



# NEW WORLD SCREWORM FOR PRODUCERS

## WHAT IS IT?



- New World screwworm (NWS) is a parasitic fly whose larvae (maggots) **feed on living tissue**
- Larvae "screw" into wounds or natural body openings of warm-blooded animals, including livestock, horses, pets, wildlife, and people
- Untreated cases can lead to severe wounds, infections, and death
- NWS was eradicated from the US over 50 years ago, but recently has been found in Mexico

## WHAT CAN WE DO?

- ***Vigilant screening after travel and rapid reporting are essential to keep Illinois free of NWS***
- Check all animals for:
  - Wounds with larvae: wounds can be any size and as small as a pinhole
  - Foul smell of decay
  - Animal Behavior: headshaking, scratching, depressed, not eating
  - Wounds leaking fluid

## If you suspect New World Screwworm

**CALL THE STATE  
VETERINARIAN'S OFFICE:**  
**(217) 872-4944**

**OR**

**THE USDA AREA  
VETERINARIAN IN CHARGE:**  
**(217) 547-6030 ASAP**

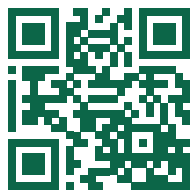
- Provide brief history (including travel), photos, owner information, animal ID, location
- If there are fallen larvae: collect in a sealable container and cover with 70% alcohol or ethanol and keep in a dark place until further instruction



**Help Protect  
Illinois Animals  
Today & Report!**



USDA "NWS: what  
you need to know"



[agr.illinois.gov](http://agr.illinois.gov)

