New World Screwworm Photo Gallery

Last Modified:

Warning: Graphic Images!

The following galleries contain graphic images of New World screwworm infestations in animals.

New World Screwworm Life Stages













































Show Info

Closeup of an adult New World screwworm fly

New World screwworm flies are about the size of a common housefly (or slightly larger), with orange eyes, a metallic blue or green body, and three dark stripes along its back.

Photo by USDA

New World screwworm fly and eggs

Screwworm infestations begin when a female fly lays eggs on a wound or orifice of a live warm-blooded animal. Female flies are attracted to the odor of a wound or opening such as the nasal or eye openings, umbilicus of a newborn, or genitalia.

Photo by USDA

Closeup of New World screwworm fly and egg mass on a wound

Wounds as small as a tick bite may attract a female New World screwworm fly to feed. One female New World screwworm fly can lay up to 3,000 eggs in her lifespan.

Photo by USDA

Mature New World screwworm larvae (maggots)

Larvae hatch from New World screwworm eggs within about 24 hours. The larvae will then burrow into the infested animal's wound to feed on the living flesh.

Photo by COPEG

Closeup of New World screwworm larva, showing mouth hooks

New World screwworm larvae (maggots) cause extensive damage by tearing at the hosts’ tissue with sharp mouth hooks. The wound can quickly become enlarged and deeper as more maggots hatch and feed on living tissue.

Photo by USDA

Closeup of New World screwworm larva (maggot)

Photo by USDA

Closeup of New World screwworm larva (maggot)

Photo by USDA

Closeup of two New World screwworm larvae (maggots)

Photo by USDA

Closeup of three New World screwworm larvae (maggots)

Photo by Sohath Yusseff-Vanegas, USDA Agricultural Research Service

Closeup of three New World screwworm larvae (maggots)

Photo by Sohath Yusseff-Vanegas, USDA Agricultural Research Service

New World screwworm pupae

After about 7 days of feeding on the infested animal's wound, New World screwworm larvae drop to the ground, burrow into the soil, and pupate.

Photo by COPEG

Closeup an adult New World screwworm fly

Adult New World screwworm flies will emerge from the soil after 7–54 days of pupation, depending on temperature and humidity. Female flies mate after 3 days, and males can mate within 24 hours of maturation.

Photo by USDA











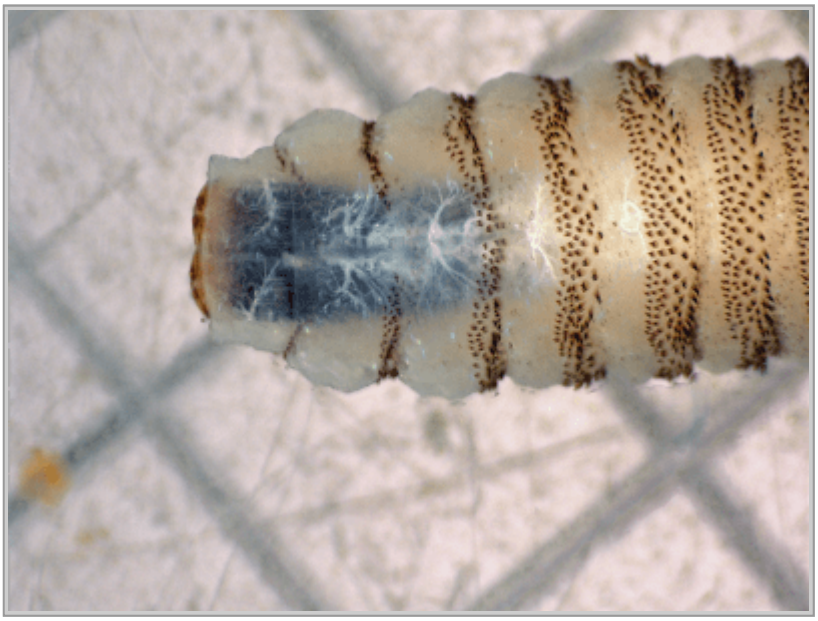

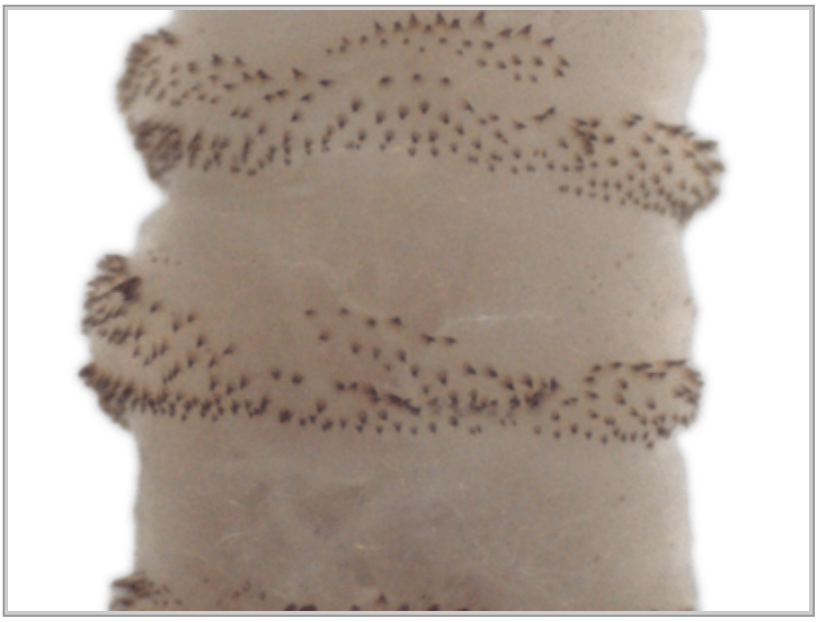











New World Screwworm Myiasis (Infestation) and Treatment





























View All


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Pig mouth with New World screwworm myiasis, side view, USDA ARS


















HONOR X8
64MP Quad Camera























Show Info

Eartag wound infested with New World screwworm

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

New World screwworm-infested navel on a sheep

Photo by Sohath Yusseff-Vanegas, USDA Agricultural Research Service

Deer infested with New World screwworm

Photo by USDA

Deer infested with New World screwworm

Photo by USDA

Inspecting New World screwworm larvae removed from an infested horse

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

New World screwworm infestation in a horse's leg

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

New World screwworm infestation in a goat's leg

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Goat infested with New World screwworm

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Closeup view of New World screwworm-infested wound on a goat

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Severe New World screwworm infestation in a goat

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Pig with New World screwworm infestation in its mouth

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Chicken infested with New World screwworm

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Closeup of a chicken infested with New World screwworm

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Dog infested with New World screwworm

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Severe New World screwworm infestation on a dog's neck

Photo by Winthorpe Marsden, Jamaican Ministry of Agriculture

Closeup of an animal's wound from New World screwworm infestation

Photo by USDA

Closeup of a New World screwworm female fly, eggs, and larvae on an animal's wound

Photo by Samantha Gibbs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

New World screwworm flies attracted to an animal's wound

Photo by USDA

Closeup of an animal's wound from New World screwworm infestation

Photo by USDA

New World screwworm infestation on an animal's hoof

Photo by USDA

Removing New World screwworm larvae from an infested animal

Photo by USDA

Cow treated for New World screwworm infestation

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Goat treated for New World screwworm infestation

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Goat treated for New World screwworm infestation

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Goat treated for New World screwworm infestation

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Closeup view of goat treated for New World screwworm infestation

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG

Dog treated for New World screwworm infestation

Photo by Dr. Feliciano Bravo, COPEG



















































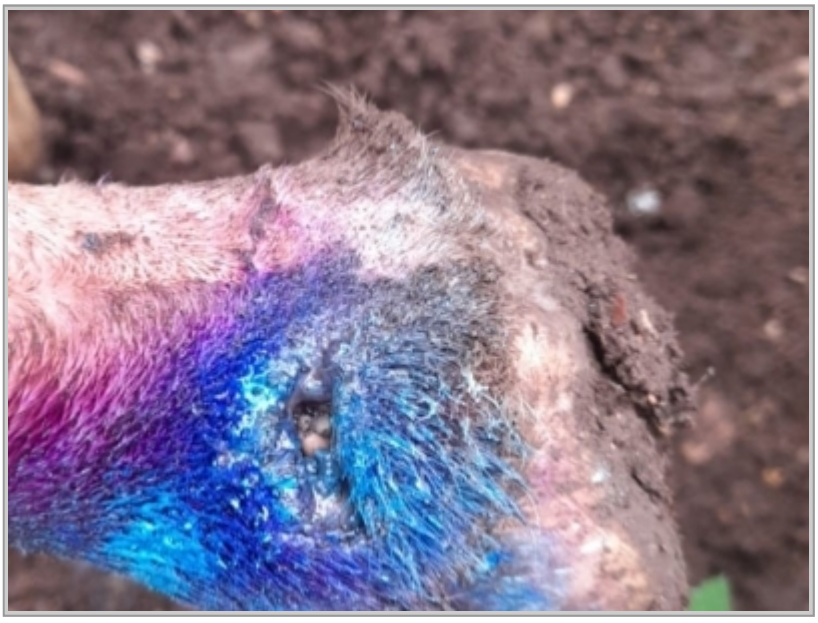



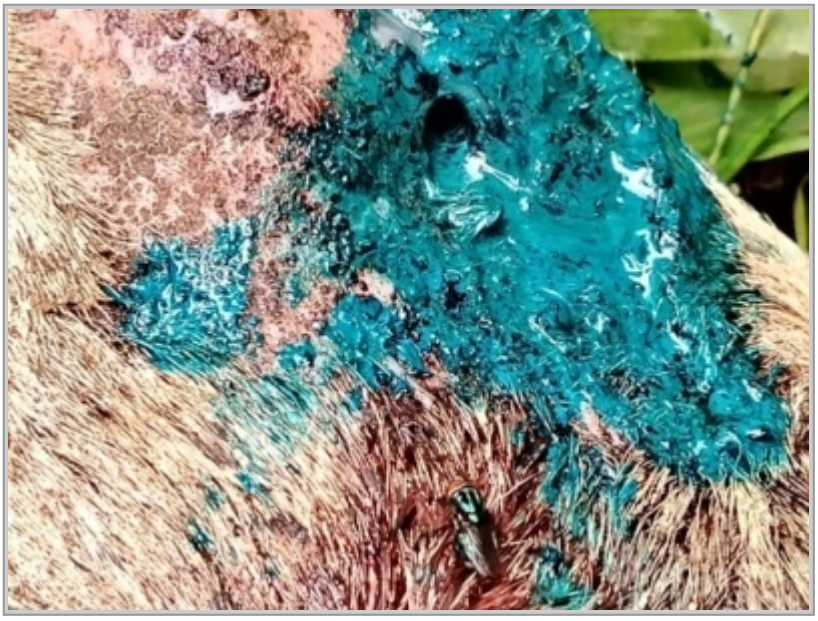







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