

AmericasBestGenetics.com







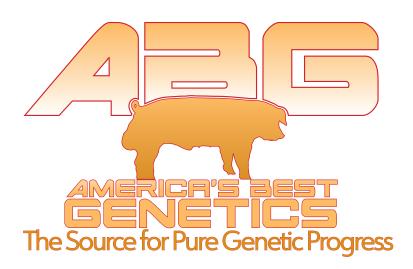








PROVEN. PROGRESSIVE. PUREBREDS.



What is America's Best Genetics?

Joint-Venture/Membership Opportunities

PUREBRED TERMINAL SIRES

PUREBRED MATERNAL BREEDS

STAGES™

Swine Testing and Genetic Evaluation System



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What is America's Best Genetics?

America's Best Genetics (ABG) is a complete genetic program offered to customers of the American purebred swine industry. It is primarily comprised of the commercially-oriented members of the National Swine Registry (NSR), the pedigree association for American purebred Yorkshire, Landrace, Duroc and Hampshire breeds of swine, but also includes industry-leading artificial insemination (AI) and exporting companies. ABG members have been providing Yorkshire, Landrace, Duroc and Hampshire breeding stock to swine producers throughout the world for decades. Breeders representing ABG have been producing and supplying pedigreed, performance-tested U.S. genetics for generations. Our breeders focus on combining years of experience raising breeding stock with modern technical advances to continue the genetic progress vital to their commercial customers' bottom line.

Genetic programs provided by ABG members combine a state-of-the-art genetic evaluation with established, economically-defined genetic lines and long-term, specialized technical support. The genetic diversity of the four breeds can be combined into a genetic program that utilizes each breeds' respective strengths and maximizes the level of heterosis attained in production systems. The maternal attributes of the Yorkshire and Landrace can be combined with the terminal qualities of the Duroc and Hampshire to fit any production situation.

NSR's Swine Testing and Genetic Evaluation System (STAGES™) genetic evaluation program has been facilitating genetic progress across

a variety of economically important traits for more than 25 years. The STAGES™ database includes nearly 2 million pedigreed animals with maternal or terminal performance data. In addition to this large, phenotypic database, nucleus animals are genotyped for a variety of markers which have been proven to impact economically important traits. Recent advancements now allow for inclusion of crossbred information to ensure the genetic progress being made in ABG nucleus populations will be realized more quickly in customers' commercial herds. Additionally, ABG members are further developing their nucleus herds into an international population to better serve their global clientele; several ABG members have had customer interactions in over 40 countries. Currently, across-herd, global genetic evaluations are conducted to provide estimated breeding values (EBVs) for AGB nucleus and their global partners' populations.

Not only decades but generations of swine breeding experience are combined with cutting-edge research and state-of-the-art technology to provide the highest levels of genetic progress to enable continued profitability into the future for customers of ABG members.

Joint-Venture/Membership Opportunities

Members of ABG have developed successful joint-venture partnerships around the world with progressive, forward-thinking breeders. These relationships allow foreign customers the ability to stay connected to the STAGES™ genetic evaluation system and further enhance their ability to make genetic progress. In order to obtain membership in NSR and have access to the STAGES™ system, these requirements must be met:

- Long-term joint-venture partnership with American NSR/ABG Member
- Annual membership/maintenance fee per breed
- Participate in "whole herd reporting"
- Abide by NSR Standard Code of Ethics
- Nucleus and GGP breeding stock must be sourced from NSR pedigreed breeding stock

Benefits included in your annual membership/maintenance fee include:

- Independent third-party verification of parentage, breed purity/breed identity
- Direct access to the STAGES [™] genetic evaluation system results
 - » International genetic evaluation
 - » Online Support Tools
 - Open system with rankings searchable online
 - Access to animal rankings and current EBV/Indexes (trait leader lists and EPD search functions)
 - Mating planner to determine optimal matings based on genetic merit and inbreeding
 - Results reporting site to access your own data
- Access to NSR geneticist and industry/university professionals
 - » May be additional fees depending on level of access required

Benefits of membership in the NSR that are fee based – above and beyond the annual membership/maintenance fee – include:

- Litter recording
- Pedigree printing
- Commercial Test Herd Terminal Genetic Evaluation
- Commercial Maternal Genetic Evaluation
- DNA testing for HAL1843 on your animals
- Parentage verification

NSR is able to offer its members, international partners and their customers a level of technical service and support like never before. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact the staff at the NSR or one of the members of ABG.

PUREBRED TERMINAL SIRES





DUROC

THE WORLD'S TERMINAL SIRE The standard for growth, robustness and muscle quality

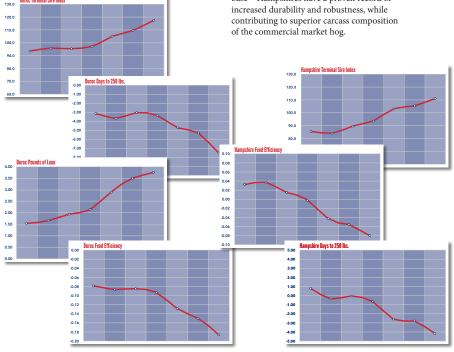
All Duroc populations within America's Best Genetics are subject to comprehensive performance testing programs for growth, efficiency, composition and meat quality.

HAMPSHIRE

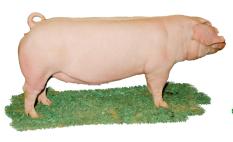
AMERICA'S MEAT & MUSCLE SIRE Muscling and leanness in an efficient package

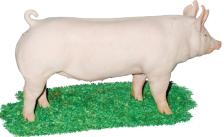
When used as a terminal sire, Hampshires offer the most effective method to increase primal yield, which leads to an increased premium in packer grids.

When incorporated into a commercial sow base - Hampshires have a proven record of increased durability and robustness, while



PUREBRED MATERNAL BREEDS





LANDRACE

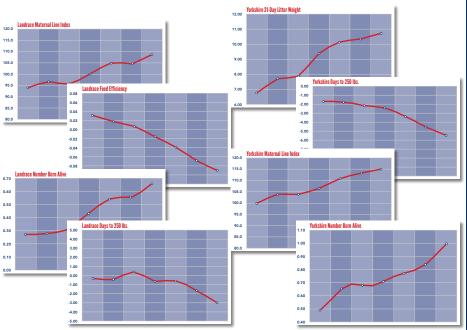
THE WORLD'S MATERNAL BREED Maximum maternal efficiency

Swine producers seeking to produce a commercial breeding female with superior maternal ability through superb fertility, prolificacy, and milking ability must utilize Landrace as a component breed. Research has shown it is not only the number of pigs weaned, but the quality of those pigs that means profit to swine producers: the American Landrace is at the top in terms of milking ability.

YORKSHIRE

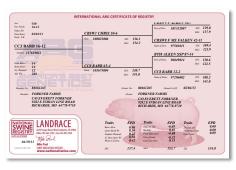
AMERICA'S COMPLETE MATERNAL BREED Superior lifetime productivity with added growth and leanness capability

Not only does the American Yorkshire excel in maternal efficiency via superior lifetime sow productivity and excellent prolificacy, but it also provides superior growth and efficiency in the commercial market hogs.



NATIONAL PROVEN. SWINE REGISTRY PUREBREDS.

A performance pedigree from the NSR is more than a piece of paper – it's a symbol of integrity. It documents a product backed by superior genetics and predictable performance. It's the life-blood of an entire industry, making it possible for you to have the leadership, research programs, services and support the membership and their customers have from the National Swine Registry. If you purchase seedstock for your production system, you owe it to yourself to ask for the performance pedigree. Why not take advantage of more than 100 years of genetic selection and performance documentation?



The only NSR approved Certificate of Registry

STAGES™

Swine Testing and Genetic Evaluation System

No genetic program is complete without a successful genetic evaluation system – STAGES™ meets this need for the American purebred nucleus. STAGES™ has been developed and maintained for over 25 years by National Swine Registry staff geneticists in cooperation with leading swine geneticists at universities such as Iowa State University, Michigan State University, North Carolina State University and Purdue University.

The STAGES[™] genetic system is designed to provide the tools necessary for members of America's Best Genetics and their customers to achieve optimal genetic gain in a number of economically important traits. The traits included in the multi-trait genetic analysis include:



CARCASS AND EFFICIENCY TRAITS:

- Backfat
- Days to 113.4 kg
- Kilograms of Lean
- Feed Efficiency

MEAT QUALITY TRAITS:

- Color Minolta L*
- Marbling Score
- 24-hour pH

MATERNAL EFFICIENCY TRAITS:

- Number Born Alive
- Number Weaned
- · 21 Day Litter Weaning Weight
- Litter Birth Weight
- Wean to Estrus Interval

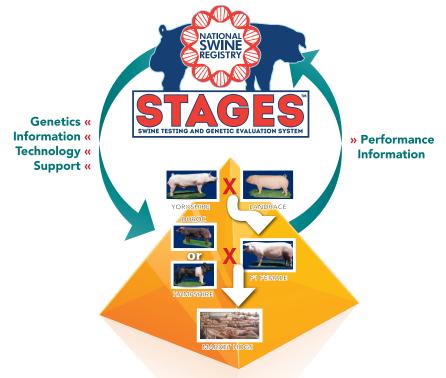
BIO-ECONOMIC INDEXES:

- Sow Productivity Index (SPI)
 - » Number Born Alive
 - » Number Weaned
 - » 21 Day Litter Weaning Weight
- Maternal Line Index (MLI)
 - » Number Born Alive
 - » Number Weaned
 - » 21 Day Litter Weaning Weight
 - » Days to 113.4 kg
 - » Feed Efficiency Terminal Sire Index (TSI)
 - » Days to 113.4 kg
 - » Feed Efficiency

U.S. DUROC U.S. HAMPSHIRE U.S. LANDRACE U.S. YORKSHIRE



More than 2,000,000 records



STAGES[™] by the numbers

1985 – STAGES[™] was first introduced to the pork industry

260 – nightly STAGES" genetic predictions per year (BLUP estimations are run every business day for the latest in genetic-improvement tools.)

2,000,000 - Animal records submitted

by NSR breeders for BLUP analysis

- 15 Individual EPDs and indexes calculated nightly in STAGES^{**} for use by breeders and commercial pork producers
- 110 + − Countries accessing the STAGES™ website in the past five years

MEMBER FIRMS



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- www.cedarridgegenetics.com

CEDAR RIDGE FARMS FREDDIE GROHMAN, PRESIDENT

Cedar Ridge Farms is an independent purebred operation that was established in 1954. Owned and operated by a six-brother team, Cedar Ridge Farms is one of the largest recorders and exporters of purebred Landrace, Yorkshire, Duroc, and Hampshire in the U.S. The Cedar Ridge operation consists of 1,900 purebred, Landrace, Yorkshire, Duroc, and Hamp¬shire sows, 150 boars located in 3 studs, and 1,200 acres of crop production. Cedar Ridge Farms has exported genetics to more than 40 countries in the past 40 years and a attributes that long term success to a selection pattern that has an appropriate balance of genotype/ data with phenotype and functionality.



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COMPART'S BOAR STORE CHRIS COMPART, CO-OWNER

Compart's is a family operation where customers deal with family members who are involved in the day-to-day management of the hogs. Their operation has a purebred base of Duroc, Yorkshire and Landrace in their 600 sow nucleus and 120-head boar stud, along with 1,300 F1 sows. For more than 50 years, domestic customers have relied on Compart's for practical, sound, performance-oriented breeding stock. In the 1970's, Compart's expanded into the international market and since then have exported to 10 different countries.



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SHAFFER GENETICS CLYDE SHAFFER JR., PRESIDENT

Shaffer Genetics is a large three-generation swine breeding stock firm that has been involved in the purebred business since 1965. Initially started with two Duroc sows, the operation has evolved into a successful family operation. Internationally Shaffer Genetics has over 3,000 registered sows in China and two boar studs. Shaffer Genetics provides monthly genetic and production services to Asian customers.



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GLOBAL SWINE EXCHANGE OF IOWA MONTE LUTZ, PRESIDENT

Global Swine Exchange of Iowa, Ltd., (GSEI) has exported breeding swine to more than 40 countries in the past four decades. Since they were founded in 1977, the staff of GSEI has called upon their background in high-performance, purebred swine genetics to assist producers to select and export genetics worldwide. Today, Mr. Lutz still exports around the world and is responsible for three of the four largest shipments of swine exported anywhere in the world. GSEI has the pleasure of collaborating with Iowa State Doctoral Graduate, Dr. Young Chul Jung of Jung PC Institute, to further assist with client's needs.

MEMBER FIRMS



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WALDO AGRICULTURAL MAX WALDO, OWNER

Since 1895, Waldo Farms has focused their purebred seedstock operation on superior, performing genetics. Waldo genetics combine unsurpassed lean growth with meat quality and units of pork per sow per year. Their Duroc herd is ranked at the top of America's STAGES™ program, and the Yorkshire and Landrace herds index in the top 1 percent. Waldo Farms has sold seedstock into 49 states and exported to more than 30 countries. They have joint venture partners in Europe, the Philippines and China, and they have become major suppliers of boars for commercial studs in the U.S., China, the Philippines, England, Vietnam and South Korea.



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CLAYTON AGRI-MARKETING TONY CLAYTON, PRESIDENT

Clayton Agri-Marketing Inc. has been one of the leading exporters of breeding swine and technology from the U.S. to Asia since 1996. Clayton Agri-Marketing Inc. has exported thousands of breeding pigs to several Asian countries and has assisted many breeding companies in Asia to develop highly efficient breeding programs. Mr. Clayton has been in the livestock export industry since 1987 and works in more than 50 different countries. Besides exporting swine, Clayton Agri-Marketing Inc. also exports beef and dairy cattle, goats, horses and sheep.



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ZEHR FARMS CURT ZEHR, OWNER

Zehr Farms is a fifth generation family farm located near Washington, Illinois. They have been producing superior Duroc genetics selected for economically important production traits and eating quality for more than 50 years. Zehr Farms Premium Pork is their branded meat sales division that is the result of this genetic breeding program. Their mission is to provide genetics that will excel in any type of environment and produce pork that will satisfy the highest standards of eating quality.



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AG WORLD INTERNATIONAL JACOB D. CLUVER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ag World is a family business created by Bruce Cluver in 1977 and has been actively exporting to China since the early 1980's. In 2011-2012, Ag World was the world's leading exporter of swine into China. We have exported swine, dairy and beef cattle, goats, sheep, horses, rabbits and exotics to 93 countries. The company is now run by Bruce's son, Jacob Cluver and our China operations are run by XieJi "Chuck."









Durane



The power of the pedigree





Landrace

4orkshire



DOUGLAS NEWCOM, Ph.D. • V.P. of Genetics & Technology

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