

FOREWORD

The first significant landmark for NSIF was achieved in November, 1976 with the publishing of the Guidelines for Uniform Swine Improvement Programs. This publication brings together the combined efforts of about 125 representatives from various sectors of the swine industry that are either directly or indirectly associated with swine improvement through breeding. There were seven separate committees that started functioning in June of 1975 and their recommendations constitute the 1976 Guidelines. These committees met on December 6 and 7, 1976 to re-evaluate their original recommendations and then suggested improvements and refinements in the Guidelines that would result in greater acceptance and effectiveness. The committee recommendations are included in these proceedings.

The theme for the 1976 Annual Meeting was "On-the-Farm Testing" and Bill Ahlschwede (Chairman), Glenn Conatser and Dick Nash served as the program planning committee. The Annual Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn West, St. Louis with Keith Leavitt serving as arrangements coordinator. Because of the excellent arrangements and facilities, the membership voted to hold the 1977 Annual Meeting at the same place on December 5 and 6, 1977.

We hope you will find the invited papers and reports included in this first NSIF Record of Proceedings interesting and worthwhile reading. The By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation are also included in this publication for your future reference. If you need additional copies of the Guidelines or have any questions or comments relative to the National Swine Improvement Federation, please contact me. The continued support and cooperation of all segments of the swine industry is needed in order for NSIF to obtain its objective of achieving improved performance in swine through breeding.



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