



# NEW WORLD SCREW WORM MANAGEMENT

## NEW MEXICO PRODUCER TIP SHEET

### KEY MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

#### 1. CALVING & NAVEL MANAGEMENT

- The navel is the primary attractant; up to 100% infection can occur in high fly environments.
- Consider calving in cooler seasons or apply topical navel protection during high fly activity.

#### 2. MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

For branding, castration, dehorning, implanting, and vaccination:

- Administer Dectomax (doramectin) injection for ~21 days of wound protection.
- Prefer knife castration (*heals within protection window*); banding may leave open tissue beyond 21 days.
- Apply a screwworm labeled wound treatment or other proven wound healing product.
- Permethrin sprays, premise treatments, and fly tags may reduce fly exposure.

#### 3. DECTOMAX®-CA1 INJECTABLE

- Dectomax®-CA1 in its 250 mL and 500 mL sizes is conditionally approved for prevention and treatment of infestation (*myiasis*) caused by larvae of New World Screwworm
- Approved for beef cattle, female dairy cattle less than 20 months of age, pregnant beef cows, newborn calves and bulls.
- Not approved in female dairy cattle 20 months of age or older or veal calves.
- Prevention and protection of reinfestation for 21 days.
- No prescription required; 35-day pre-slaughter withdrawal period.

#### 4. EXZOLT CATTLE CA1 (FLURALANER)

- FDA conditional approval (Dec. 2025) as a topical for New World Screwworm prevention/treatment and cattle fever ticks.

- Approved for beef cattle over 2 months of age and replacement dairy heifers less than 20 months of age.
- Not approved for breeding bulls 1 year of age or older, dairy calves, or veal calves.
- Tick protection period: up to 56 days.
- Screwworm protection period: not yet fully defined.
- Prescription required; 98 day meat withdrawal.

#### 5. IVOMEC (IVERMECTIN) 1% INJECTABLE

- Ivomec (ivermectin) 1% Injection has an (Feb 2026) FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) specifically for the prevention of New World screwworm (NWS) infestations in cattle.
- Prohibited for use in female dairy cattle producing milk for human consumption.
- Must be given within 24 hours of birth, at the time of castration, or immediately upon the appearance of a wound.
- Prevents reinfestation for up to 14 days.
- No prescription required; 35-day slaughter withdrawal period.

#### 6. MONITORING & RESPONSE

Clinical signs (3–7 days post injury):

- Visible larvae, bloody discharge, foul odor
- Small external wound with deep tunneling
- Depression, off feed, isolation, possible head shaking
- Mortality in untreated animals can occur in 7–14 days

Immediate actions:

1. Remove all larvae.
2. Clean and treat the wound thoroughly.
3. Place larvae in a leak-proof container/vial, fully submerged in 70% alcohol (ethanol or isopropyl). Drop the sample off at your county Extension office.
4. Destroy remaining larvae in alcohol.
5. Larvae lost on the ground may continue their life cycle.

## TEMPERATURE-BASED RISK

- Flies can be active any time of the year.
- High activity: 77–86°F; optimal around 80°F with 30–70% humidity.
- Moderate activity: ~70°F.
- Low activity: Below 59°F.
- Cold limits: Adults die below 20°F; pupae do not develop when average daily temperatures remain below 46°F.
- See average temperature chart by county. (*below*)

AVERAGE DAILY TEMPERATURES													
COUNTY SEAT/COUNTY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JUL.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	
Aztec/San Juan	30	36	44	51	60	70	75	72	64	52	40	31	
Tierra Amarilla/Rio Arriba	24	30	38	45	54	62	66	64	57	47	35	26	
Taos/Taos	26	32	39	46	54	63	67	65	58	47	36	27	
Raton/Colfax	30	34	41	48	57	66	69	67	60	50	39	31	
Clayton/Union	36	40	46	54	63	71	75	74	66	56	45	37	
Gallup/McKinley	30	35	41	48	56	65	70	68	61	49	38	30	
Bernalillo/Sandoval	37	42	49	57	66	75	78	76	69	57	45	37	
Los Alamos/Los Alamos	31	37	43	50	59	68	70	68	62	52	40	32	
Santa Fe/Santa Fe	30	35	41	48	57	66	68	67	60	50	38	30	
Mora/Mora	30	33	39	45	53	61	64	62	57	47	38	30	
Mosquero/Harding	36	39	46	54	63	71	74	72	66	55	44	36	
Las Vegas/San Miguel	35	38	44	51	59	67	70	68	62	53	43	35	
Tucumcari/Quay	40	44	51	59	68	77	80	78	74	60	48	40	
Grants/Cibola	31	36	42	49	58	67	71	68	62	51	39	32	
Albuquerque/Bernalillo	38	44	51	58	67	76	80	77	78	59	47	39	
Los Lunas/Valencia	40	45	52	60	68	77	80	78	71	60	48	39	
Estancia/Torrance	35	40	47	54	63	71	74	72	65	55	44	36	
Santa Rosa/Guadalupe	41	45	51	58	67	75	78	75	70	59	49	41	
Clovis/Curry	39	44	51	58	67	75	77	76	69	59	48	40	
Reserve/Catron	38	42	47	54	62	71	73	71	66	56	45	38	
Socorro/Socorro	40	47	53	61	69	78	80	77	71	60	49	40	
Fort Sumner/DeBaca	42	46	51	60	69	77	80	77	71	61	50	42	
Carrizozo/Lincoln	41	45	51	58	66	74	75	73	68	58	48	41	
Portales/Roosevelt	41	45	53	60	69	77	79	77	71	61	49	42	
Silver City/Grant	39	43	48	55	63	72	73	72	67	57	47	49	
Truth or Consequences/Sierra	45	50	56	63	72	80	81	79	73	63	52	44	
Roswell/Chaves	43	48	55	63	72	80	81	80	73	63	51	43	
Deming/Luna	43	47	53	60	69	78	80	78	72	62	50	43	
Las Cruces/Dona Ana	46	51	57	65	73	81	83	81	75	65	53	45	
Alamogordo/Otero	43	48	54	62	70	78	80	77	72	62	50	43	
Carlsbad/Eddy	45	50	57	65	74	81	83	81	74	64	53	45	
Lovington/Lea	41	46	53	61	70	77	79	77	71	59	50	42	
Lordsburg/Hidalgo	44	47	53	60	69	78	80	78	73	63	57	44	
			LOW:0-69			MODERATE:70-76			HIGH:77-100				

### REFERENCES

- *Livestock Management Considerations for New World Screwworm, ANSC PU 456 (Sept 2025)*
- *Rethinking Livestock Management to Consider Screwworm, ANSC PU 458 (Sept 2025)*
- *New Mexico State Veterinary Office Presentation (Jan 6, 2026)*
- <https://weatherspark.com/counties/US/NM>