

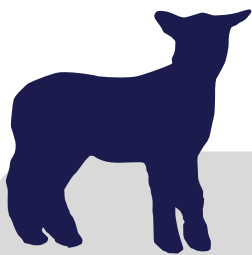


New World Screwworm

Practical Methods for Prevention in Livestock

REPORT TO TAHC 1-800-550-8242

New World screwworms (NWS) are larvae or maggots of the NWS fly (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*), that cause the painful condition NWS myiasis in warm-blooded animals, including livestock, wildlife, humans and birds. NWS can be avoided with regular monitoring, proper wound care and prevention, ectoparasite control, and preventative treatments.



Wound Prevention

NWS prevention starts with wound prevention. The NWS fly requires an open wound in order to lay her eggs. Infestations can start from cuts, scrapes, and bites from insects or other animals.

- Don't wait to fix exposed wire, broken fences, corrals, trailers, and other equipment.
- Eliminate sharp points to decrease the chance of unnecessary wounds.
- If possible, separate animals with aggressive tendencies from other animals to avoid fight wounds.

Wound Care

When possible, move wound-inducing practices to cooler months of the year when fly activity is low.

- If not possible, active wound monitoring is required.
 - To promote healing and repel flies after a wound-inducing procedure, use a wound spray or ointment like F10.
 - Wounds that can be covered should be treated then wrapped with a traditional three-layer bandage or liquid spray bandage.
- Keep track of the healing process and document signs of recovery.

For wounds from planned management activities, prompt wound care is necessary to avoid attracting the NWS fly.

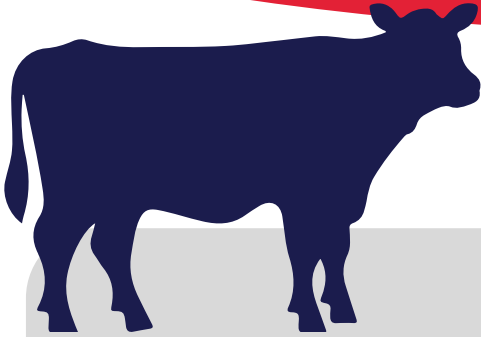
- Increase visual inspections after any wound-inducing procedures, including:
 - castrations
 - eartagging
 - calving
 - branding
 - dehorning
 - tattooing
- Umbilical or navel wounds on newborn animals account for the largest percentage of NWS infestations. The umbilical site should be sprayed with an umbilical cord treatment with iodine solutions to promote drying and reduce infection. Ivermectin injections at the proper dosage are highly recommended within 24 hours of birth.





New World Screwworm

Practical Methods for Prevention in Livestock



Visual Inspections

Checking animals for suspicious wounds with larvae is important, but some animals may not be used to regular human interaction.

- To get skittish animals used to up-close visual inspections, it is recommended to lay out cubes or feed to offer a distraction and allow you to get close enough to spot wounds.
- Always practice safety, especially when working with more aggressive animals.
- Utilize chutes and pens to do thorough inspections of animals.

Fly Control

Fly repellents serve as a useful defense against fly strike and NWS infestations.

- Permethrin products, such as Catron IV, are effective in deterring fly activity on animals other than cats.
- Use fly repellents according to the dosage and frequency listed on the label.

Wound Treatment

In general, infested wounds should be treated as soon as possible:

1. Remove as many visible larvae from the wound as possible. Please remember to collect at least 10 larvae from deep in the wound for identification purposes. Remember to kill all visible maggots by applying an approved chemical, or by collecting and freezing or burning them.
2. Thoroughly clean the wound with disinfectant. Avoid secondary infections and consult a veterinarian if advanced wound care is needed.
3. Cover wounds if possible, or apply a wound protectant product to promote healing and limit reinfestation.
4. Consult a veterinarian for additional guidance related to the use of antibiotics and other wound care needs.
5. Develop a treatment plan with your veterinarian ahead of an infestation for a more seamless treatment and recovery process. To see the available treatments and preventatives, visit: <https://bit.ly/TAHC-NWSApprovedDrugs>.

