



NEW WORLD SCREWORM TREATMENT FOR SCREWORM MYIASIS - FOR LARGE ANIMAL VETERINARIANS -

What is New World Screwworm?

New World Screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) myiasis occurs when an adult fly lays its eggs in an open wound of a living animal. The resulting fly larvae (maggots) burrow deep into the wound to feed on live tissue. Screwworm myiasis is a serious disease that can lead to wound enlargement, animal irritability and depression, pain associated with the infested wound and may lead to death of the infested animal if left untreated.

Treatment

- **Prior to treatment:** Report suspect screwworm to the nearest California Animal Health and Food Safety Services office and collect samples of eggs and maggots into 70% ethanol or isopropyl alcohol.
- **Wound Cleaning:** Thoroughly clean the wound and remove all visible fly eggs and larvae; do not discard directly into trash. Kill eggs and larvae by incineration or placing into a sealed tube with 70% alcohol. Apply antiseptics to wound to prevent secondary infection.
- **Antiparasitic Treatment:** Administer an approved antiparasitic treatment (drug or insecticide).
- **Cover Wound:** If possible, close and cover the animal wound to limit reinfestation by screwworm.



Screwworm flies in a deep animal wound.
Image Credit: USDA

Antiparasitic Treatment Options for Screwworm

The following drugs are approved for treatment of screwworm myiasis in large animals (as of 6/12/2026).

Treatment	Approved For	Restrictions	Withdrawal Period
Dectomax-CA1 injectable solution	Cattle, Sheep, Deer, Horses, Swine	Horses must be at least one year old. Not for lactating sheep or calves that will be processed for veal.	Milk withdrawal is 19.5 d. Slaughter withdrawal is 35 days for dairy cattle, sheep, and deer; and 24 d for swine.
Exzolt Cattle-CA1 topical solution (pour-on)	Cattle	Not for lactating or dry dairy cattle, dairy calves, veal calves, or bulls ≥ 1 -year-old and intended for breeding.	Slaughter withdrawal is 98 d.
Ivomec injectable solution	Cattle	Not for lactating dairy cattle or veal calves.	Slaughter withdrawal is 35 d.
F10 Antiseptic Wound Spray with Insecticide	Cattle, Horses, Hoof Stock	Not for preruminating calves. Treated calves and calves born to treated cows must not be processed for veal.	Milk withdrawal is 10 d. Slaughter withdrawal is 30 d.
F10 Antiseptic Barrier Ointment with Insecticide	Cattle, Horses, Hoof Stock	Treated calves and calves born to treated cows must not be processed for veal.	Milk withdrawal is 10 d. Slaughter withdrawal is 30 d.