



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>