

Animal Services Division
Office of the State Veterinarian
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6/3/2026

RE: New World Screwworm (NWS) Confirmation – Zavala County, TX

Greetings industry stakeholders, tribal partners and agency cooperators,

Earlier today USDA posted on the social media platform X that they were investigating a potential case of New World Screwworm in Texas and as of 5:30pm ET [official confirmation](#) was reported in Zavala County.

We wish to stress to producers, ranchers, and animal owners that to date cases continue to remain over 600 miles from Arizona, the Department continues to engage with industry on preparedness efforts, and surveillance efforts have been unchanged since fly trapping began in Arizona in August 2025. To date, 73 rounds of surveillance and 927 samples meeting submission criteria have been sent onward from Arizona traps for identification at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory and no New World Screwworm flies have been detected.

I think it's important to recognize that this is not a viral disease but a pest and as such it is not contagious or infectious - it is an ectoparasite. Secondly, similar to our response to HPAI in dairy cattle and harmonizing with federal orders, we will be following the NWS playbook guidance. If specific risks require mitigation or if the outbreak in Texas is increasing rapidly, we will issue Director's Administrative Orders similar to our response to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in dairy cattle.

As everyone can appreciate the situation in Texas and the immediate surrounding Mexican states of Coahuila, Nuevo León, and Tamaulipas is rapidly evolving. The Arizona Department of Agriculture is following these developments very closely and will advise industry stakeholders, tribal partners, and agency cooperators once additional information is available.

Official information can and will be posted on [screwworm.gov](https://www.screwworm.gov) and the [NWS Playbook](#) may be reviewed for background information.

Best,

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