Guidance

New World screwworms (NWS) are larvae or maggots of the NWS fly (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) that cause the painful condition NWS myiasis. This guide is provided to livestock producers for general information and instructions related to NWS in Texas livestock.

Know the Pest

NWS flies are attracted to the odor, serum, and blood of wounds in living, warm-blooded mammals and birds. Once a host is found, the flies lay eggs in an opening. After the eggs hatch, maggots burrow or screw into the living tissue, feeding as they go. Damage due to the tearing of tissue deepens the wound while more maggots continue to hatch and feed. This can lead to the condition NWS myiasis, co-infestation with other species, and infections, resulting in serious, sometimes deadly damage.

Monitor Livestock

- Check livestock for evidence of NWS infestations, including flies, maggots, larvae, or eggs.
- Monitor body openings such as the nose, ears, umbilicus, or genitalia for drainage or enlargement.
- Observe animals for clinical signs of NWS myiasis and secondary infections.

Report Suspicions

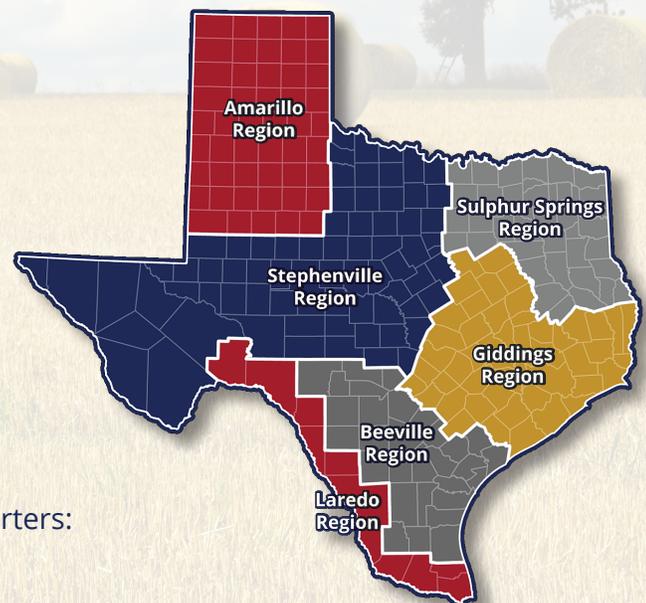
Immediately call a state animal health official if you suspect NWS have affected your livestock.

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, contact a local TAHC region office:

Amarillo.....	806-641-7000
Beeville.....	361-358-3234
Giddings.....	979-212-5440
Laredo.....	956-568-5741
Stephenville.....	512-556-6277
Sulphur Springs.....	903-919-3748

5:00 PM - 8:00 AM and on weekends, contact the TAHC headquarters:

Veterinarian on Call.....1-800-550-8242



Prevent Further Spread

- Monitor animals on a regular basis for signs of NWS flies, NWS myiasis, or secondary infections.
- Ensure pets and vehicles are inspected for NWS flies before travelling, especially in NWS-infested areas. If an animal has an infestation, it should not be moved.
- Keep open wounds clean and covered.
- Treat clothing, gear, and people with proper repellents.

