

2020 Edgecombe Summer Fun



Hogs

Swine, Hogs, or pigs! You probably know a lot about this animal but we figured you can never learn enough about it! Did you know that the swine industry is the number one product in North Carolina? And North Carolina is the 3rd largest producer in the US! Hogs can be used for a number of things including bacon, sausage, ham, footballs and makeup products. In this lesson you will learn about the different pig breeds, terminology and showing tips, and more!

Definitions

- **Piglets:** baby pigs
- **Gilt:** A young female that has not farrowed any piglets
- **Sow:** A female that has farrowed a litter of piglets
- **Farrowing:** the act of giving birth
- **Barrow:** A male that has been castrated
- **Boar:** A male that is still intact
- **Rooting:** A pig using its snout to dig or nudge into the ground repeatedly
- More information:
<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/agriculture/animals/pigs/industry/terms-definitions>

Common Breeds

- **Chester White:** These white hogs with droopy, medium-sized ears are known for their mothering ability, durability and soundness.
- **Yorkshire:** Spots are known for their feed efficiency, rate of gain and carcass quality. Yorkshires are known for their muscle, soundness and durability, with a high proportion of lean meat and low backfat.
- **Duroc:** The second-most recorded breed of swine in the United States, the red pigs with the drooping ears are valued for their product quality, carcass yield, fast growth and lean-gain efficiency
- **Berkshire:** The third-most recorded breed of swine in the United States and oldest registry in the world. Berkshires are known for fast and efficient growth, reproductive efficiency, cleanness and meat flavor and value.
- **Poland china:** Poland China hogs are known for their large frame, length of body, leanness and muscle
- **Landrace:** White hogs with droopy ears, Landrace are the fifth-most recorded breed of swine in the United States. Known as "America's Sowherd," Landrace females are heavy milkers and often farrow large pigs.
- **Spotted:** Spots are known for their feed efficiency, rate of gain and carcass quality.

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- **Hampshire:** The hogs with “the belt,” Hampshires are the fourth-most recorded breed in the United States, known for producing lean muscle, high carcass quality, minimal back fat and large loin eyes. Females also are known for their mothering ability, with longevity in the sow herd.
- More information: <https://www.pork.org/facts/pig-farming/major-swine-breeds/>

Modern Production

- Videos
 - <https://youtu.be/1tVeAwdoCzM> smithfield sow farm 360 6 mins
 - <https://youtu.be/0Zns8dwcwwU> smithfield wean to finish 360 5 min

Showing Pigs

Animal U <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/animalu/>

U.S Whip: How to Raise a Winning Show Pig

<https://www.uswhip.com/blog/how-to-raise-a-winning-show-pig/>

Swine Showmanship <http://cemonterey.ucanr.edu/files/197376.pdf>

Tips on How to Select Your Pig from a Breeder:

- Keep an eye out for any body/structural abnormalities (sways when it walks, walks on its toes, etc) This is referred to as soundness.
- Make sure the pig you select weighs enough so that you can achieve your target weight for the show
- Look at the pig’s tail- if it is shaking fast up & down, this is a sign of nervousness and likely indicates the hog is easily stressed out

Feeding and Nutrition tips:

- Make sure your pig(s) have access to clean water at all times- this keeps them healthy and hydrated!
- If you notice that your pig suddenly is not eating/drinking like normal- call a vet!

Grooming/Appearance Tips:

- Before entering the show ring, spray your pig with water from a spray bottle and/or use show approved pig conditioner (without oils) to make your pig shines in the ring!

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- When clipping the hair of your pig, make sure you are using the correct length blade- check the show requirements before clipping!!
- Make sure to wash your pig at least the day before, if not the day of the show to ensure your pig looks fresh in the ring

Training Tips/Hints:

- Pigs will eat ANYTHING- but especially love to eat sweet things such as dry cake mix, marshmallows and more! When training your pig to walk in the show ring, try keeping a few pieces of peppermint candy or marshmallows in your pocket to reward your pig's good performance
- When training your pig at home, make sure to use the same driving tool (cane, whip, pipe) while showing- pigs will not respond the same way to different tools
- At first, your pig may be skittish, and run away from you- this is normal. Each time you go to feed, try standing still and letting your pig come to you and smell you, then gradually try to rub your hand down its back. If you work with your pig enough, it will get used to you touching it etc.

Showmanship Tips:

- ALWAYS make sure to keep your pig in between you and the judge- think ham sandwich!
- ALWAYS keep your eye on the judge!
- If your pig happens to run wild in the ring, DO NOT run after it but walk quickly towards it
- Carry a small brush and rag in each of your back pockets in case you pig gets dirty in the ring
- If you are asked to pen your pig, DO NOT stop showing- rather take your brush and begin brushing any dirt/shavings off in addition to keeping your eye on the judge
- If the judge approaches you while showing to ask you a question, do not worry about your pig- talk with the judge first, then find your pig and continue showing

Commonly Asked Showmanship Questions:

Novice/Junior Showman:

1. How much does your pig weigh?
2. About how much feed are you giving your pig per day?
3. What breed is your pig?
4. What brand of feed are you giving your pig?
5. Is your pig a female or male/ a gilt or a barrow?

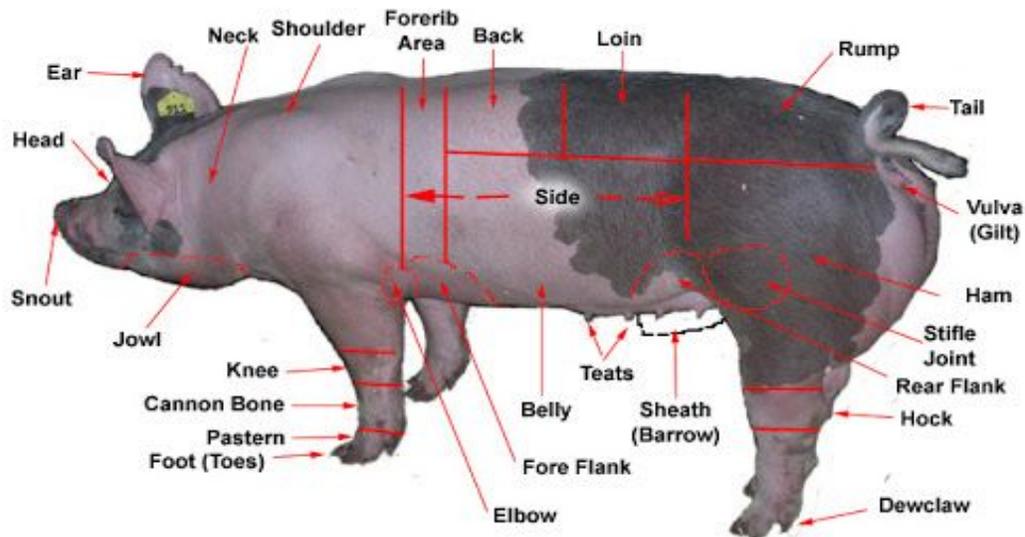
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Senior Showman:

1. How much does your pig weigh?
2. How old is your pig?
3. What is your pig's ear notch?
4. What is one thing that you would change about your pig?
5. What is one thing that you like about your pig?
6. Judge could ask you to point to your pig and show where a particular cut of meat is found or name a particular body part.

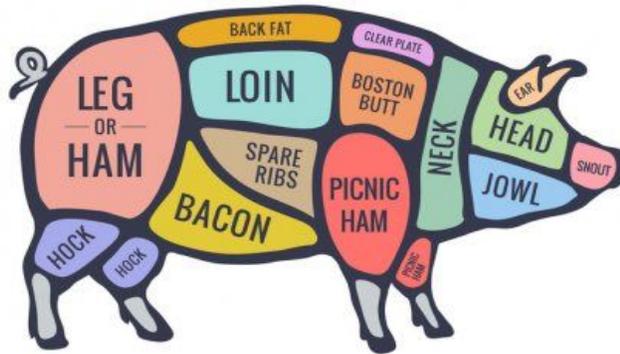
Parts of a Pig Diagram:





Cuts of Meat Diagram:

BUTCHER SHOP **CUT OF MEAT PORK DIAGRAM** VISUAL GUIDE



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Hog By-products:

EVERYTHING BUT THE OINK

No other animal provides society with a wider range of products than the hog.

By products from pigs play a vital, though less visible, role in maintaining and improving the quality of human life.

- Phonograph records
- Bone China
- Violin Strings
- Drumheads
- Porcine Burn Dressings
- Hides and skins for leather goods
- Pigskin footballs
- Cutting oils
- Glycerin for explosives and antifreeze
- Linoleum
- Pet food
- Gelatin for marshmallows and photographic film
- Industrial lubricants
- Fatty acids and glycerin used for matches
- Stearin for making chewing gum and candies
- Hair for artist brushes
- Rennet for cheese making
- Hearts for xenotransplantation
- Gelatin for drug capsules
- Insulin and ingredients for other medicines
- Ingredients for surgical sutures

Compiled by Alyssa Auer (2009)
Fribose, D., G. Bowman et al (2001) Swine Resource Handbook. The Ohio State University Extension.

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Craft Your Own Piggy Bank From A Recycled Grits Container!

Supplies Included:

- 1 container
- Construction paper for body, ears, nose, & feet (already cut to size for you) :)
- 2 googly eyes
- 1 pipe cleaner for the tail
- 4-H sticker

Additional Supplies Needed:

- Glue or tape

Instructions:

1. Identify all of the body parts from the construction paper. You should have a pink body to cover the circumference of the container, a black nose and feet.
2. Begin with the body and wrap it around the container and tape or glue into place.
3. Glue on your feet, nose, ears and tail!
4. Place your new piggy bank in a safe place and collect coins to save for your next pig!