

New World Screwworm Sample Collection Procedure

New World screwworm (NWS) larvae or maggots are often found in pre-existing wounds or mucous membranes causing NWS myiasis. After observation, if NWS infestation or myiasis is suspected, samples should be collected and submitted for official identification. Avoid spreading the pest by keeping animals confined during this process. Suspected cases of NWS myiasis are reportable to the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC). This guide is provided to aid producers in the collection and submission of pests for official laboratory identification.

Supplies

The following is needed for NWS collection:

- Gloves
- 70% alcohol (ethanol or isopropyl)
- Forceps
- Screw cap vial or container
- Tape to seal container
- Plastic bag with a zipper closure

Additional Resources

TAHC New World Screwworm webpage:
https://www.tahc.texas.gov/animal_health/feverticks-pests/#screwworms

USDA New World Screwworm Emergency Response:
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-emergencies/nws>

Collection Procedure

- Using forceps, gently remove larvae of different sizes from several sites within the open wound, especially the deepest part of the wound.
- Place the larvae in the vial or container and ensure they are completely submerged in alcohol. Seal the container and place it in the plastic bag for shipment.
- All larvae not submitted for official identification should be destroyed and disposed of properly and the wound treated as directed by your veterinarian. Do not allow stray larvae to fall on the ground during collection.

Submission Procedure

To receive direction on sample collection submission, contact a TAHC region office or the veterinarian on call, 1-800-550-8242. Samples cannot be submitted without first consulting with USDA-APHIS to obtain proper shipping and tracking information.

For proper sample submission, animal health officials will request the animal owner to provide:

- Owner contact information;
- Address or geographic description of the location the sample was collected;
- County where sample was collected;
- Species of the host; and
- Location larvae or maggots were found on the host.



According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0579-0090. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average between .083 and .17 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
VETERINARY SERVICES

PARASITE SUBMISSION FORM

NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES
1920 Dayton Avenue
Ames, IA 50010
Telephone: 515-337-7514

INSTRUCTIONS: Print in pencil or type. Prepare separate form for each species of animal. Form to accompany specimen. Package specimens well to prevent breakage en route.

1. Submitter's Name		2. NVSL Submitter ID	17. Specimen ID	18. Date Collected
3. Business' Name			19. County in which Collected	20. State in which Collected
4. Address			21. Country in which Collected	22. Premises ID
5. City	6. State	7. ZIP Code	23. Latitude	24. Longitude
8. Telephone Number (<i>Include Area Code</i>)		9. FAX Number	25. Host Origin	
10. Email			26. Host Species (<i>cow, horse, sheep, dog, etc.</i>)	
11. Owner's Name			27. Where Found on Host (<i>head, ear, flank, back, etc.</i>)	
12. City	13. State	14. ZIP Code	28. Animal ID	
15. Collector's Name		16. Port	29. Number of Animals in Lot	30. Number of Animals Infested
31. History or Additional Information				

FOR FIELD LABORATORY USE ONLY (*Optional*)

32. Date Received	33. Date Identified	34. Referral Number
35. Tentative Identification		

Identified by:

FOR NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES USE ONLY

36. Case Number	37. Sample Number	38. Date Received
39. NVSL Identification		

40. NVSL Accession Number

Identified By:

Date