

NOTIFICATION – June 05, 2026, 8:00 am

These guidelines will be effective immediately through Aug. 01, 2026

(Notification Due to a New World Screwworm Detection in TEXAS)

On June 03, 2026 at 8:24 pm, the USDA issued the notification below, advising that a New World Screwworm (NWS) infestation was confirmed in Zavala County in south Texas. The following movement guidelines will be placed on LARGE ANIMAL movements from Texas to Kentucky.

Effective immediately and through Aug. 01, 2026:

- **Any animal demonstrating clinical signs of NWS infestation are prohibited from entry into Kentucky**

- **Movement Requirements for Large Animals** (e.g. - Livestock) originating from Texas are:
 - Kentucky permit number obtained from the Kentucky Office of State Veterinarian (OSV)
 - CVI Issued within 72 hours prior to entry into Kentucky
 - Signed statement from an Accredited Veterinarian (AV) attesting: “I have inspected the animals included in this shipment and have found them free of clinical signs of NWS myasis”, or state of origin **pre-movement inspection forms** filled and signed if available. (*must accompany movement*)
 - Notation of any treatments given to the animals on this shipment for NWS
 - Signed Statement/Form obtained within 24 hours after entry into Kentucky attesting that the animals were inspected by:
 - A) In order of preference:
 - 1) private Kentucky AV or their authorized designee,
 - 2) Kentucky OSV personnel (*subject to availability*),
 - 3) Kentucky USDA VS Personnel (*subject to availability*) **and,**
 - B) were found free of NWS Myasis
 - **All non-Equine livestock** must have Official ID (e.g.- RFID, OID). **Equine** movements must be accompanied by valid EIA result forms for each equine.



- **Large Animal movements** from the following Texas counties of concern will require **Special application and heightened requirements prior to entry into Kentucky.** As of June 04, 2026, these heightened movement restrictions apply to following Texas counties - **Zavala, Maverick, Kinney, Uvalde, Medina, Frio, and Dimmit.** **Please call KDA/OSV for these heightened guidelines**
 - These counties of concern may change if additional areas of concern are identified, or other states become NWS detected.
 - Movement Restriction may be modified when evidence-based guidelines allow.
 - **These guidelines may be modified or extended after August 01, 2026.**
 - **The current restrictions are subject to change without prior notification - Please check the Kentucky Agriculture website screwworm Information page (<https://www.kyagr.com/statevet/disease-prevention.html>) for the latest information.**

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KENTUCKY
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE



USDA Notification

USDA Confirms Presence of New World Screwworm in the United States

Animal Health Officials Working Quickly to Protect U.S. Livestock and Wildlife

WASHINGTON, DC- JUNE 03, 2026 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the detection of a New World screwworm (NWS) in a bovine in Zavala County, Texas. NWS is a serious pest that affects livestock, pets, wildlife, and less commonly, people and birds. NWS larvae (maggots) burrow into the flesh of living animals, causing serious damage to livestock and economic losses.

The affected animal is a 3-week-old calf and larvae were identified in its umbilical area. To date, there have been no further detections.

“All models showed New World Screwworm entering the country in 2025; however, thanks to the hard work across the entire Trump administration and our industry, state, and local partners, we were able to buy time for this moment. Protecting our livestock industry is a national security issue of the utmost importance, and USDA is wasting no time in taking action,” said Dudley Hoskins, Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs. “USDA invested heavily in the tools needed to eliminate NWS ever since cases started increasing in Central America and Mexico. The United States has defeated this pest before, and we will do it again.”

USDA and Texas officials are taking immediate action to contain and eradicate NWS from the United States, following the strategies and actions outlined in the [NWS Response Playbook](#). This includes:

- Forming a unified Incident Command Team with the Texas Animal Health Commission and deploying response personnel to the area;
- Establishing a 20 km infested zone around the detection and implementing quarantines, movement controls, and surveillance in this area;
- Expediting targeted release of [sterile NWS flies](#) by immediately deploying ground release chambers in the area, in addition to the 4 million sterile flies per week already being released aerially in the area;
- Increasing trapping for NWS flies along the border and just outside of the dispersal area;
- Implementing NWS surveillance and management strategies in wildlife; and
- Conducting targeted outreach in the local area.

Additionally, USDA’s National Veterinary Stockpile stands ready to assist, and will provide resources including treatments, equipment, and logistics support the response as needed.



USDA will continue to work with state departments of agriculture, animal health officials, industry, and producers to mitigate economic impacts of restrictions as much as possible, including negotiating with our trading partners to regionalize any trade restrictions on live animals, limiting them to defined geographic areas.

NWS maggots can infest livestock and other warm-blooded animals, including in rare cases people. They most often enter an animal through an open wound and feed on the animal's living flesh.

USDA urges residents in the area to check their pets and livestock for signs of NWS. Look for draining or enlarging wounds and signs of discomfort. Also look for screwworm larvae (maggots) and eggs in or around body openings, such as the nose, ears, and genitalia or the navel of newborn animals. If you suspect your animal is infected with screwworm, contact your state animal health official or [USDA area veterinarian in charge](#) immediately.

While not common in people, if you notice a suspicious lesion on your body or suspect you may have contracted screwworm, seek immediate medical attention.

The U.S. food supply is safe. Screwworms do not infest meat, fruits, vegetables, or other food sources. USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) ensures that the nation's commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe and properly labeled. Under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA), FSIS inspection personnel must inspect all eligible animal species unless they are exempt or covered by a state inspection program.

Any evidence of screwworm infestation in an animal would be identified during these inspections, and any contaminated product from an affected animal would not be allowed to enter the food supply.

For more than a year, USDA has led a unified response to NWS. As the lead coordinating agency, USDA has deployed advanced surveillance systems and supported robust cross-border response efforts in Mexico and Central America to combat the pest and push NWS away from the United States. These efforts have bought time for USDA to increase domestic preparedness efforts.

Learn more about New World screwworm at Screwworm.gov.