

## STRUCTURE AND VISUAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Don Herzog, Chairman

### Culling levels

Due to different causes of shaker pigs, the committee felt breeders should try to classify the kind of condition it is and cull if it is genetical. The shaker pig was classified as:

- PSS syndrome (genetical)
- Condition which began at 80-90 pounds in Landrace (genetical)
- Viral infection (not genetical)

Boars should be culled from litters which exhibit scrotal hernias. If herd sires produce over 5 percent ruptures, cull the sire. Similar recommendations are made relating to the cryptorchid problem.

### 1981 Recommended Program

A topic of interest is relating to pig soundness evaluation at a very young age. Speakers suggested are Howard Miller, Mississippi State University and/or Ed Lidval, University of Tennessee.

Rear leg soundness needs to be researched and evaluated as a program topic.

### Producer Education

A general concern exists as to the level of knowledge producers have of the value of performance and its use in a selection program. More efforts must be made by NSIF to work with and encourage all university extension staff to present performance testing facts to pork producers. The committee felt that extension people are the best vehicle to reach the pork industry people.

## GROWTH AND EFFICIENCY OF GAIN COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

James R. Jones, Chairman

1. State-of-Art of what is known relative to measuring feed efficiency should be compiled. If possible, have guidelines developed on best method(s).
2. Feed efficiency research needs should be identified on a priority basis.
3. The development of sire evaluation guidelines should be initiated.

The Committee published a brochure this past year entitled, "Nutritional Guidelines for Post Weaning Performance Test Programs." The publication was distributed to all conference attendees.