

Swine Handbook

Market Hog Terms

When evaluating market hogs, there are six general things to evaluate. They are expected carcass desirability, size, correctness of finish, muscle, productive type and design. Following each characteristic are appropriate phrases for describing the attribute.

EXPECTED CARCASS DESIRABILITY

GENERAL

higher yielding
meatier
heavier muscled
heavier carcass

DESIRABLE

meatier & less trimable waste
higher yield of loin and ham
larger loineye area
higher percent muscle
more pounds of edible product
more pounds of red meat
higher percentage of the four lean cuts

CRITICISMS

wastier
lighter muscled
lighter weight
least saleable product
fatter

Should go to the rail with a meatier carcass with more pounds of saleable product.
Should send to the rail a cleaner, trimmer carcass with a greater percentage of the four lean cuts.
Should hang a carcass with a higher percent muscle as indicated by his trimness about the jowl, rib and loin edge.
Should kill a more consumer oriented carcass with a higher lean to fat ratio.
Should hang a trimmer, meatier carcass that is more packer preferred.

MUSCLE

GENERAL

thicker made
heavier muscled
meatier
wider made
looser muscled

DESIRABLE

larger and smoother muscle pattern
greater volume of ham
more natural thickness
wider at the stifle & more shape over the top
wider topped & squarer top
fuller rump & wider over the loin
more expression of muscle

CRITICISMS

narrow topped
tight round muscled
light muscle
narrower tracking

Was heavier muscled, displaying more natural thickness down the top, having more dimension to the ham.
Was heavier muscled, having more width over the top, with more width from stifle to stifle.
Was meatier, thicker made, having a wider top, fuller rump and more width through the stifle.
Was thicker made, displaying more natural thickness down the top and a greater volume of ham.
Was thicker made with more volume to the ham, displaying a deeper tying muscle pattern.

CORRECTNESS OF FINISH

GENERAL

higher yielding

DESIRABLE

less trimmable waste
higher yield of loin and ham
greater percent lean cuts
more pounds of red meat

CRITICISMS

wastier
fatter
lighter weight
lowest cutability

Should go to the rail with a meatier carcass, with more pounds of saleable product.
When sent to the rail, should hang a cleaner, trimmer carcass with a greater percent of lean cuts.
Should hang a trimmer carcass yielding more pounds of lean edible product.
Should send to the rail a heavier muscled carcass with more pounds of ham and loin.
Should kill a more consumer oriented carcass with a higher lean to fat ratio.

SIZE

GENERAL

higher performing
growthier
larger
taller

DESIRABLE

heavier weight
longer bodied & longer loin
stretchier
longer rumped
more weight per day of age

CRITICISMS

lower set
shorter bodied
shorter rumped
lighter weight & more compact
less weight per day of age

Was stretchier, longer sided and longer over the loin and rump.

Was a growthier, longer sided, stretchier hog, that was longer over the loin and rump.

Was a growthier, heavier weight hog, with stouter features.

Was a massive hog that overpowered the class in terms of size and scale.

Was a growthier hog that exhibited more weight per day of age.

PRODUCTIVE TYPE

GENERAL

higher capacity
higher volume
more durable
looser designed
broodier

DESIRABLE

stouter headed
more production oriented
wider chested & bolder fronted
stronger featured
inner dimension
more rugged & heavier constructed
square ribbed
deeper ribbed & deeper bodied

CRITICISMS

tight ribbed
shallow bodied
frail made
fine boned
refined
least durable

She was a broodier, higher volume gilt that had more width through her chest floor and more depth and expansion of rib.

She was a higher volume, roomier middled gilt that was wider at the blades and deeper ribbed.

He was a stouter fronted, stronger featured barrow that was heavier constructed and stood on a larger hoof.

She was a bolder fronted gilt that displayed a wider chest floor and greater depth and spring of rib.

He was a more durable barrow that was greater in his inner dimension with a wider blade and a deeper, squarer rib.

She was a gilt that stood on more substance of bone and displayed greater arch and expansion of rib.

She was a stouter headed gilt that stood on more substance of bone and displayed greater depth and squareness of side.

STRUCTURAL CORRECTNESS AND SKELETAL DESIGN

GENERAL

structurally correct
structurally sound

SPECIFIC

longer striding
freer moving
freer wheeling
more mobile
wider tracking
greater cushion to pastern
larger hoof
more uniform length of toe
more desirable angularity to shoulder

CRITICISMS

restricted movement
stiffer moving & or sore moving
uneven toe length
buck kneed
short striding
toed in or toed out
steep in the shoulder
weak pastern
high top and or steep rump

She was a more mobile, freer wheeling gilt that walked on more cushion both front and rear.

She was a freer moving, wider tracking gilt with a more correct set to her hocks and greater cushion to her pasterns.

He was a more flexible, freer moving barrow, with a longer stride both front and rear.

He was a more structurally correct barrow that displayed a more desirable angularity to his shoulder set and more flex and cushion to the pasterns.