

Breed Classification/Sift for the Tennessee State Junior Swine Show

Aaron E. Fisher

Department of Animal Science, University of Tennessee

Market hogs and breeding gilts entered in purebred classes must be registered within that particular breed association. Additionally, these hogs must meet breed purity standards set by the respective breed association. This is accomplished through a breed classification/sift during check-in of the show in which breed representatives evaluate the hogs on how they follow the below breed standards. Any market hog or breeding gilt determined to not meet breed standards will be moved to the respective crossbred class. The decisions made by the breed representatives are considered final.

If you have an interest in showing a gilt or barrow in a particular breed class, it is very important to know and understand the below breed standards at the time of purchasing your swine project so you will know what to expect when you arrive at the show.

Berkshire (https://americanberkshire.com/policies/)

- 1. Must have white on the face and tail, unless the tail is docked and three legs must be white.
- 2. Must not have a spotted or mottling pattern an intermixture of black and white and/or red hair that is larger than a contiguous 93.5 square inches area anywhere on the body of a mature pig.
- 3. Must not have an area of white skin that exceeds 93.5 square inches of contiguous solid white skin on the upper 2/3 of the body. Cannot have white skin or hair that continuously encircles the body anywhere between the base of the ear and the base of the tail. From the base of the ear forward, cannot be solid white. Cannot have any skin color besides black and white (includes red or sandy colored skin).
- 4. The ideal ear carriage is ridged and tight. An ear carriage that breaks to the point in which ears are continually directed in a downward angle is not allowed.
- 5. Must be distinctly ear-notched at farrowing time.
- 6. Disqualifications include: less than 12 teats; one or more swirls on upper half of the body; total blindness; rectal or uterine prolapse; hermaphroditism; atresia ani; cryptorchidism or monorchidism; scrotal and/or umbilical hernia.

Chester White (http://cpsswine.com/chester-white/chester-white-breed-guidelines/)

- 1. Must possess Chester White Breed characteristics.
- 2. Must be ear notched within 7 days of birth.
- 3. Must be solid white in color, no color on the skin larger than a silver dollar, no colored hair.
- 4. Any skin pigmentation other than white that exceeds five in number are disqualified.
- 5. Ears must be down and medium size.
- 6. Any signs of weighed ear tags or evidence of past existence of such ear tags are determined to be not permissible and are grounds for disqualification.

Duroc (https://nationalswine.com/pedigree/breed-eligibility.php)

- 1. Must be red in color and possess Duroc breed character. Ears must be down.
- 2. Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- 3. Must NOT have any white hair located on the animal.
- 4. Must NOT have any black hair located on the animal.
- 5. Must NOT have more than three black spots on the skin, and none of these spots can be larger than two inches in diameter.
- 6. Must NOT have any shading or indication of a belt.
- 7. Must have no evidence of an extra dewclaw.
- 8. Must be stress negative.
- 9. Breeding gilts must possess six or more functional teats on each side of the underline. Pin teats and inverted nipples are not considered functional.

Hampshire (https://nationalswine.com/pedigree/breed-eligibility.php)

- Market Hogs
 - a. Must be black in color with a white belt starting on the front leg. The belt may partially or totally encircle the body. Animal is eligible if it has a black head and the body is totally white.
 - b. Must possess Hampshire breed character (ears must be erect and not rounded).
 - c. Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
 - d. Must NOT have any white hair or indications of streaking on the forehead.
 - e. Must NOT have any red hair.
 - f. Must NOT have any evidence of an extra dewclaw.
 - g. Must be stress negative.
- 2. Breeding Gilts must meet the above requirements (except item 1.a.), along with the following:
 - a. Black in color with a white belt totally encircling the body, including both front legs and feet.
 - b. 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.
 - c. White is allowed on the rear legs as long as it does NOT extend above the tuber calis bone (knob of the hock).
 - d. Must possess six or more functional teats on each side of the underline. Pin teats and inverted nipples are not considered functional.

Hereford (http://cpsswine.com/hereford/hereford-breed-guidelines/)

- 1. Market animals must have at least a 50% white face, 50% red body and 2 white feet. This will be known as the "50-50-50 rule".
- 2. Breeding gilts
 - a. Body shall be at least 2/3 red, there shall be no white over the back beyond the shoulder blade with exception of a splash or drip, with no connecting belt anywhere on the body. This does not include the neck.

- b. Must also have white on at least 2/3 of their face, ears broke forward and possess at least 3 white feet.
- c. Disqualifications include: more than 5 black spots larger a U.S. minted half-dollar on any part of the animal or 1 black spot larger than 4 inches at any point of measurement.
- d. Ears must be at least broke forward.
- e. Must be no evidence of an extra dewclaw.
- f. Must have at least 6 functional teats on each side of underline.
- g. Must be no permanent deformities of any kind.

Landrace (https://nationalswine.com/pedigree/breed-eligibility.php)

- 1. Must be white in color and possess Landrace breed character (ears must be down).
- 2. Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- 3. Must NOT allow any color hair other than white.
- 4. Must NOT allow more than three spots of skin pigmentation.
- 5. Must NOT allow any spot of skin pigmentation larger than one U.S. minted quarter.
- 6. Must have no evidence of an extra dewclaw.
- 7. Must be stress negative.
- 8. Must not have hernia or rupture both scrotal and abdominal.
- 9. Must not have hermaphroditism.
- 10. Must not have cryptorchidism.
- 11. Barrows must not have one testicle or any pronounced abdominal condition of the testicles.
- 12. Breeding gilts must have at least six functional udder sections on each side of the underline. Pin teats and inverted nipples are not considered functional.

Poland China (http://cpsswine.com/poland-china/poland-china-breed-guidelines/)

- 1. Must possess Poland China Breed characteristics.
- 2. Must be ear notched within 7 days of birth.
- 3. Must be black with six white points (face, feet and switch).
 - a. Tail docking is permissible.
 - b. An occasional splash of white on the body is permissible.
 - c. May not possess more than one solid black leg.
- 4. Must have ears down
- 5. Must not have evidence of a belt formation of either white or white skin encircling and touching the points of the shoulder extending down on both sides of animal to the depth of the elbow pocket.
- 6. Cannot have red or sandy hair/and or pigment.
- 7. Hogs that have weighed ear tags or evidence of tampering of ears with possible ear tags are ineligible.

Spotted (http://cpsswine.com/spotted/spotted-breed-guidelines/)

1. Must be black and white.

- 2. Must possess Spotted Breed characteristics.
- 3. Must be ear notched within 7 days of birth.
- Ears cannot be erect.
- 5. Any red tinted or brown spots are ineligible.
- 6. No solid black head from ears forward.
- 7. No white belt pattern (hair or skin) that encompasses the back 1/3 of both shoulder blades and extends down to the foreleg of the animal. The belt pattern is not completely broken by black. Exception to this rule is a predominately white-bodied individual with a white face.
- 8. Any signs of weighted ear tags or evidence of past existence of such tags are determined to be not permissible and are grounds for disqualification.

Tamworth (http://www.tamworthswine.org/wp-content/uploads/9115-By-Laws-Update.pdf)

- 1. The general color of a Tamworth shall be red. At no time shall there be more than 5% black on any hog. No animal may show as a Tamworth that has more than twenty black spots of hair of a size larger than a dime or any one spot of black hair larger than four inches by four inches.
- 2. Any animal with white appearing anywhere on the body, except the hooves, but including the feet, shall not be eligible to show, and its registration shall be removed from the record.
- 3. Ears should be pointed, upright and should give the appearance of alertness. No Tamworth may show whose ears extend forward at less than 65 degrees from the head, measured from the forward base of the ear, or an animal the tips of whose ears are dropped or floppy.
- 4. Below deviations from Tamworth type may disqualify the hog:
 - a. Shadow of a belt across the back
 - b. Head which differs from Tamworth type, such as a head typical of a Duroc or other breed with an upturned snout
 - c. General build, bulk or stature atypical of the breed as historically known.
- 5. Must be distinctly ear-notched at farrowing time.

Yorkshire (https://nationalswine.com/pedigree/breed-eligibility.php)

- 1. Must be white in color and possess Yorkshire breed character (ears must be erect).
- 2. Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- 3. Must NOT have any color hair except for white.
- 4. Must NOT have more than two pigmentation spots larger than a U.S. minted dime or one pigmentation spot larger than a U.S. minted quarter. These pigmentation spots (combined) can NOT exceed a U.S. minted silver dollar.
- 5. Must have no evidence of an extra dewclaw.
- 6. Must be stress negative.
- 7. Breeding gilts must possess six or more functional teats on each side of the underline to be recorded and exhibited. Pin teats and inverted nipples are not considered functional.