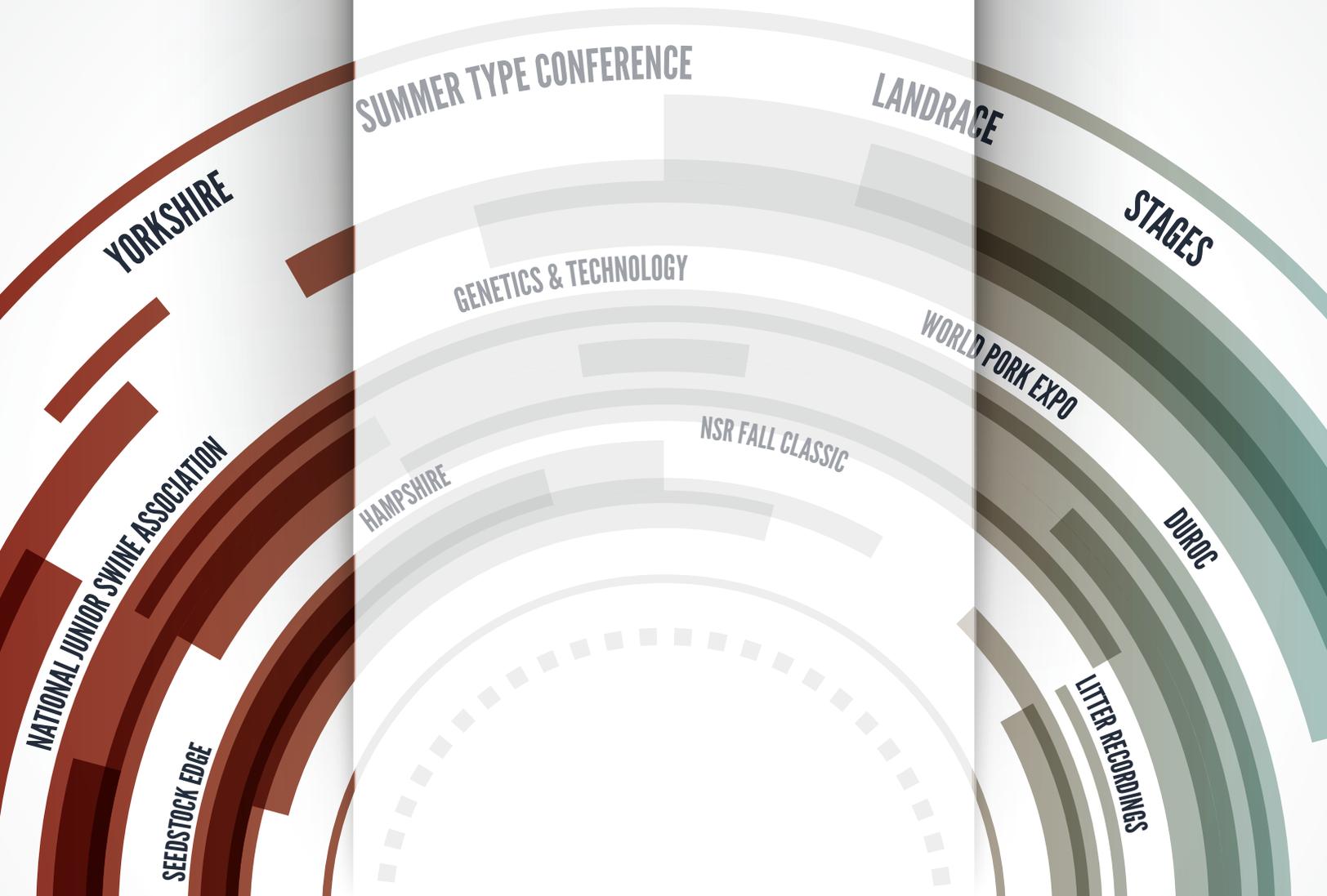


NATIONAL SWINE REGISTRY

Member Handbook

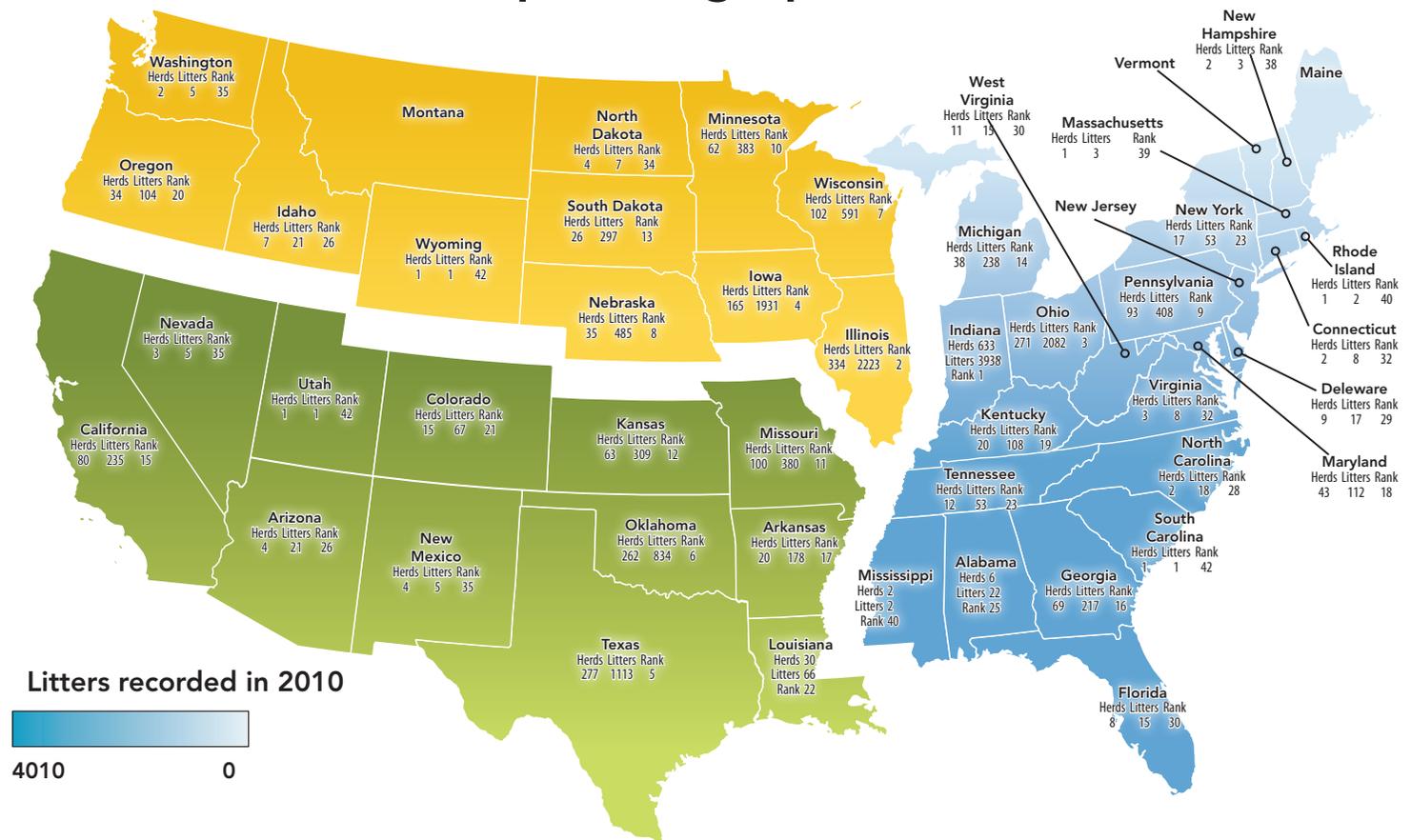


About NSR

History & Membership Demographics.

Each of the respective breed associations that comprise the National Swine Registry have a long and rich history that goes back to the 1800s. During the time when each association operated as a separate entity, the general oversight and development of each breed was governed individually. In the earlier stages of the purebred seedstock industry in the U.S., breeders typically raised and sold one breed of hogs. Over time, these breeders began to take part in more than one organization, as the average seedstock supplier maintained several breeds on their farm to meet the demands of the U.S. commercial producer. As this trend increased throughout the 1970's and 1980's, an increase in the level of sophistication of commercial clients was also taking place. As the commercial clients of purebred seedstock suppliers began to utilize more specific crossbreeding programs, this ultimately placed increased pressure on the seedstock supplier, and ultimately, the needed services offered by breed organizations. The National Swine Registry (NSR) formed in 1994 as a result of the consolidation of the American Yorkshire Club, the Hampshire Swine Registry and the United Duroc Swine Registry. In January 1998, the American Landrace Association joined the NSR. This consolidation effort allowed for increased efficiency in the services offered to purebred breeders through the elimination of duplicated resource allocation, and established a unified approach to the future development of programs and services for each of the four breeds. These four breed organizations are located in one central office in West Lafayette, Ind. Below is a current depiction of the current NSR membership demographics, and show the NSR includes a membership base that represents nearly all of the states in the continental U.S.

NSR Membership Demographics (Commercial breeders excluded)



Breed Heritage & Characteristics

Duroc

Durocs are red pigs with drooping ears. They are the second most recorded breed of swine in the United States and a major breed in many other countries, especially as a terminal sire or in hybrids. Durocs can range from a very light golden, almost yellow color, to a very dark red color that approaches mahogany.

In 1812, early "Red Hogs" were bred in New York and New Jersey. They were large in size. Large litters and the ability to gain quickly were characteristics Durocs possessed from the beginning. The foundation that formed today's "Duroc" was comprised of Red Durocs from New York and Jersey Reds from New Jersey.

In 1823, a red boar from a litter of ten, whose parents were probably imported from England, was obtained by Isaac Frink of Milton in Saratoga County, New York, from Harry Kelsey. Kelsey owned a famous trotting stallion, Duroc, and Frink named his red boar in honor of the horse. This boar was known for his smoothness and carcass quality.

His progeny continued the Duroc name and many of them inherited his color, quick growth and maturity, deep body, broad ham and shoulder, and quiet disposition. The Duroc was smaller than the Jersey Red, with finer bones and better carcass quality. Beginning in the early 1860's, Durocs were made from a systematic blending of the two very different strains. This produced a moderate hog that was well

suited for the finishing abilities of the Cornbelt farmer.

At the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, Durocs gained wide popularity at the first successful Duroc hog show. This was only the beginning of the Duroc popularity and success which continues today.

The first organization for the purpose of recording, improving, and promoting Red Hogs was the American Duroc-Jersey Association, established in 1883. No other breed of hogs made more progress, in terms of numbers recorded, over a period of years. As a result, numerous other recording organizations were formed to accommodate the growth. In 1934, all the groups were united to form one organization, named the United Duroc Swine Registry, for the sole purpose of recording and promoting the Duroc breed.

When the U.S. population moved westward, the Duroc and many noted breeders moved west as well. Most of the breed improvement after the formation took place in Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and Nebraska. Durocs have become a sire of choice to the American farmer. The climb of the breed has been accelerated by many distinguished accomplishments in prolificness and longevity in the female line, lean gain efficiency, carcass yield, and product quality as a terminal sire. The purebred Duroc is distinguished for breed potency in today's picture of swine improvement and holds forth inviting promise of future usefulness and value.

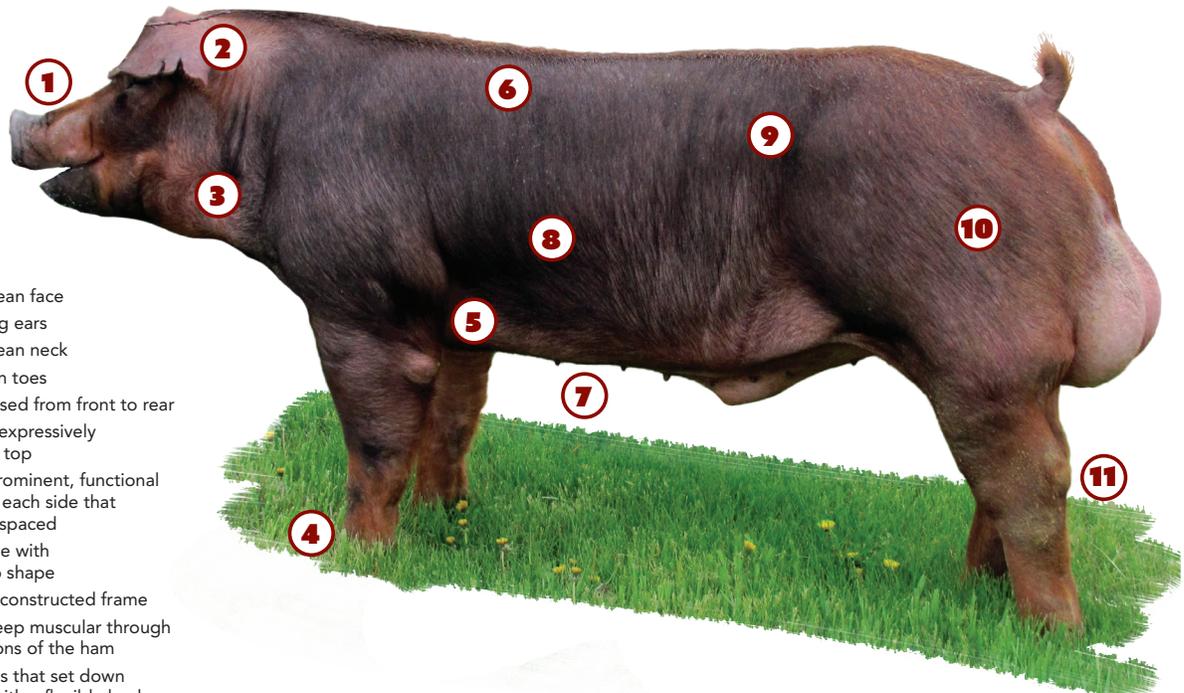


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IDEAL DUROC FEATURES

To find out more about Duroc breed registration and show eligibility, visit nationalswine.com.



1. Long, clean face
2. Drooping ears
3. Long, clean neck
4. Big, even toes
5. Wide based from front to rear
6. Square, expressively muscled top
7. Seven prominent, functional teats on each side that are well spaced
8. Long side with good rib shape
9. Durably constructed frame
10. Long, deep muscular through all portions of the ham
11. Hind legs that set down square with a flexible hock

Durocs were identified as a superior genetic source for improving eating qualities of pork in the recent National Pork Producers Council Terminal Sire Line Evaluation. Their advantage in muscle quality combined with their well-established ability to grow fast has positioned the Duroc breed as an outstanding terminal sire choice.

Hampshire

Hampshire hogs are black with a white belt. They have erect ears. The belt is a strip of white across the shoulders that covers the front legs around the body. The Hampshire, which is a heavily muscled, lean meat breed, is the fourth most recorded breed of the pigs in the United States.

The Hampshire breed is possibly the oldest, early-American breed of hogs in existence today. The Hampshire hog as we know it today, originated in southern Scotland and Northern England. These pigs were known as the "Old English Breed". They were noted and criticized for their large size, as pigs were commonly killed at 125 pounds liveweight. However, they were admired for their proficiency, hardy vigor, foraging ability and outstanding carcass qualities.

Hampshire pigs were imported into America between 1825 and 1835 from Hampshire County in England. Some of the first importations were also known as the McKay hog because a man by that name was thought to have imported these hogs from England to America.

Most of the offspring of these early importations went to Kentucky where the breed had most of its early develop-

ment. The common name for these hogs were "Thin Rinds" because their skin was thinner than that of most hogs. The hogs in this area became rather popular due to their hardiness, vigor, prolificacy and foraging characteristics. Butchers from Ohio traveled yearly into Kentucky to contract ahead for these belted hogs at a premium price. These original desirable traits have been further developed within the Hampshire breed, causing steady growth in popularity and demand.

In May of 1893, a small group of Kentucky farmers met in Erlanger, Ky., to form the first record association in order to keep the blood pure in these black hogs with a white belt. The first record association was called the American Thin Rind Association.

This belted hog had various other names in those days, including McGee hog, McKay, Saddleback and Ring Middle. Because this hog was known by so many different names, the name was changed in 1904 to the American Hampshire Record Association.

In 1907, the organization in Kentucky was discontinued. At that time, they adopted American Hampshire Swine Record Association as their name. The name was shortened to Hampshire Swine Record Association in 1922 and in 1939, the name Hampshire Swine Registry was adopted.

Between 1910 and 1920, Hampshires were a big hit in the Corn Belt. During the 1920's the breed continued to grow in numbers and in favor. The greatest popularity of the Hampshires did not come until after 1930. Since that time they have been very popular and have sold for high prices, as their genetic value has been documented.

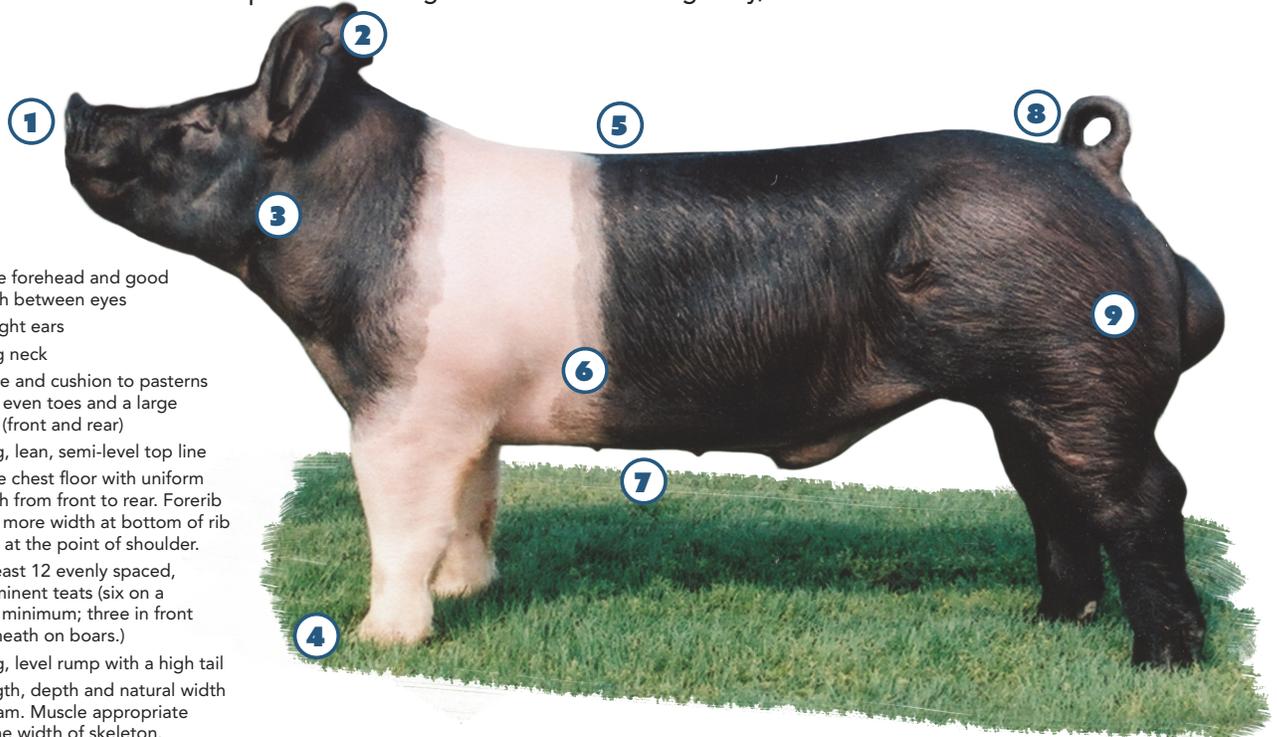


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IDEAL HAMPSHIRE FEATURES

To find out more about Hampshire breed registration and show eligibility, visit nationalswine.com.



Through the years, Hampshires that are still being produced, are productive, lean, durable, profitable, and popular on dinner tables. They are the leader in lean muscle with good carcass quality, minimal amounts of backfat and large loin eyes. Boars are more aggressive now than in recent years. Hampshire females have gained a reputation among many commercial hogmen as great mothers. These females are excellent pig raisers and have extra longevity in the sow herd. They have passed the test in confinement.

This black animal with the distinct and unique white belt is still known universally as "The Mark of a Meat Hog". Their ability to sire winning carcasses is unequalled and they continue to set the standard by which all other terminal sires are evaluated.

Landrace

Landrace are white in color. Their ears droop and slant forward with its top edges nearly parallel to the bridge of a straight nose. Landrace, which are noted for their ability to farrow and raise large litters, are the fifth most recorded breed of swine in the United States.

The American Landrace descended from the Danish Landrace that originated in 1895. At that time the large white hog was brought from England and crossed with the native swine. After that infusion, the Landrace was developed and improved by selection and testing. It was mainly through the use of Landrace that Denmark became the chief bacon-exporting country. To protect this position, Denmark refused to export purebred Landrace breeding stock for many years.

In the early 1930s the United States Department of Agriculture entered into an agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Denmark for the purchase of 24 Danish Landrace. This stock was to be used for swine research studies at agricultural experiment stations, with the stipulation that this breed would not be propagated as a pure breed for commercial use.

During the 15 years following the original importation, Landrace were used in numerous comparisons with American breeds. As a result of this work, four new breeds have been registered by the Inbred Livestock Registry Association.

In May of 1949, the USDA petitioned the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark to release its restrictions on the propagation of purebred Landrace in the United States. This request was granted, and the American Landrace Association was formed in 1950 to register and promote the sale of purebred breeding stock.

Following the removal of restrictions on commercial use of Danish Landrace, the importations of Norwegian and Swedish breeding stock provided the outcrosses necessary for the expansion and development of the American Landrace breed of today. More than 700,000 offspring have been registered from the parent stock.

The Landrace breed is promoted on its ability to cross well with other breeds. As well Landrace are known for their length of body, high percentage of carcass weight in the ham and loin, and ideal amount of finish. Landrace are prolific sows that farrow large pigs and which are exceptionally heavy milkers. These traits have designated the Landrace breed as "America's Sowherd".

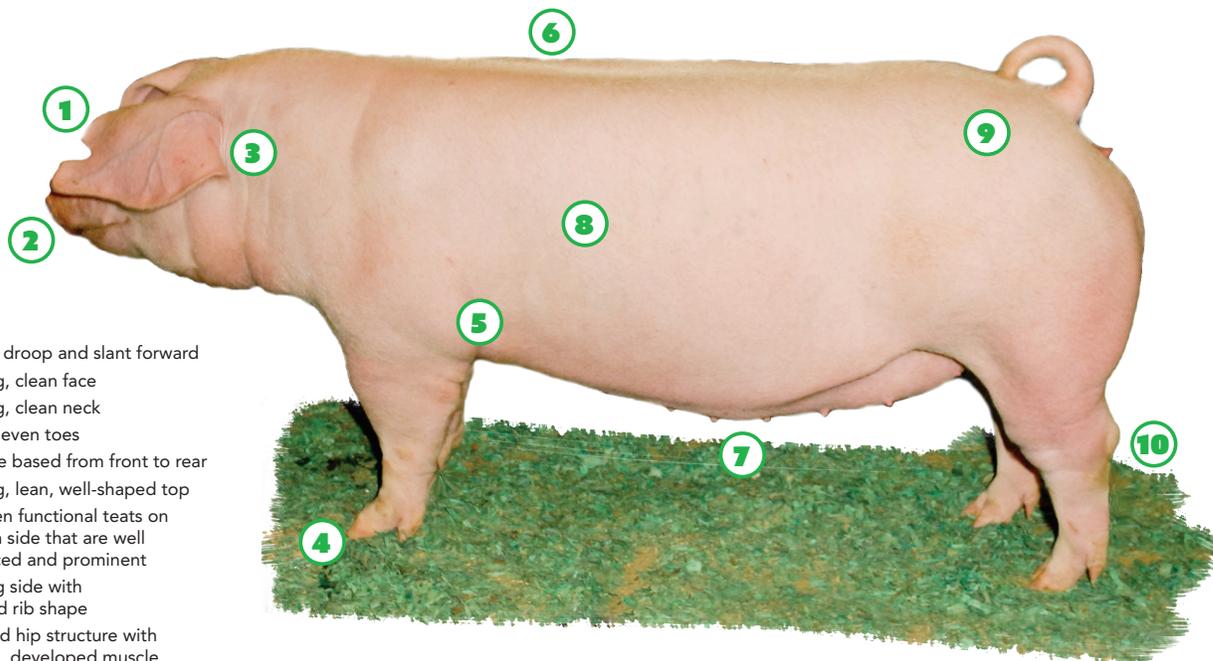


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IDEAL LANDRACE FEATURES

To find out more about Landrace breed registration and show eligibility, visit nationalswine.com.



1. Ears droop and slant forward
2. Long, clean face
3. Long, clean neck
4. Big, even toes
5. Wide based from front to rear
6. Long, lean, well-shaped top
7. Seven functional teats on each side that are well spaced and prominent
8. Long side with good rib shape
9. Good hip structure with long, developed muscle
10. Hind legs that set down square with a flexible hock

Yorkshire

Yorkshires are white in color and have erect ears. They are the most recorded breed of swine in the United States and in Canada. They are found in almost every state, with the highest populations being in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska and Ohio. The modern Yorkshire is very muscular, with a high proportion of lean meat and low backfat, in addition to being very sound and durable.

The Yorkshire breed was developed in England in the county of York. Later the name was changed to "English Large White" but it is known as Yorkshire throughout most of the rest of the world. There are three types of hogs referred to as the Yorkshire: the large, the middle and the small types. Only the large type has ever gained any prominence in the United States.

In 1761, Robert Bakewell became interested in a local tribe of hogs known as the Leicestershire breed and he molded them into a large, useful hog that became popular in England. It is very likely that some, if not most, of the best Yorkshire hogs today came from these hogs.

The first Yorkshires in the United States were brought into Ohio around 1830.

The Yorkshire breed experienced many ups and downs over the years. In the early 1920's, the Morrell Packing Company of Ottumwa, Iowa, and the Hormel Packing Company of Austin, Minnesota, tried to promote Yorkshires to farmers around the area. This was following World War I and the market for lard was vanishing. They failed to gain popularity with farm-

ers due to their slow growth rate and short, pugged noses.

The favor of farmers with the Yorkshires didn't come until the importation of many English Large Whites from the British Isles. Farmers realized what they could do for them and soon started to accept Yorkshire breeding stock. Mothering ability, larger litters, more length, more scale and frame were in such demand that many producers were ready to try Yorkshires again, and this time they were successful.

In the late 1940's there was a period of rapid breed expansion. A large percentage of Yorkshires were brought in from Canada where the breed had been the most popular breed because of its ability to produce the kind of carcass that was in demand in that country. Yorkshires were also being imported from England where they were known for having greater substance, ruggedness, and scale. By selection, and the use of the imported pigs, they met the needs of the pork producer and the demands of the market in this country.

Today, Yorkshires are productive, yet more performance oriented and more durable than ever. The goal of the Yorkshire breed is to be a source of durable mother lines that can contribute to longevity and carcass merit. The motto, "The Mother Breed and a Whole Lot More," indicated the improvement and changes that the industry has seen.

Yorkshire breeders have led the industry in utilization of the STAGES™ genetic evaluation program. From 1990-2006, Yorkshire breeders submitted over 440,000 growth and backfat records and over 320,000 sow pro-

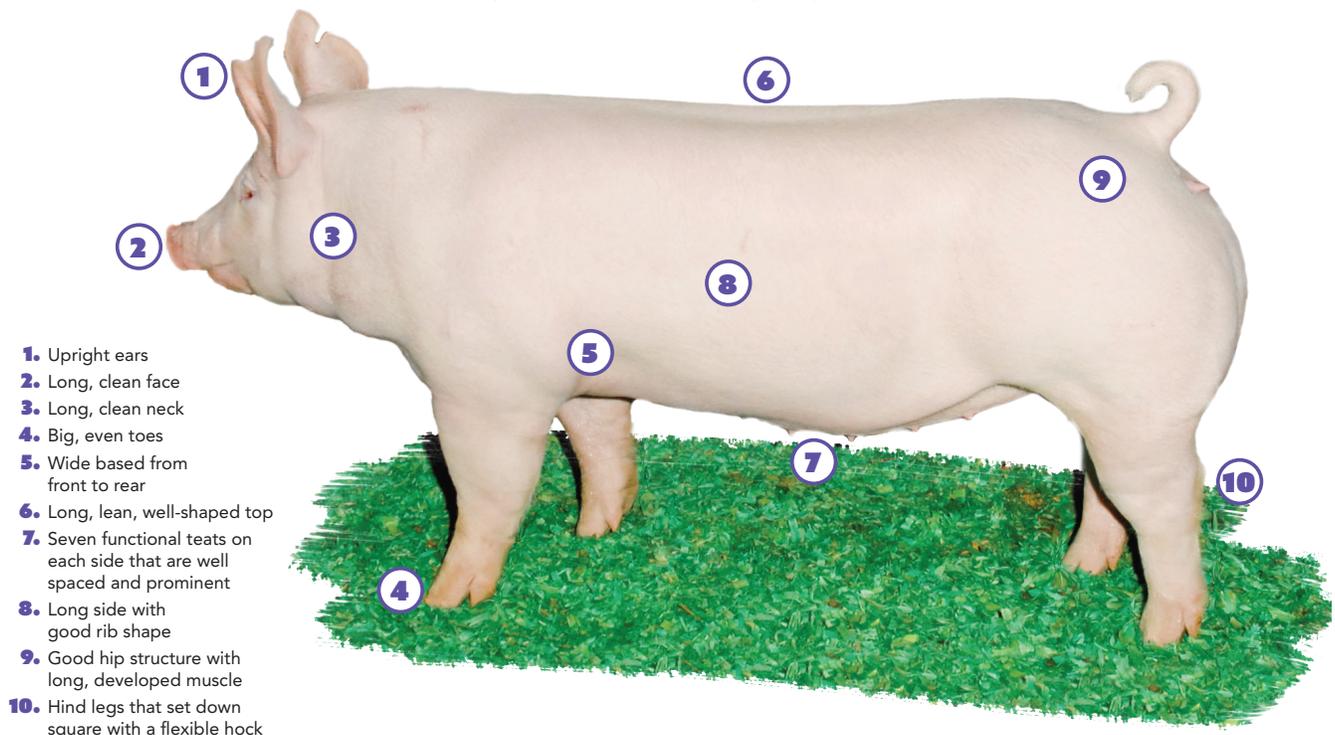
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IDEAL YORKSHIRE FEATURES

To find out more about Yorkshire breed registration and show eligibility, visit nationalswine.com.



ductivity records. This represents the largest source of documented performance records in the world. The American Yorkshire Club was organized on April 1, 1893, in

Minneapolis, Minnesota. The office was first in St. Paul, Minnesota, and was moved to Valparaiso, Indiana in 1948. The first club was a stock company. In 1948, the American Yorkshire Club was reorganized and became a membership organization.

Certificate of Registration & Performance Pedigrees

The pedigree has always been the staple of the service package of the National Swine Registry, and the preservation of its integrity will continue to be one of the primary goals of the association. As of July 1, 2012, the National Swine registry will implement a tiered structure to pedigrees. The revised structure will establish two different versions of the pedigree: 1) a Certificate of Registration that includes ancestry and ownership information in a similar format to what has been utilized in the past, but will not include genetic predictions generated from the STAGES™ nightly procedure; and 2) a Performance Pedigree that includes all of the information found on the Certificate of Registration as well as the results of the STAGES™ evaluation. These different versions will be priced at \$15 and \$16, respectively. Performance Pedigrees are only available to members who utilize the STAGES™ genetic evaluation module, and provide sufficient information for accurate genetic evaluation. Such members are classified as 5* ABG members. Please see additional information regarding the America's best Genetics program and the corresponding membership classifications for further detail regarding how various members can take advantage of the STAGES™ program and performance pedigrees. The following is an illustration of the Performance Pedigree and its various components.

Learning To Read A Pedigree

1. Registration number of the animal. The first six digits indicate the litter, and the last three digits identify the animal.
2. Sex of the animal (boar, gilt or barrow).
3. Individual ear notch.
4. This field is used to indicate whether an animal has been incorrectly ear notched, ear(s) are damaged, or to specify an alternate permanent identification, such as an electronic ID or tattoo.
5. Date animal was born (farrowed).
6. Number of visible teats on each side of underline (Left = 7, Right = 7).
7. Animal's registered name. This includes the herdmark (LFC) and the last digit (6) of the year the animal was born. Also, the name (Rachel) of the animal along with its ear notch (110-1).
8. Animal's registration number.
9. Total number of pigs (5) born in the litter (dead or alive).
10. Number of live pigs born (5).
11. Number of pigs weaned (4).

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRY

1 Registration: **489406001**

2 Sex: **Gilt**

3 Ear Notch: **110-1**

4 Other ID:

5 Date Born: **12/7/08**

6 Teats: L/R **7/7**

7 **YYLL LFC6 RACHEL 110-1**

8 Animal: **YYLL834134444**

9 Total Born: **5**

10 Born Alive: **5**

11 No. Weaned:

12 Adj. Wt:

13 Breeder No.: **1234**

14 Breeder: **JOHN SMITH**
1234 N 1546 RD
ANYWHERE, US 45856

16
YYYY RTF6 ALDRICH 494-1

Sire: **YYYY83410001** SPI: 124.7
MLI: 136.1

17
LLLL GRY6 PHILOMENA 299-1

Dam: **LLLL79997001** SPI: 103.5
MLI: 102.2

18
YYYY RTF1 ALDRICH 294-1

Sire of Sire: **YYYY74000002** SPI: 114.8
MLI: 118.4

19
YYYY RTF1 FREDRICK 220-7

Dam of Sire: **YYYY74443000** SPI: 113.1
MLI: 103.2

20
LLLL AAW9 PETER 231-5

Sire of Dam: **LLLL66552200** SPI: 100.8
MLI: 114.5

21
LLLL GRY1 FRITZ 294-1

Dam of Dam: **LLLL815664854** SPI: 101.7
MLI: 104.7

22 Owner No.: **12345** **23** Owned As Of: **7/4/09**

24 Owner: **SMITH JOHNSON**
1234 N 1546 RD
ANYWHERE, US 45856

	Traits	EPD	Traits	EPD	Index	Value
25	Born Alive	0.17 *	Days to 250	-3.10	SPI	112.7
	Litter Birth Wt	0.20 *	Backfat	-0.02	MLI	123.3
	Number Weaned	0.14 *	Feed Efficiency	-0.01	TSI	125.8
	21 Day Litter Wt	1.16 *	Lbs of Lean	0.72		
	Wean to Estrus	-0.06 *	Loin Eye Area	0.42		

* = Pedigree Estimate

DUROC

2639 Yeager Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906
Office: 765.463.3594 • Fax: 765.497.2959

Mike Paul

Mike Paul
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
www.nationalswine.com

DATE REGISTERED

6/12/09

12. Weight of pigs weaned adjusted to 21-day weaning.
13. Number assigned to breeder of animal.
14. Name and complete address of owner of dam when litter was farrowed.
15. Date of registration.
16. Sire of animal (identified with herdmark, name, ear notch, registration number and indices).
17. Dam of animal (identified with herdmark, name, ear notch, registration number and indices).
18. Paternal grand sire (identified with herdmark, name, ear notch, registration number and indices).
19. Paternal grand dam (identified with herdmark, name, ear notch, registration number and indices).
20. Maternal grand sire (identified with herdmark, name, ear notch, registration number and indices).
21. Maternal grand dam (identified with herdmark, name, ear notch, registration number and indices).
22. Owner identification number.
23. Purchase date (If applicable)
24. Owner(s) name and complete address.
25. Performance information. Estimated progeny differences (EPD).

**Maternal: born alive, number weaned and 21-day litter weight are traits used in the calculation of the Sow Productivity Index (SPI).*

**Terminal: days to 250 lbs., backfat and lbs. of lean. These three traits are used in the calculation of the Terminal Sire Index (TSI).*

**The five traits listed above are used in the calculation of the Maternal Line Index (MLI).*

NSR Staff Structure

The NSR staff is organized into five different departments that revolve around the specific components of service that NSR provides to its membership. The departments are then organized under the structure of two Vice Presidents: 1) Member Outreach and Youth Development, and 2) Global Technical Services. The responsibilities of each department are described below:

Member Outreach & Youth Development

Marketing and Communications. This department oversees the development and maintenance of various avenues for breeders to effectively promote their products. One primary function of the Marketing and Communications team is to coordinate the publication of the *Seedstock EDGE* and *GeneLink* magazines. Additionally, this team leads efforts to communicate with membership through the NSR website and various social media platforms.

Youth Programs. This department essentially coordinates and develops all programs and services offered through the National Junior Swine Association, including the planning and coordination of several events as well as creating programs to establish opportunities for youth.

Shows and Sales. The Shows and Sales department is responsible for planning and facilitating NSR type conferences held throughout the country. Additionally, this department encompasses the NSR field service effort, which includes three field representatives who provide individual consultation to NSR members regarding their marketing and genetic improvement plans.

Global Technical Service

Genetics and Technology. This department encompasses efforts pertaining to the NSR service efforts that surround the commercial-oriented genetic improvement programs employed by NSR members. One primary function of this department includes the

maintenance and development of the STAGES™ genetic evaluation module. Additionally, staff within this team provide technical expertise to commercial-oriented breeders, and facilitate the international programs employed by the National Swine Registry.

Information Processing. This department is responsible for the daily processing of litter recordings, transfers, DNA testing, and associated performance information for genetic evaluation, along with addressing many of the various questions from members regarding such processes. This team also includes software development and IT personnel who develop applications to increase efficiency in managing daily processes.

Management Team

The management team at NSR is led by the Chief Executive Officer, who oversees the fiscal operations of the organization and is ultimately responsible for general direction of the organization through a cooperative effort with the NSR Executive Committee. The CEO is assisted by the two vice presidents whose focus surrounds the two general segments of the NSR membership. The V.P. of Member Outreach and Youth Development assists in developing a collaborative effort among these three departments to continuously elevate the services offered and utilized primarily by NSR members involved in the showpig industry. Secondly, the Vice President of Global Technical Service oversees the development of programs and services offered to commercial-oriented members, develops and maintains international programs, and ensures the continuous application of technology. This is accomplished by developing a collaborative effort among the Information Processing department and the Genetics and Technology department.

Internship Opportunities

The National Swine Registry offers three different internship positions each summer. Information on how to apply can be found at [www.nsr.org](#). Below is an overview of each of the internship positions available at NSR:

NJSA Internship

The NJSA Internship will provide experience in planning and executing shows and leadership events for the nation's largest youth livestock organization. You will have the opportunity to assist NJSA staff with planning the World Pork Expo Junior National and the organization's pinnacle event – the National Junior Summer Spectacular, as well as help lead the NJSA board of directors, write Youth Spotlight highlights, take photos and video, facilitate web updates, and write articles for the e-Pinnacle newsletter. This internship provides experience in event planning, communications, youth leadership, and livestock show production.

Field Staff Internship

The NSR Field Staff Internship provides on-the-road experience traveling with full-time NSR Field Representatives, and opportunities to both learn from and contribute to field activities. Responsibilities include visiting purebred swine farms and A.I. boar studs; assisting at NSR-sponsored events including the World Pork Expo in Des Moines, Iowa, and the Summer Type Conference and National Junior Summer Spectacular in Louisville, Ky.; assisting at state fairs; and other field staff duties as assigned.

Marketing and Communications Internship

The Marketing and Communications Internship provides a fabulous opportunity to spend the summer working in the purebred

swine industry while learning new skills and expanding your marketing and communications portfolio. This is a tailor-made internship – you help make it what you want it to be. As the NSR Marketing & Communications Intern, you will have the opportunity to work with NSR staff to personally design your internship curriculum and focus on the areas of marketing and communications in which you are most interested, or want to gain experience. Options for a summer work plan include feature writing for , advertisement design and page layout, magazine production, online content development, photography, video editing, promotional campaign design, and more! You will have the chance to collaborate on projects with the National Junior Swine Association, report on national shows, and brainstorm and develop new ideas for growing and promoting the NSR

Membership Governance

Due to the fact that NSR is a service based organization aimed at developing programs and opportunities for its membership, the governance structure that guides the maintenance and creation of such programs involves current members of each of the breed associations. The following sections outline the various avenues in which the NSR membership plays a role in the development of the organization.

Breed Board of Directors

A Board of Directors consisting of seven (7) members manages the affairs of each respective breed association. Two directors are elected from each of the three districts, with one director serving as an at-large representative. The boundaries of each district will be based on membership, recordings and geography and will be established by the NSR Executive Committee. District boundaries will be reviewed every three years thereafter, and after such review, the NSR Executive Committee shall revise the boundaries, as it deems appropriate. At no time shall more than three directors be elected in the same year. No more than two members of one state can serve on the board at one time. Directors shall serve a term of three years or until their successors are elected or are appointed. The members of the Board of Directors must be active members of their respective breed associations in good standing. No director shall serve a term of more than two consecutive three-year terms and must be off the board for three years before being reelected to the board. The breed board of directors will meet a minimum of one time per year, typically during the NSR annual meeting every March.

Nominations and Voting Procedures

The president and vice-president will select a nominating committee made up of the following: 1) the president of the respective breed organization; 2) The vice-president of the respective breed organization; and 3) one member appointed by the president and vice-president that represent each district that has a vacancy occurring that year.

Nomination and voting for Board of Directors will adhere to the following regulations:

1. The nominating committee must select nominees for the board in time for their names to be published in an official NSR publication prior to mailing of ballots. All eligible-voting members will vote for all candidates at-large.
2. There will be space provided on the official ballot for write-in candidates.
3. Ballots will be mailed to eligible active members.
4. In order to vote in the election, an active member must

have registered a litter during the fiscal year and must have paid their maintenance fee for the same period.

5. Ballots will be mailed first class from the NSR headquarters. Prior to each election, the NSR Executive Committee shall set a date for the mailing of ballots to members and a reasonable deadline for the return ballots. Only those ballots postmarked by the required date, and received at the NSR office, will be counted in the election.
6. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected as director.
7. Newly elected directors' term will take effect during the first annual meeting after the election when formally appointed by the current president of the breed board of directors while electing new officers for the upcoming year.

NSR Executive Committee

The NSR Executive Committee is comprised of 10 members, of which three (3) are appointed by the Breed Board of Directors for each of the Duroc, Hampshire, and Yorkshire breeds, and one (1) appointed by Landrace Breed Board of Directors. These representatives may or may not come from the current Breed Board of Directors, and will serve staggered three-year terms. The NSR Executive Committee will convene a minimum of three times per year, with one of those meetings occurring during the NSR Annual Membership Meeting.

Annual Membership Meeting

Typically held each March, the Annual Membership Meeting has been organized as an event to conduct Breed Board of Directors meetings, as well as the NSR Executive Committee. During each Breed Board of Directors meetings, current members not currently elected as members of the Board of Directors are welcome to attend and participate in agenda items. However, there may be instances where the Breed Board of Directors elect to conduct certain agenda items in "Executive Session" where only the current members of the board are allowed to participate in discussion. During the NSR Annual Membership meeting, one session is typically dedicated to providing an overview of the current fiscal standing of the organization as a whole, and provides an avenue for current NSR members to learn of the current efforts of each of the respective departments.

Bylaws

The activity of the Breed Board of Directors is governed by a set of Bylaws for each respective breed organization. A copy of each set of Bylaws, as well as the current Articles of Organization for NSR can be made available to current members of the organization by written request, but must be distributed by the current CEO, and may require approval from the NSR Executive Committee if the intent of the request is in question.

Membership Grievance Policy

The NSR shall administer the disciplinary process for each of the breed organizations, as to non-breed specific issues and as to such breed-specific issues as may be delegated to the NSR by the Breed Board of Directors. Complaints against members must be made in writing and signed by the complainant, and accompanied by a deposit of two hundred (\$200) dollars, which shall be forfeited if the NSR CEO or Executive Committee determines the complaint unjustified. If the complaint is determined to be justified, the deposit shall be returned to the Complainant. If any member or other person is charged, in writing, with misrepresentation as to the pedigree of any animal bred or owned by him, or with willful misrepresentation concerning any other fact concerning any animal owned or bred by him, or with any conduct detrimental to the National Swine Registry, the NSR CEO shall investigate such charge, and if he feels there is a valid basis for the charge, he shall have a complaint prepared setting for the alleged improper acts of said member of the National Swine Registry or other person. A copy of said complaint, together with non-

tice of the time and place of hearing on said charges, shall be served upon said member of the National Swine Registry or other person by certified or registered United States Mail, return receipt request, or personally by a person qualified to serve legal writs who shall make due return of said service. The hearing shall be held not less than (30), nor more than ninety (90) days after service of such notice. Said charges shall be heard by the members of the NSR Executive Committee then in office, at a special or regular meeting, with only those members who are not involved as witnesses at said hearing, participating. Said member of the National Swine Registry or other person may be represented by an attorney at said hearing and may present any evidence he may have bearing on the charges made against him and may cross-examine any witnesses against him. Procedure at said hearing shall be informal and neither party shall be bound by the normal rules of evidence. Said hearing may be recessed from time to time. After hearing all the evidence, the members of the NSR Executive Committee hearing said evidence shall meet in executive session, and make findings, and a decision in writing, a copy of which shall be furnished the person so charged. If they find, by a unanimous vote, that the charges (or some of them) are true, they may suspend the membership in the National Swine Registry of the party charged (if the one charged is a member of the National Swine Registry) for a definite period of time or place him on probation until he makes restitution to those wronged by his acts, or expel him from membership or impose such other penalties as they may determine, including without limitation a fine in an amount not exceeding \$1,000 and reimbursement to the NSR of the costs of proceedings not exceeding \$1,000. If the person charged is not a member of the National Swine Registry, they may deny him future membership in the National Swine Registry. If the charges concern misrepresentation of a pedigree or other false information concerning registration (or application for registration or application for transfer) of an animal, the offending member or other person may be denied future use of the programs and services offered by the National Swine Registry.

automatically receive a yearly subscription and member rates for registration and transfers. Their name and address will also be listed in the breeder directory and on the NSR Web site. An active senior member is entitled to participate in the election process of the Breed Board of Directors for their respective breed association. *NOTE: "First year" membership fees are \$85; \$10 for senior membership fee, and \$75 for first year's maintenance fee. After the first fiscal year, which runs Jan. 1-Dec. 31, a maintenance fee of \$75 per breed is all that is required. Additionally, to maintain active status, at least one litter must be recorded in the previous year.*

Maintaining Membership in Good Standing

Any member can lose their status as an active member if any of the following situations exist. The loss of active membership status (i.e. not in good standing) will be at the discretion of the CEO and/or the NSR Executive Committee.

1. The member account has an outstanding balance with the NSR for greater than 30 days.
2. Any NSR policies or procedures have not been followed by the Member (this includes policies pertaining to NSR shows and sales).
3. The member knowingly performs any act that compromises the integrity of any Certificate of Registry.
4. The member knowingly alters an animal's appearance to meet breed qualifications.
5. The member knowingly provides incorrect information pertaining to any registered animal (i.e. farrowing date, performance data, etc.).
6. The member performs harmful acts against the NSR, its staff, or any other member of the NSR.
7. The member knowingly performs any act that may potentially jeopardize the image of the NSR, its staff, other NSR members, or the purebred industry in general.

Membership in NSR

How to Become a Member

Senior Membership

Membership in the NSR is a privilege and is subject to the conditions and terms established by the NSR Executive Committee. You are encouraged to join the individual breed association, if you are interested in breeding purebred Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace or Yorkshire swine. A senior member must be at least 21 years of age and a resident of the United States (or a corporation incorporated under United States law) or a foreign partner of a domestic NSR member in good standing. The senior membership fee is \$10 per breed. This fee is paid only one time and should accompany the application for membership. When you apply for a senior membership, you should indicate clearly the name in which the membership is to be recorded. If registrations are to be recorded in the name of a farm or ranch, memberships should be in the name of the farm or ranch; if to be recorded in the name of a partnership, the membership should be in the name of the partnership and at least two officers of the a corporation must sign the application. At the time you apply for membership, you should select the herdmark of your choice. Senior member herdmarks are made up of two to four capital letters. If they are not already in use by another breeder, they will be assigned to you. Acceptance of senior membership is subject to approval of the NSR Executive Committee. Applications for membership can be obtained by calling the NSR office at 765.463.3594 or by returning the application located on the NSR website.

Active Status

To be an active senior member, an annual maintenance fee (annual dues) of \$75 per breed is due and payable on Jan. 1 for Durocs, Hampshires, Landrace and Yorkshires each year. As part of this \$75 annual maintenance fee, the member will

The Litter Registration Process

Ear Notching System

The Universal Ear Notching System must be used to identify purebred hogs. NSR requires that litter numbers start over at litter no. 1 every January 1. Please refer to www.nationalswine.com for further information on ear notching system.

Sire Requirements

See section on DNA for DNA banking requirements, stress policy and Hampshire color gene policy.

Test Mating Procedure

Landrace

The American Landrace Association (ALA), in order to ensure and preserve the purity of Landrace swine resulting from the artificial insemination of sows by a boar not owned by the owner of the sow at the time of breeding, requires that such boar be test mated successfully to at least two different sows of a breed of solid color (purebred Duroc, Hampshire or Duroc/Hampshire); that there be live pigs born from at least two litters, that there be at least eight live pigs born and that none of the pigs born in any of the litters have any solid color. "Solid color" means hair color other than white or roan. No test breeding to Spots, Pietrain, Pietrain cross or any white breed will be accepted. After the test matings, the affidavit obtained from the NSR must be filed with the ALA by the owner of the boar. No pigs will be registered

from a litter resulting from artificial insemination by a boar not owned by the owner of the sow on the date of breeding, if this affidavit is not on file with the ALA. The affidavit must be filled out completely, signed by the registered owner of the boar and returned to the NSR. All imported Landrace (boars, gilts and/or sows) must complete the appropriate test mating requirements and stress requirements set by the ALA Board of Directors.

Yorkshire

The American Yorkshire Club (AYC), in order to ensure and preserve the purity of Yorkshire swine resulting from the artificial insemination of sows by a boar not owned by the owner of the sow at the time of breeding, requires that such boar be test mated successfully to at least two different sows of a breed of solid color (purebred Duroc, Hampshire or Duroc/Hampshire); that there be live pigs born from at least two litters, that there be at least eight live pigs born and that none of the pigs born in any of the litters have any solid color. "Solid color" means hair color other than white or roan. No test breeding to Spots, Pietrain, Pietrain cross or any white breed will be accepted. After the test matings, the affidavit obtained from the NSR must be filed with the AYC by the owner of the boar. No pigs will be registered from a litter resulting from artificial insemination by a boar not owned by the owner of the sow on the date of breeding, if this affidavit is not on file with the AYC. The affidavit must be filled out completely, signed by the registered owner of the boar and returned to the NSR. All imported Yorkshire (boars, gilts and/or sows) must complete the appropriate test mating requirements and stress requirements set by the AYC Board of Directors.

Dead Boar Policy

NSR has updated policy on sire DNA requirements for recorded litters, effective Jan. 1, 2010. This change applies primarily to situations where a sire has died or was culled before DNA was collected, but also to instances where the DNA lab is unable to obtain a test result due to poor DNA quality. The following requirements must be met to satisfy the sire DNA requirement in instances where a quality sire DNA sample is not available:

1. A minimum of four pigs from the litter must be tested and subsequently banked. If there are less than five head in the litter, 100 percent of the litter must be tested. For litters recorded out of A.I. Hampshire boars, this requirement also includes the color testing requirement.
2. All financial obligations for meeting sire DNA requirements are the responsibility of the member/firm issuing the AI certificate. Also, remember all sires must be documented free of the stress gene by an approved DNA lab, and all DNA cards will automatically be sent to the lab for stress testing, unless stress results are submitted with the blotter card.

Any litter application with a sire that has not met the DNA requirements will result in a \$50 late fee charge to the current owner of the sire.

Submission of Litter Information for Registration

In order to register a litter of pigs, you must obtain an Application for Registration from the NSR or get a username and password from the NSR to use the online registration application at www.nationalswine.com.

Application for Registration

1. To complete the application you will need the owner's herdmark, owner's breeder number, ear notch and registration number of the sire and dam, litter ear notch, farrowing date, ear notches of boars, boar names (if desired), ear notches of gilts, gilt names (if desired), breeder name and address, number of total pigs born, and number born alive. Sow Productivity Information is determined by

completing the 21-day information, including the number weighed, litter weight, date weighed and parity.

2. No litter or animal in any herd shall be eligible to record unless each pig in the litter is distinctly ear notched at farrowing time for litter and individual pig identification by the Universal Ear Notching System, also known as the 1-3-9-27-81 system. Each litter is to be ear notched in consecutive order. The key to this litter-pig system is as follows: Notches in the right ear indicate the litter identification, while the notches in the left ear indicate the pig identification. In herds farrowing more than 161 litters a season, special permission may be granted upon request for the use of the inner and upper half of the left ear as an additional litter notch.
3. Effective July 1, 2012, the litter recording rates will be as follows:

CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY		
Active Members		
Less than 90 days	Over 90 days	Over 3 years
\$15	\$30	\$50
Non-Members		
Less than 90 days	Over 90 days	Over 3 years
\$30	\$60	\$100
PERFORMANCE PEDIGREES		
ABG Members		
Less than 90 days	Over 90 days	Over 3 years
\$16	\$32	\$50

Certificate of Registry, with no STAGES™ genetic evaluation results b Similar format to Certificate of Registry, with inclusion of STAGES genetic evaluation results. Only available to ABG members which demonstrate whole-herd reporting procedures and have the ability to implement the required components of employing a BLUP genetic evaluation procedure.

AI Certificates

For litters that are sired by a boar not owned by the dam of the litter being recorded (typically housed at a boar stud), an AI certificate must be on-file with the NSR before the litter can be recorded. The AI certificate must be uploaded in the on-line system by the owner of the boar prior to the litter being recorded.

Pedigree Cancellation

In instances where registration requirements are found to not be met for reasons of stress status, parentage, or abnormal color patterns (including the Hampshire color DNA test, or failed color test matings) identified at the time of registration or thereafter, the pedigree on the animal will be canceled. In instances of incorrect parentage, the pedigrees on the entire litter will be canceled unless DNA evidence can prove correct parentage on littermates. Pedigrees on all progeny will also be canceled.

Pedigree Transfer Process

Options for Animal Transfer

The NSR holds the certificate of registration as an integral part of every purebred transaction. In every change of ownership of a registered animal, the seller shall, at his own expense, furnish to the buyer a certificate of registration from the NSR showing transfer of ownership to the buyer. To transfer a registered animal, you must obtain a transfer form from the

NSR and complete this form, or complete the required information on the back of the animal's pedigree, and mail it to the NSR. Transfer by e-mail is permitted, provided that all required information is contained in the email. Animals transferred within 60 days of the date of sale are \$2.00. Transfers more than 60 days from the date of sale are \$5.00. As of January 1, 2012 there will no longer be any free transfers.

Breeding Certificates

In cases where a litter is sired by a boar via a natural service mating, and the owner of the sow does not own the boar, a breeding certificate is required to register the litter. This form, which can be downloaded from the NSR website must be completed and accompany the application for litter registration. Also in instances where a bred gilt is sold that was bred by natural service, a breeding certificate is also required for registration of the subsequent litter by the new owner of the sow. This information can also be completed on the back of the pedigree when the seller transfers ownership of the female.

Policy Regarding NSR Authorization of Change of Ownership

The CEO, Vice President of Global Technical Service, and the Vice President of Member Outreach and Youth Development shall be a Committee with authority to authorize change of ownership, and issue registration of pedigrees for swine where signatures or other information are for any reason unobtainable. If the decision of the Committee is unanimous it shall be final. If the Committee is not unanimous in the matter in question, it has no power to authorize the registration and/or change of ownership of any animal unless the information submitted complies in all particulars with the rules of eligibility.

STAGES™ Genetic Evaluation Procedure

Swine Testing and Genetic Evaluation System (STAGES™) is an internationally recognized genetic platform used to service the genetic programs of NSR's commercial oriented members. The database is formatted to accept performance data in 3 distinct categories: maternal (reproductive), post-weaning (performance or off-test), and meat quality. STAGES™ is used to calculate the estimated breeding values (EBVs) for all animals with the phenotypic data and their relatives. The EBVs is the measure of the value of an animal as a parent and takes into account a number of phenotypic factors such as season, contemporary group, farm, etc. and provides EBVs that are adjusted for these influences and thus able to be compared across farm, this is known as a national genetic evaluation.

Data Submission

Data can be submitted in multiple formats: NSR performance data forms, online, email, or via a web-based database upload.

Maternal Evaluation

Includes the traits utilized in the calculation of the Sow Productivity Index (number born alive, number weaned and litter weaning weight), in addition litter birth weight and wean-to-estrus are also included in the genetic analysis.

Off-test Evaluation

Includes data collect during the performance testing procedure and includes off-test weight and real-time ultrasound backfat and loin eye area. All of these are adjusted to a common weight of 250 lbs.

Meat Quality Evaluation

Includes data collected on a carcass 24 hours post harvest; these traits are Minolta L* (objective measure of color), visual marbling score, and ultimate pH.

BLUP Procedure

Is used to calculate estimated breeding values (EBVs) are the genetic value of an animal as a parent for a given trait. These are expressed as a deviation from the mean of the base group of animals. EBVs are based on direct measures of an animal's performance, along with measures of the performance of an animal's relatives, including ancestors, siblings and progeny. These are adjusted for the differing amount of information available for each animal (number of records, number of progeny and the structure of the contemporary groups they are in, number of relative records, heritability of each trait, etc.) Best Linear Unbiased Prediction (BLUP) genetic evaluation procedures are utilized to evaluate the information on each animal and the results are reported as EBVs. This allows for the direct comparison of all animals evaluated and ranks the animals according to their genetic merit as parents, thus identifying genetically superior seedstock. In the past, NSR has reported and still today reports in many cases the expected progeny differences (EPDs) for animals. An EPD is simply ½ of an EBV – EPDs are often used, as a parent only contributes ½ of the genetics to an offspring. Therefore, the EPDs are easy to compare the expected average differences for a parent's progeny.

Introduction to Genetic Analyses

Currently, there are 4 separate genetic analyses that are run individually for each of the 4 breeds. Variances component estimated was conducted individually for each breed, the results of these analyses are utilized in the nightly run. The traits included in the genetic analysis are: Number Born Alive, Litter Birth Weight, Number Weaned, Litter Weaning Weight, Wean-to-Estrus Interval, Days to 250 lbs, Loin Eye Area, Backfat Depth, Lbs of Lean, Feed Efficiency, Minolta L*, Marbling Score, and 24-hour pH.

Base Year Adjustment

To ensure animals are able to be compared across generations and to allow the user to have a generally defined mean, range and variation in the EBV for a trait or even an index, a base year adjustment is used. For STAGES™ two different forms of base year adjustments are used:

- Maternal: each nightly run calculates the average of all animals born +/- 6 months for exactly 4 years to that nightly run for each trait. This average is then set to zero and its value is subtracted from all animals not born that year.
- Terminal: each nightly run calculates the average of all animals born +/- 6 months for exactly 3 years to that nightly run for each trait. This average is then set to zero and its value is subtracted from all animals not born that year.

Selection Indexes

Bio-economic indexes are also developed by combining EBVs with specific goals in mind. The combination of these traits is based on their relative economic importance and allows for a balanced genetic selection program. Even more important, different traits can be combined to create a variety of traits that are important to different aspects of a swine production system.

- For example, the STAGES™ system calculates 3 different bio-economic indexes Sow Productivity Index (SPI), Maternal Line Index (MLI) and Terminal Sire Index (TSI). The SPI evaluates only the maternal performance of an animal while a MLI allows for combined emphasis on reproductive and postweaning traits, which is more useful for a completely balance production focus. The TSI on the other hand enables complete focus on a terminal program and the traits of leanness, growth and muscle into an index directed at improving lean growth efficiency in a commer-

cially oriented terminal sire. NSR members, as well as their customers, can make the fastest genetic improvement by utilizing the available EBVs and more importantly the bio-economic indexes in making their selection decisions.

Reporting of Genetic Evaluation Results

In an attempt to provide the users of STAGES™ with usable data quickly, several formats outlets have been created.

Contemporary Group Reports

Whenever litters are recorded or performance data is submitted, contemporary group reports are created and emailed to the user.

- Post-weaning performance data
 - » Sire Summary – summarizes the average adjusted data, EPDs, and indexes of all the sires of the animals with performance data submitted for that particular contemporary group.
 - » Contemporary Group Report – summarizes the adjusted data, EPDs, and indexes for all animals with performance data submitted within that particular contemporary group.

Online Query and Reporting System

This application allows for the creation of individualize reports for more than 120 different IDs, pedigree information, phenotypic performance values, and genetic traits.

Online Trait Leader Lists

Provide a ranking of the current leaders for all traits included in the genetic evaluation and the 3 indexes (SPI, MLI, and TSI). These rankings are breed specific and include a classification of proven or unproven. This information can be accessed at www.nationalswine.com

- Maternal traits and SPI:
 - » Proven sire: > 20 daughters records
 - » Unproven sire: < 20 daughter records and < 36 months of age
- Terminal traits and TSI:
 - » Proven sire: > 50 progeny with performance information
 - » Unproven sire: < 50 progeny with performance information and < 24 months of age
- MLI:
 - » Proven sire: > 20 daughter records and > 20 progeny with performance test information
 - » Unproven sire: < 20 daughter records or < 20 progeny records and < 36 months of age
- Genetic Advisory Committee. The Genetic Advisory Committee (GAC) was put in place in 1994 to serve in an advisory to the Genetics & Technology Department at NSR. The committee is comprised of the leading applied swine geneticists at universities throughout the country. The main focus has been in development and oversight of the Swine Testing and Genetic Evaluation System. Additionally, throughout the years the GAC has served as periodic genetic consultants to the commercially oriented NSR membership. Currently, the GAC consists of:
 - » Dr. Maynard Hogberg (Chair) – Iowa State University
 - » Dr. Allan Schinckel – Purdue University
 - » Dr. John Mabry – Iowa State University
 - » Dr. Ken Stalder – Iowa State University
 - » Dr. Ron Bates – Michigan State University
 - » Dr. Todd See – North Carolina State University

DNA Testing Procedures

The NSR is pleased to be associated with GeneSeek Inc. of Lincoln, Neb., our exclusive DNA testing facility for DNA genotyping, RN typing and Color Gene typing. This opportunity will aid our members in genetic selection, as well as maintaining the purity of our breeds. GeneSeek, Inc. is a molecular biology service provider specializing in DNA sequencing and genotyping. Below, you will find further information of the DNA procedures. *Any fees from the lab associated with a rush order will be passed on to the owner of the animal.

For all DNA questions, please contact:

Whitney Hosier
765.463.3594
whitney@nationalswine.com

General Requirements

DNA Banking

- All purebred Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace, and Yorkshire boars that are used to sire litters after January 1, 2002 are required to have DNA samples on file at NSR.
- Effective July 1, 2004 all purebred Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace, and Yorkshire sires must have a negative stress test result on file with NSR (DNA test) before litters can be registered.
- Additionally, crossbred boars exhibited at an NSR show, must have a stress test on file (stress negative status is not required).

Stress test can be completed at one of two approved labs:

- GeneSeek, Lincoln, NE (Contact NSR for testing forms)
- GenAnalysis, Lakeside, OH (Contact GenAnalysis directly: 1.888.300.4363)

Approved DNA Sample & Collection Devices

Accepted blotter cards available for purchase from NSR for \$4.

If blood, ideal collection method, cannot be collected:

- Semen samples (use DNA card purchased from NSR):
 - » Only fresh or "thawed" frozen semen can be used
 - » Caution must be taken to avoid cross contamination between animals
 - » Place a drop of semen in the center of EACH circle on the card.
 - » Allow the card to dry completely before sending to NSR
- Hair samples
 - » A "hair" collection card MUST be purchased from NSR – notify NSR staff when ordering DNA collection materials, a specific DNA hair card is required
 - » Minimum of 20 pieces of hair are required for DNA sample to be deemed an acceptable DNA submission – hair samples MUST include the follicle.
- Allflex DNA tissue vile (see Figure 3 below)
 - » Current method used parentage verification for Breed Champions and Reserve Champions at NJSA shows
 - » Must send in two samples – one for DNA testing and one for DNA banking
 - » Contact Allflex representative to order
- Tego Blood Collection Kits and Blotter Cards
 - » Must send in two samples – one for DNA

testing and one for DNA banking

- » Contact ITL Animal Healthcare to order
Phone: 1-888-411- 2851
Email: sales@itlanimalhealthcare.com
Website: www.itlanimalhealthcare.com

DNA Collection Process

- Visit www.nationalswine.com for instructions.

Submission and Testing Procedure

DNA blotter cards (\$4 per card) and DNA Testing Forms must be requested from the NSR. To create an extensive database of DNA material, NSR requires the use of DNA collection devices (described below) that enable for the storage of DNA on all sires for future research needs. As a result, a \$6 “banking fee” is charged to cover the costs associated with the storage – all purebred sires are required to have DNA banked with NSR.

Please mail DNA samples to:

National Swine Registry
Attn: Whitney Hosier
2639 Yeager Road
West Lafayette, IN 47906

- Results will be returned to the breeder via mail correspondence. Depending on the test results of interest, results may take up to 60 days after receipt of the sample(s) at GeneSeek.
- All results are reported only from the NSR office. Billing for the tests will be included with your monthly statement, and will be payable to NSR. Do not contact GeneSeek for results.
- DNA testing can be coordinated by NSR member through an accredited lab other than GeneSeek; however, the original tested sample and results MUST be forwarded from the lab to NSR.
 - » *Results of stress tests completed at other labs will NOT meet the purebred sire requirements for litter recording, without the original tested sample being submitted to NSR.*

Parentage Testing Procedure

DNA banking is required for all parentage testing cases. If a breeder requests a parentage test, a charge of \$15 will be assessed for parentage test.

- Breed Champions and Reserve Breed Champions at all NJSA sanctioned shows will be required to pass a parentage verification test. Below, is the process for parentage verification:

DNA Collection at the Show:

- The required information on all DNA cards and verification forms of tested animals will be completed by NSR staff prior to collection of the sample – information will be made available to NSR staff performing DNA collection, prior to actual collection.
- DNA collection process (each tested animal):
 - » Exhibitor or legal guardian must be present.
 - » Exhibitor or legal guardian must sign verification form after DNA has been collected.
- DNA samples and verification forms will be returned to Whitney Hosier to coordinate testing process.
 - » Initial Parentage Test – SNP panel:
 - » < 2 exclusions = pass
 - » 2 exclusions = re-test on microsatellite panel
 - » > 2 exclusions = fail; see breeder options below in section vi.

Secondary Parentage Test (if needed) – microsatellite panel

- <=1 exclusion = pass

- >1 exclusion = fail, no re-test

Breeder Options, if Parentage is Failed (at breeder's expense):

1. If 'fail' result on SNP panel is determined, the breeder has the option to ask for re-test on the Microsatellite panel.
2. If a final 'fail' result is determined, the breeder is provided opportunity to rectify the parentage.
3. Only ONE opportunity is provided to rectify the parentage issue; once this opportunity is used, initial test results stand, and no further options to rectify results are available.
4. Breeder must provide a list of sires (no more than 10) with DNA samples on NSR blotter cards to re-test.
5. The re-testing procedure must be completed all at once (a single GeneSeek order) and must be submitted within 30 days of the initial parentage result.
6. This process follows the same steps detailed in sections iv and v.
7. If breeder opts to not attempt to rectify the parentage, then a final 'Fail' result is determined.

NSR Actions and Reporting of Final Parentage Test Results

(After the previous sections have been fully completed)

Initial Pass Result:

- DNA Coordinator will notify Junior Dept. personnel of results.
- Junior Department personnel will notify the exhibitor and mail corresponding awards/premiums.

Initial Fail Result:

- DNA Coordinator will notify Junior Department personnel of results.

Junior Department personnel will:

- Notify the breeder of the available breeder options (see Breeder Options section vi.)
- Then, notify the exhibitor of the current status of the process.

Parentage test rectified by breeder

- DNA Coordinator will notify Junior Department personnel of results.
- Junior Department personnel will notify the exhibitor and mail corresponding awards/premiums.

Final Fail Result:

- DNA Coordinator will notify Junior Department personnel of results.
 - » Junior Department personnel will:
 - » Notify the breeder of NSR policy for failed parentage results outlined above in section iv.,
 - » Then, notify the exhibitor of the current status of the process.
- DNA Coordinator will make appropriate changes in pedigree system and notify all current owners of each animal in the litter.

NSR Policy Regarding Failed Parentage Tests

- The exhibitor of the animal will keep all awards and premiums.
- Pedigree will be *canceled* for all pigs in the litter
- A litter will be drafted to notify the owner of the canceled pedigree

Breeder/seller* of gilts that fail parentage tests will

- Pay all awarded premiums to the NSR. The NSR will then pay the exhibitor.
- Refund the purchase price of the animal to the exhibitor.

- Pay the commission to the NSR if the animal(s) sells through an NSR event.
- Pay for any additional DNA tests outside of the original DNA test completed by the NSR.
- If requirements v.1-v.2 are not met, breeder of the animal with failed DNA will not be considered in good standing, and not be allowed to record litters or participate in NSR events

Breeder/seller* of barrows that fail parentage tests will:

- Pay all awarded premiums to the NSR. The NSR will then pay the exhibitor.
- Pay for any additional DNA tests outside of the original DNA test completed by the NSR.
- If requirements viii.1 & viii.3 are not met, breeder of the animal with failed DNA will not be considered in good standing, and not be allowed to record litters or participate in NSR events
- If the exhibitor is also the breeder of the animal (as listed on the original pedigree) that fails parentage tests, all awards and premiums will be revoked.
 - » Exhibitor has 30 days to return awards to the NSR office or will not be considered a member in good standing with the NSR and will be unable to register any litters or participate in any events.
 - » In the event that the breeder/exhibitor has been awarded a trailer, it must be returned to the dealer and any expenses required to prepare, transport, remove lettering, and/or return to the dealership are the responsibility of the breeder/exhibitor.

**The term 'breeder/seller' may also refer to a boar stud, exhibitor, or an interim owner. The person/firm at fault for the incorrect parentage will be assumed to be the breeder listed on the original pedigree unless proven otherwise by NSR via relevant DNA testing procedures. If the incorrect parentage is proven to be caused by an entity other than the breeder listed on the original pedigree, all policies will be applied to that entity.*

Additional DNA Tests & Associated Costs:

Typing of RN Mutation (Napole gene)

This gene is found predominately in the Hampshire breed.

- HSR has purchased the license to reduce member's costs of this test. Only registered Hampshires that submit a registration number and ear notch are eligible to use this test.
 - » \$25 per sample.

Typing of the HAL 1843 Mutation (stress gene)

- GeneSeek is providing this test as a convenience to our members.
- All purebred A.I. sires must have a stress status on file at the NSR. This test result must be submitted from any certified lab.
- Once NSR receives DNA sample, please allow 14 days for results
 - » \$25 per sample

Color Gene Test for Hampshires

This DNA test replaces the physical test mating procedure and will be the only color test accepted on Hampshire A.I. sires after Oct. 1, 2002. Only registered Hampshires that submit a registration number and ear notch are eligible to use this test.

- HSR has purchased the license to reduce member's costs of this test.
 - » \$80 per sample.

Seek-Gain: Total Gain

This is a group of porcine performance trait DNA marker tests utilizing information from eight unique genes that impact: Litter Size, Feed Intake/conversion, Weight Gain, Lean

Growth, Fat Content, Meat Quality.

- Gene Markers Tested: MC4R, HMGA, CCKAR, PRK-AG3, CAST 249, CAST 638, ER, and EPOR
 - » \$35 per sample.

Seek Gain: Litter Size

This is a group of porcine performance trait DNA marker tests utilizing information from two unique genes that impact litter size: reproduction rates, uterine capacity.

- Gene Markers Tested: ER, EPOR.
 - » \$12 per sample.

Seek-Gain: Animal Growth & Meat Quality

This is a group of porcine performance trait DNA marker tests utilizing information from six unique genes that impact animal growth: feed intake/conversion, lean growth, meat quality, weight gain, fat content.

- Gene Markers Tested: MC4R, HMGA, CCKAR, PRK-AG3, CAST 249, and CAST 638
 - » \$25 per sample.

Seek-Gain: Animal Growth

This is a group of porcine performance trait DNA marker tests utilizing information from three unique genes that impact animal growth: feed intake/conversion, lean growth, weight gain, fat content.

- Gene Markers Tested: MC4R, HMGA, and CCKAR
 - » \$16 per sample.

Seek-Gain: Meat Quality

This is a group of porcine trait DNA marker tests utilizing information from four unique genes that impact meat quality: tenderness, juiciness, glycogen level, pH, color.

- Gene Markers Tested: PRKAG3, CAST 249, and CAST 638.
 - » \$16 per sample.

Parentage Verification

- Blood banking is required for parentage verification. Contact the NSR for correct procedures.
 - » \$15 per sample

National Junior Swine Association

Refer to the NJSA Handbook for a complete overview of NJSA programs, events and policies.

Field Service

The National Swine Registry employees three field staff members. These staff members represent NSR at activities throughout the United States. These events include breeding animal shows and sales, junior shows and other swine industry activities. The regions can be viewed on www.nationalswine.com.

- **Eastern Region:** Blaine Evans is responsible for the eastern part of United States. He can be contacted via phone: 765.490.3731 or email: blaine@nationalswine.com.
- **Upper Midwest & Northwest Region:** Michael Lackey is responsible for the upper portion of the Midwest and Northwestern states. He can be contacted via phone: 765.427.3733 or email: michael@nationalswine.com.
- **Southwestern & Western Region:** Brian Anderson is responsible for the Southwestern and Western states. He can be contacted via phone: 620.515.3348

or email: brian@nationalswine.com.

Shows and Sales

NSR manages five national type conferences and co-sponsors one event. For specific dates and times visit www.nationalswine.com.

Winter Type Conference

- Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agri-Center, Perry, Ga.

Southwest Type Conference

- Bell County Exposition Center, Belton, Texas

World Pork Expo

- Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, Iowa

Summer Type Conference

- Kentucky Expo Center, Louisville, Ken.

National Barrow Show®

- Mower County Fairgrounds, Austin, Minn.

NSR Fall Classic

- Stephens County Fairgrounds & Expo Center, Duncan, Okla.

NSR Weanling Pig Extravaganza

- Wayne County Fairgrounds, Richmond, Ind.

Sale Management & Auction Procedure

- Entry fees for all entries must accompany the entry form and all late entries will be charged double the regular entry fees.
- The NSR reserves the right to close entries any time after the printed entry deadline.
- All entry fees are non-refundable.
- All hogs entered at the event must be owned by the exhibitor at least 60 days before the event.
- All entries must be ear notched using the official NSR system (Starting with litter No. 1 in January)
- All exhibitors must be active junior or senior NSR members.
- No entry or substitute entry will be allowed to show or sell without a registration certificate.
- Entries will be divided into classes by farrowing date.
- No clipping is allowed in the barns.

Exhibitors & Eligibility

Please refer to each individual show's rules and regulations for up-to-date information on exhibitors and eligibility.

DNA Stress Statement

- No known stress positive or stress-carrier Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace or Yorkshire animals will be allowed to be exhibited or sold at any NSR-sponsored event.
 - » Such warranty is, however, solely that of the seller and not that of the American Landrace Association, American Yorkshire Club, Hampshire Swine Registry or United Duroc Swine Registry.
 - » The American Landrace Association, American York-

shire Club, Hampshire Swine Registry and United Duroc Swine Registry assume no responsibility or liability in connection with such warranty by the seller.

- » If any animal sold at this conference is found to be a carrier of the stress gene, the purchaser has the right to receive full refund of the purchase price from the seller.
- » DNA testing for the stress gene must be done within 60 days of the sale date and all costs associated with the testing for the stress gene must be paid by the purchaser.
- » The seller has the right to review the test results and the right to re-test the animal at a laboratory of his choice.
- » Cost associated with re-test by the seller is at the seller's expense. There will be no refund of NSR commission from stress-carrier animals (Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace and Yorkshire).

Crossbred Boar Stress Test Requirement

Stress status of an entry will be placed in the show and sale catalog (this is a show and sale requirement). A documented stress test must be presented at check in.

Code of Fair Practices

Buyers breeding animals (boars and gilts) buy them to be breeders. Many factors may affect an animal's breeding capabilities. Many of these are not visible at the time of purchase. Some problems may be the result of management before the sale. Some the result of handling and management by the buyer after the purchase. Some may be hereditary. Because of this, adjustments need to be a sharing of responsibilities.

All adjustments are a matter between buyer and seller.

The National Association of Swine Records or individual registries assume no responsibilities for enforcement of these recommendations.

Standard Warranty

All breeding swine over 5 months of age (not used for breeding under 7 months of age) sold as breeding animals for breeding purposes, are sold with a warranty that they are capable of and will breed. If, and when, any said animal does prove to be a non-breeder, the seller shall make an adjustment to the satisfaction of the buyer, provided the buyer informs the seller of the situation within 90 days after purchase. In all purebred transactions, the registration certificate is an integral part of the transaction and shall be delivered to the buyer, properly transferred on the association records, at the expense of the seller. (These are only suggestions considered as generally acceptable within the industry. Other adjustments may be made if satisfactory to both the buyer and seller.)

Factors Affecting Semen Quality & Semen Output

It is important to note that there is variation in the age at which boars reach puberty and when they mature and reach their maximum semen output. The following factors may affect semen quality and semen output.

Age at puberty is influenced by:

- Individual boar
- Genotype
- Litter birth number
- Season of birth
- Nutrition

Sperm output and semen quality is influenced by:

- Age
- Genotype
- Nutrition/feed additives

- Stress (i.e. heat, illness, transport, vaccines, other injections, etc.) or any management practice resulting in a reduction in feed intake.
- Testes size
- Collection frequency
- Testicular trauma

Boars failing to serve or settle sows

1. Refund the difference between purchase price and market value as shown by sales receipt, if the boar is sold on the market.
2. Make a replacement of another boar satisfactory to the buyers.
3. Give the buyer credit (amount to be agreed on by both buyer and seller) on the purchase of another animal or animals.

Gilts sold as open

If proven to be bred:

1. Refund of purchase price upon return to the seller.
2. Refund difference, if any, between price paid for gilt and value of a commercial bred sow.

If proven to be a non-breeder:

1. Make a replacement of another gilt satisfactory to the buyer.
2. Refund difference between purchase price and market value of gilt as shown by a sales receipt, if gilt is sold at market.
3. Give buyer credit (amount to be agreed upon by both the buyer and seller) on the purchase of another gilt in the future.

Bred Sows

Are expected to be bred to a designated boar on date of service. When proven otherwise:

1. Replace the sow with another sow satisfactory to the buyer.
2. Refund the difference between the purchase price and market value of the sow as shown by a sales receipt, if the sow is sold at market.
3. If the buyer desires to keep the sow, refund one-half the difference between purchase price and market value of the sow at the time of the purchase.

NSR Guidelines for boars sold for A.I. collection

These are only recommendations and the relationship between the buyer and the seller is the most important part of the whole process.

1. If a boar is determined to have a physical defect (including but not limited to an adhered or tied penis (patent frenulum), limp penis, infantile penis, and coiling of the penis in the diverticulum), which would hinder proper delivery of semen, a full refund would be due the buyer. The boar must extend his penis without physical manipulation excluding the expression of the sheath fluid.
2. If semen quality of a boar is not up to the suggested performance standards listed below; the seller will be notified of the problem within 60 days of purchase and/or 60 days after the animal reaches 7 months of age, and the semen will be monitored up to 90 days following the date of notification. The seller may have 60 days out of the 90-day period to prove the animal reproductively sound.
3. Using a third party reproductive specialist as a consultant may be needed. This reproductive specialist would be agreed upon by the buyer and the seller. All costs involved with the use of the reproductive specialist would be divided equally between the buyer and the seller.
4. If the boar does not satisfactorily meet the suggested performance standards listed below in No. 1 (A or B) and No. 2; the seller would refund 100 percent of the purchase price less the dollar value of the semen that has been sold, or an agreed upon settlement with the buyer.

5. Following are exceptions:
 - A. Injury or disease occurring to the boar following the time of sale.
 - B. Gross negligence or willful misconduct by the purchaser.
 - C. Boars shown competitively after sale.
6. Any guarantees regarding freezability of semen will be made by separate agreement between buyer and seller.
7. If seller retains any genetic material of the boar being sold that can be used for artificial insemination or cloning, the seller must disclose such fact to buyers prior to sale.

Suggested Performance Standards

Since considerable variation may exist among semen evaluation protocols a third party consultant may be needed.

1. (A) Produce 30-40 billion sperm cells (total) per week by 8 months of age when collected twice per week.
(B) Produce 50-60 billion sperm cells (total) per week by 11 months of age when collected twice per week.
2. The ejaculate should contain at least 75% morphologically normal sperm cells and at least 70% motile cells.

Disclaimer of Warranties

Except as specifically stated in these provisions, the NSR, a partnership of the American Yorkshire Club, Hampshire Swine Registry, American Landrace Association and United Duroc Swine Registry make no warranties, either express or implied, regarding any animal consigned for sale. The aforementioned participating breed associations do not make, and hereby expressly disclaim, any warranty, whether express or implied for merchantability or of fitness for any purpose. The descriptions and other information contained in the sale catalog, to be distributed the day of the sale, regarding individual animals has been supplied by the individual consignors, and the participating breed associations neither warrant, nor assume, any liability for the accuracy or completeness of such information.

Breed Classification Requirements

Duroc

- **Barrows**
 - » Must be red in color and possess Duroc breed character. (Ears must be down and medium in size.)
 - » Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
 - » Must NOT have any white hair located on the animal.
 - » Must NOT have any black hair located on the animal.
 - » Must NOT have more than three black spots on the skin, and none of these spots can be larger than 2 inches in diameter.
 - » Must NOT have any shading or indication of a belt.
 - » Must have no evidence of an extra dew claw.
 - » Must be stress negative.
- **Boars and Gilts**
 - » Must meet the above requirements, and they must have at least six functional udder sections on each side of the underline. New policy as of January 1, 2012, a boar must not have a physical defect (including but not limited to

an adhered or tied penis, limp penis, infantile penis, and coiling of the penis in the diverticulum), which would hinder proper delivery of semen and the boar must extend his penis without physical manipulation excluding the expression of the sheath fluid; f a boar cannot meet the above requirements, his pedigree will be canceled.

at least six functional udder sections on each side of the underline. New policy as of January 1, 2012, a boar must not have a physical defect (including but not limited to an adhered or tied penis, limp penis, infantile penis, and coiling of the penis in the diverticulum), which would hinder proper delivery of semen and the boar must extend his penis without physical manipulation excluding the expression of the sheath fluid; f a boar cannot meet the above requirements, his pedigree will be canceled.

Hampshire

- **Barrows**

- » Must be black in color with a white belt starting on a front leg. (Animal is eligible if the head is black and the body is totally white.)
- » Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- » Must possess Hampshire breed character.
- » Must NOT have any red hair.
- » Must have no evidence of an extra dew claw.
- » Must be stress negative.

- **Boars and Gilts**

- » Must meet the above requirements (except color markings), along with the following to be eligible to show in a breeding animal class.
- » Black in color with a white belt totally encircling the body, including both front legs and feet. Animal can have white on its nose as long as the white does not break the rim of the nose, and when its mouth is closed, the white under the chin can NOT exceed what a U.S. minted quarter will cover. White is allowed on the rear legs as long as it does NOT extend above the tuber calis bone (knob of the hock).
- » Must have at least six functional udder sections on each side of the underline.
- » For animals farrowed on or after Jan. 1, 2005, the swirl is no longer a disqualification for registration.

- Hampshire swine classified as off-belts may be used for breeding purposes, with offspring eligible for registration with the NSR. Off-belts will continue to be eligible to be shown in market hog classes, but will not be eligible for exhibition in breeding swine shows. This policy is retroactive and will allow litters to be registered that were not eligible previously, due to the Hampshire Swine Registry off-belt requirements. New policy as of January 1, 2012, a boar must not have a physical defect (including but not limited to an adhered or tied penis, limp penis, infantile penis, and coiling of the penis in the diverticulum), which would hinder proper delivery of semen and the boar must extend his penis without physical manipulation excluding the expression of the sheath fluid; f a boar cannot meet the above requirements, his pedigree will be canceled.

Landrace

- **Barrows**

- » Must be white in color and possess Landrace breed character (ears must be down).
- » Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- » Must NOT allow any color hair other than white.
- » Must NOT allow more than three spots of skin pigmentation.
- » Must NOT allow any spot of skin pigmentation larger than one U.S. minted quarter.
- » Must have no evidence of an extra dew claw.
- » Must be stress negative.

- **Boars and Gilts**

- » Must meet the above requirements and they must have

Yorkshire

- **Barrows**

- » Must be white in color and possess Yorkshire breed character (ears must be erect).
- » Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- » Must NOT have any color hair except for white.
- » Must NOT have more than two pigmentation spots larger than a U.S. minted dime, one pigmentation spot larger than a U.S. minted quarter. These spots (combined) can NOT exceed a U.S. minted silver dollar.
- » Must have no evidence of an extra dew claw.
- » Must be stress negative.

- **Boars and Gilts**

- » Must meet the above requirements, and they must have at least six functional udder sections on each side of the underline. New policy as of January 1, 2012, a boar must not have a physical defect (including but not limited to an adhered or tied penis, limp penis, infantile penis, and coiling of the penis in the diverticulum), which would hinder proper delivery of semen and the boar must extend his penis without physical manipulation excluding the expression of the sheath fluid; if a boar cannot meet the above requirements, his pedigree will be canceled.

General Health Guidelines

Please refer to each individual show's rules and regulations for up-to-date information on general health guidelines.

IAFE

(International Associations of Fairs and Expositions) Code of Show Ring Ethics Adopted by the National Swine Registry and National Junior Swine Association.

- Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics," fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial and national levels.
- » All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than

avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events

- All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership, and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
- Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
- Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
- Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative drug residues. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of, consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing.
 - » Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.
 - » If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the laboratory, to which it is sent, is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise. At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.
- Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.
- The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.
- Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.
- No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics.
 - » Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.
- The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.
- The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including Fairs and Expos and any special notices to members.
- The act of entering of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

To be included on NSR entry forms

Exhibitor Entry Statement

I have read and understand, and in consideration for being permitted to exhibit at this event, agree and consent to abide by the rules of competition set by NSR/NJSA, including the IAFE (International Association of Fairs and Expositions) National Code of Show Ring Ethics as stated in the premium list of this event.

Support of Non-NSR Sponsored Events

- The National Swine Registry offers added premiums for the overall Grand Champion Market Hog and/or the Reserve Grand Champion Market Hog at state fairs and state specific shows.
- These market hogs must be registered Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace or Yorkshire animals and must meet the DNA testing requirements set by the National Swine

- Registry to be eligible for the added premiums.
- The pedigrees of these animals must show the junior exhibitor as the owner of the animal by the required date of ownership set by the respective show.
- All premiums are paid directly to the exhibitor by the National Swine Registry after all qualifications are met.
- If an animal fails any of the tests required by the show or the National Swine Registry, they are not eligible for the added premiums.

- June (Youth Issue)
- July
- August (Boar Stud Issue)
- September (Fall Showpig Issue)
- October/November
- December (Female Focus Issue)

For specific mailing dates and information on advertising, please visit the *Seedstock EDGE* section of www.nationalswine.com.

Marketing & Membership Communication Programs

The Marketing & Communications Department of NSR enhances the value, influence and image of purebred Duroc, Hampshire, Yorkshire and Landrace breeds while providing mediums for NSR members and industry leaders to promote their product.

Seedstock EDGE

Seedstock EDGE is the official publication of the National Swine Registry. Published nine times a year, reaches an average audience of 4,000 producers and is the primary communication between NSR and its members. It also serves as a premier tool for breeders to promote their business and their purebred swine and elite genetics.

- The staff writers cover many topics important to the future of the purebred swine industry, such as:
 - » Animal welfare
 - » Biosecurity
 - » Breeder profiles
 - » Business strategy/financial performance
 - » Commercial swine industry topics
 - » Human resources
 - » Industry history
 - » International trade and policy issues
 - » Youth events
- Special issues of *Seedstock EDGE* include: March and September Showpig issues, the April/May International issue, the June Youth issue, the August Boar Stud issue, and the December Female Focus issue. The June Youth issue reaches an average audience of 11,000, with distribution to all members of NJSA in addition to the regular NSR mailing list. The March and September Showpig issues also have a larger distribution, reaching more than 7,500 FFA chapters across the nation.
- Active senior members receive *Seedstock EDGE* as part of their yearly maintenance fee. Subscriptions are available at \$25/year or \$60/3 years. First class and foreign subscriptions are also available. To subscribe, contact the NSR Office at 765.463.3594.

Seedstock EDGE Print Schedule

Seedstock EDGE is printed nine times a year.

- January/February
- March (Spring Showpig Issue)
- April/May (International Issue)

GeneLink

A NSR publication produced once a year, focusing on the utilization of purebred genetics in the commercial swine industry. GeneLink is distributed to nearly 20,000 swine industry enthusiasts across the U.S. The publication also reaches an international audience through distribution at trade shows throughout the world.

Electronic Media

From live show updates, to candid pictures and videos, NSR utilizes multiple forms of electronic and social media platforms to represent NSR members and serve as an advocate for the purebred swine industry. These platforms allow our team to diversify the ways we communicate with the public and reach a wider audience with our message.

Website

Visit the NSR website, www.nationalswine.com, for the latest association news and information. You will also find entry forms, rules and results for all NSR and NJSA sales and shows on the website. Here, you can also access online pedigrees and AI certificates.

Social Media

You can find NSR on various social media outlets including Facebook (National Swine Registry) and Twitter (@NationalSwine). NSR also maintains three blogs:

- **National Swine Registry**
This blog is a place for our team to keep you up-to-date on what's happening with NSR. Whether it's a recent international trip, an upcoming event, or stories about NSR members, this is a great forum for keeping up with the latest in NSR news.
- **NSR Fieldview**
On NSR Fieldview, the NSR Fieldmen share their thoughts from the road as they travel across their territories doing herd visits. This is a great place to keep up with fellow producers and learn about pigs you might see at upcoming shows.
- **NSR Shows & Sales**
The NSR Shows & Sales blog is where we post results live from all NSR shows and sales. The blog will have candid photos from the ring and information on the champions and reserve champions for each division.

Custom Design and Promotion

The Marketing & Communications department is ready to assist you with your unique marketing needs, including print and web-based promotions. Our staff can help you plan your marketing mix, producing custom marketing pieces from sale flyers and boar stud catalogs, to web banners and e-blasts. The sky is the limit when it comes to your marketing plan.

Overruns, or fliers, of any ad that is printed in *Seedstock EDGE* are also available with each issue if ordered before the press deadline. This is a great way to get information out regarding a sale or special event, or just general advertising for your operation.

If you are interested in how the NSR Marketing & Communications team can help you with your custom marketing plan, call the office at 765.463.3594 or e-mail them at seedstockedge@nationalswine.com.



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