**Swine Breeds** Ear Notching **Pedigrees** 

## Most Common Swine Breeds



1. Berkshire: Black, with white spots that may or may not have a brownish-red, sandy tint in them; spots on the tip of the tail, snout and four white-stocking feet; short, perky ears pointing skyward; short



Red skin with red or brown hair. Relative to other pigs,

the Duroc has what you would call an "athletic" build in the realm of pigs. Short, floppy ears; short snout.

2. Chester Whites White color, long body; straight back; floppy ears. Floppy ears is how you can tell Chester hogs from Yorks.



4. Hampshires Black with white belt-like stripe around the front legs and belly, extending as far as the middle of the torso.



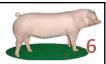
5. Herefords Reddish-brown body with white spots on face, ears and possibly legs; slightly dished face with droopy



7. Poland China The Poland China is black with a white face and feet and a white tip on the tail; he ears droop.



The floppy eared Spotted Pig has black and white spots with no red or brown tints



6. Landraces White in color. Their ears droop and slant forward with its top edges nearly parallel to the bridge of a straight nose. Landrace hogs make great mothers



White; long, straight back; upright ears, smaller ears than that of the Landrace.

## The Universal Ear Notching System Ear-notching helps identify a pig's litter and which one of the litter it is, giving each pig a unique identity number. Notches are placed in one of five locations in the pig's right ear — to show the litter number — and in one of three locations in $\underline{\text{the left ear}-\text{to show the individual pig number.}}$ The numbers are then added up and used as the pig's ear notch! Universal Swine Ear Notching System Always Remember!

The PIG'S right ear is the litter mark The PIG'S left ear is the individual pig number from the litter

## What is a Pedigree?

A written record of the names of a pig's parents, grandparents, and other ancestors is called its pedigree. Some words you will see used on a pedigree, and their meanings, are listed below.

- Sire: The pig's father.
- Dam: The pig's mother.
- Grandsire: The father of the sire or dam (the pig's grandfather).
  Grandam: The mother of the sire or dam (the pig's grandmother).
  Purebred: An animal with parents from the same breed.
  Crossbred: An animal with parents from different breeds.



