

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Livestock Subcommittee (LS) Proposal
Ivermectin – Addition to National List for Treatment of New World Screwworm
Fall 2026**

Summary of Substance:

Ivermectin is a synthetic parasiticide previously allowed for use in organic livestock production. It was [removed](#) from the National List in 2019 after a [2016 NOSB recommendation](#) found that it failed the National List criteria because of its toxicity to the environment, the availability of alternative synthetic parasiticides, and its incompatibility with a system of sustainable agriculture. The toxicity of ivermectin has not changed, and LS continues to acknowledge its negative effects on soil biology. What has changed, which prompts a new view into its necessity, is the emergence of New World Screwworm (NWS) in livestock in the United States. On June 3, 2026, USDA confirmed the first US animal case in the current outbreak of NWS, and USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has identified a number of parasiticides allowed for use in the control of the parasite. It is confirmed that moxidectin (a parasiticide currently allowed in organic production) is allowed off-label for NWS control, but FDA bulletins suggest use of ivermectin for NWS control in cattle. This parasite outbreak has potentially made ivermectin necessary again.

LS received indications that the organic industry is preparing a petition to add ivermectin back to the National List for the treatment of NWS in response to the outbreak. The LS has heard from producers that maximum effectiveness is a priority in stopping the outbreak which is leading to a preference for ivermectin over moxidectin. Therefore, the LS is proposing addition of ivermectin to the National List for NWS control only with its previous withholding time of 90 days.

Subcommittee Review:

This proposal has two main areas for consideration: process and substance. The process of recommending a substance to be added to the National List without a petition is atypical. NOSB welcomes input on whether the need to address an emergency in the livestock sector outweighs the organic regulatory tradition of responding to industry driven petitions when adding synthetic substances to the National List. The material, ivermectin, is well known, and its use has significant drawbacks. NOSB also welcomes input on whether the need for its use in an NWS outbreak shifts the National List criteria (7 U.S.C. 6517(c)(1)) significantly enough to warrant a renewed allowance limited to its use for NWS.

Classification: Ivermectin was previously on the National List at § 205.603(a) and classified as synthetic.

National List Motion:

Motion to add ivermectin (CAS #70288-86-7) at § 205.603(a)(23)(iii) for the treatment of New World Screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) only—milk or milk products from a treated animal cannot be labeled as approved for in subpart D of this part for 90 days following treatment

Motion by: Nate Lewis

Seconded by: Franklin Quarcoo

Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 Recuse: 0