

For Immediate Release
Islamorada, Village of Islands
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SCREWWORM DETECTED ON ADDITIONAL FLORIDA KEYS WEST OF BIG PINE KEY
NO SCREWWORM OR PET INFECTIONS FOUND IN ISLAMORADA OR UPPER KEYS
HOUSEHOLD PETS CAN BE TREATED IF INFECTED

No New World Screwworm flies or animal infestations have been found in Islamorada or Upper Keys. New World Screwworm was confirmed on Big Pine and No Name Keys on October 3, 2016 and on October 18, 2016, confirmations of screwworm were made on Keys west of Big Pine Key. The full release from the Florida Department of Agriculture is provided below.

The infections have primarily affected the endangered Key Deer in the Lower Keys. **Local pet owners should be aware that the disease is completely treatable in domesticated pets if diagnosed early.** Pet owners are advised to inspect their pets twice a day. If fly eggs or maggots are found in or around a wound on the pet's skin, consult a veterinarian immediately. It is recommended that people not take their pets into the affected area until the infestation is under control.

There has been no evidence of Screwworm found during inspections at the Animal Health Check Zone near Mile Marker 106 in Key Largo. The General Animal Quarantine from Mile Marker 91 through Mile Marker 0 remains in effect; owners with animals seeking to leave the Keys must allow the animals to be inspected. The quarantine is necessary to assist in the control, suppression, eradication and prevention of the spread of the disease and to protect animals.

Questions regarding infestation of domestic animals may be addressed by calling 1-800-HELP-FLA (1-800-435-7352). Do not transport a pet suspected of being infested with screw worm outside the lower Keys; this will prevent possible further spread of the fly.

More details are available on the National Key Deer Refuge Informational page. Visit <https://www.fws.gov/nwrs/threecolumn.aspx?id=2147595381> to view or download a copy of the Questions and Answers. Additional information about Screwworm can be found at the Florida Department of Agriculture website at <http://www.freshfromflorida.com/screwworm>.

October 18, 2016 Release from the Florida Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 18, 2016

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Screwworm Detected on Additional Florida Keys

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Following the first announcement on Oct. 3, 2016 of the confirmation of New World screwworms in Big Pine Key, Florida, the United States Department of Agriculture and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services today announced that the screwworm has also been detected on the keys listed below, which are all west of Big Pine and No Name keys and in close proximity. Additional detections are not unexpected, as enhanced surveillance efforts are underway.

- Big Torch Key: adult screwworm flies detected.
- Middle Torch Key: adult screwworm flies detected.
- Little Torch Key: adult screwworm flies detected.
- Cudjoe: adult screwworm flies detected.
- Ramrod: adult screwworm flies detected.
- Summerland: adult screwworm flies detected and screwworm-infested Key deer observed.

New World screwworms are fly larvae (maggots) that can infest livestock and other warm-blooded animals, including, in rare cases, people. They most often enter an animal through an open wound and feed on the animal's living flesh.

This is the first local infestation in the United States in more than 30 years. On Oct. 3, 2016, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam declared an agricultural state of emergency in Monroe County, Florida, which can be accessed [here](#).

Eradication efforts include:

- An Animal Health Check Point at Mile Marker 106 in Key Largo. This animal health checkpoint is a crucial part of ensuring animal health and protecting Florida from the spread of this pest. All animals are briefly checked to ensure they do not have screwworm. Early detection of screwworms can be successfully treated in pets and livestock. Eight-hundred-eighty-three animals have been checked to date, and none has been positive for screwworm;
- The release of sterile flies, a scientifically proven method to achieve screwworm eradication, began on Tuesday, Oct. 11;
- The USDA continues to increase production and evaluate additional sites for release;
- Enhanced surveillance to determine the scope of the screwworm infestation; and
- Extensive public outreach in order to engage the public in early detection of the screwworm.

Residents who have warm-blooded animals (pets, livestock, etc.) should watch their animals carefully and seek veterinary care for open wounds, then report any potential cases to 1-800-HELP-FLA (1-800-435-7352) or non-Florida residents should call (850) 410-3800.

To report a suspected case of screwworm in the Key deer, call (305) 470-6863, option 7.

For more information on the New World screwworm, visit FreshFromFlorida.com/screwworm.

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