Animal Import Requirements to Protect NJ Animals from New World Screwworm

Date: July 2, 2026

Public Health Message Type: ☐ Alert ☐ Advisory ☒ Update ☐ Information

Intended Audience: ☐ All public health partners ☐ Healthcare providers ☐ Infection preventionists ☒ Local health departments ☐ Schools/child care centers ☒ ACOs ☒Animal health professionals ☐ Other:

Key Points or Updates:

- New World Screwworm (NWS) is a devastating pest and is a threat to U.S. and NJ agriculture, wildlife, public health, and the economy. NWS is considered a U.S. foreign animal disease (FAD) that is immediately reportable under the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) National List of Reportable Animal Diseases.
- The New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA), with consultation and agreement from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), has implemented specific requirements for animals being transported from a NWS affected state into New Jersey, effective immediately. The press release with this information can be viewed at https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/news/press/2026/approved/press260630.shtml.
- NJDA's quarantine order can be viewed here and is also included as an attachment.
- A reference guide providing information on the requirements for livestock, dogs, cats, exotic pets, and rabbits, based on where the animal is originating from or transiting through can be viewed at: https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/news/hottopics/NWS_Import_Infographic.pdf.
- NWS can affect any warm-blooded animal, and is primarily an animal health concern, but NWS can infest people as well. There are no human cases of NWS in the U.S. at this time, and the overall risk to the public remains low.

Action Items:

- Local health departments are requested to share this LINCS message with licensed animal facilities and known animal rescue organizations in their jurisdictions to ensure these entities are aware of the import requirements.

Contact Information:

- New Jersey Department of Health, Communicable Disease Service: 609-826-4872
- New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health: 609-674-6400

References and Resources:

- https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/livestockhealth/newworldscrewworm.shtml
- https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animals/animal-health/livestock-and-poultry-disease/stop-screwworm
- https://www.cdc.gov/new-world-screwworm/about/index.html