

FOR INFORMATION

SWFSPP Annual Meeting 2025
Agenda Item 3.2, distributed out of session
Last updated: 22 January 2026
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International developments and activities, July 2024-December 2025**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the SWFSPP Steering Committee **NOTE** this summary of international developments and activities relating to screwworm fly (SWF) from July 2024 to December 2025.

BACKGROUND

1. This report discusses international developments in screwworm fly distribution, preparedness and control in the international setting between July 2024-December 2025, following the September 2025 SWFSPP Steering Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION**2. Assessment of international activities and developments**

- a. The following countries had changes to their health status for either Old World screwworm (OWS) or New World screwworm (NWS), based on reporting to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) between July 2024 and December 2025 (inclusive).
 - i. Old World screwworm
 1. Burkina Faso – November 2024 ([First report](#))
 - ii. New World screwworm
 1. Honduras – September 2024 ([Recurrence](#))
 2. Guatemala – October 2024 ([Recurrence](#))
 3. Mexico – November 2024 ([Recurrence](#))
 4. Belize – December 2024 ([Recurrence](#))
 5. El Salvador – December 2024 ([Recurrence](#))
- b. The [first human case of NWS was reported in the US](#) in August 2025. The case was reported in a traveler that had recently returned from El Salvador.
- c. In response to the resurgence of NWS in the Americas, the United States announced a [five part plan](#) to strengthen efforts to detect, control and eliminate NWS, which was launched in June 2025 by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Components of this plan included building a domestic dispersal facility in southern Texas and to enhance international sterile fly production through funding the renovation of an existing fruit fly production facility in Metapa, Mexico (which at full operation will provide an additional 60-100 million sterile flies per week), among other measures.
- d. Further United States measures were [announced in August 2025](#), which includes planning for the construction of a sterile fly facility in southern

Texas to produce up to 300 million sterile flies per week, when at full operation, and training detector dogs to detect screwworm infestations.

- e. The United States also launched a new website dedicated to centralising NWS information (screwworm.gov) across the federal government in November 2025, which includes USDA-verified information on cases and response activities in Mexico.

3. Insect trapping on returning livestock export vessels 2024–25 financial year

- a. There were no detections of OWS or NWS from insectecutors on returning livestock export vessels in the 2024-25 financial year.

4. International import trade requirements in relation to SWF

- a. The WOAHA Terrestrial Animal Health Code chapter for NWS and OWS ([Chapter 8.13](#)) was updated in May 2025 and the revised code now includes birds in its definition of animal hosts for NWS and OWS. The implications of this change mean that cases of NWS and OWS in birds now must be notified to WOAHA.

5. Scientific articles

- a. A list of scientific articles over this 2024-25 financial year was kindly circulated by Geoff Brown to the SWFSPP Committee following the September meeting. Please refer to this list.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

7. CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

Relevant sections in DAFF

8. NEXT STEPS/ACTIONS

Not applicable