



NEW WORLD SCREWORM

TREATMENT FOR SCREWORM MYIASIS

- FOR SMALL 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. 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 pets (as of 6/12/2026).

Treatment	Approved For
Credelio chewable tablets	Dogs
Credelio Quattro-CA1 chewable tablets	Dogs ≥ 8 weeks old and weighing ≥ 3.3 pounds
Credelio CAT chewable tablets	Cats
NexGard COMBO topical solution	Cats
NexGard chewable tablets	Dogs
Nitenpyram Tablets	Dogs and cats ≥ 4 weeks old and weighing ≥ 2 pounds
F10 Antiseptic Wound Spray with Insecticide	Birds, minor hoof stock, and captive wild, exotic, and zoo mammals
F10 Antiseptic Barrier Ointment with Insecticide	Birds, minor hoof stock, and captive wild, exotic, and zoo mammals