

NSIF 1982 Seedstock Producer of the Year
Everett Forkner, Richards, Missouri
Nominated by University of Missouri

The Forkner farming program consists of 1100 acres of crop production, a small beef cattle herd and 220 purebred sow breeding herd. The swine operation consists primarily of Durocs along with some Landrace and Hampshires. All swine are raised in confinement. The production system includes early weaning, raising pigs in a slat deck nursery, a grower and finishing pig unit, and a performance boar and gilt testing facility.

The selection program is based on within herd selection for traits such as growth rate, prolificacy, carcass quality and genetic hardiness. Individual sow selection is made on a sow performance index, which includes 28-day litter weight, number farrowed and number weaned. This selection program has been conducted since 1973. The breeding records show the top sows producing 2.3 litters and 21 pigs per sow per year with a 157-day farrowing interval.

On the farm records have been collected since 1958. Complete records on all boars for growth, backfat and loin eye have been taken since 1964. Replacement gilts are selected on their growth, dam performance, structural soundness and nipple quality. For the past 6 years, only the top boars within the herd have been used as herd sires. Primarily, emphasis has been placed on growth rate, breeding ability and confinement hardiness. Two of the young herd boars being used are: CC Agile, with a record of 2.67 ADG, 0.83 inch backfat, 5.45 sq. in. loin eye area, and a 325 pound weight at 193 days; and CC Hogg, with a record of 2.8 ADG, 0.67 inch backfat, 5.67 sq. in. loin eye area, and a 354 pound weight at 193 days.

Central test stations have been used continuously since 1963. A feed efficiency record was set at the Canton, Missouri station in 1979. At the 1982 National Southeastern Duroc Boar Test, Forkner had the highest indexing and highest gaining boars along with the two top selling boars in the sale. These records demonstrate that record utilization pays off in genetic improvement as well as in top sales. Forkner led the nation in producing Duroc certified litters in 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1971.

Everett has been a leader in the industry, serving as past president and 9 year board member of the United Duroc Swine Registry; National Pork Producers Council director and National Research Committee member; Missouri State Livestock Health Advisory member; and University of Missouri Animal Science Advisory Board member. He has received many awards, including: 1978 Missouri Pork All American, 1969 University of Missouri Livestock Man of the Year, and 1980 Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce State Achievement Award. Everett has served as official of numerous international and American Royal inter-collegiate judging contests and judged swine shows throughout the U.S.

He has participated on several international trade missions, including Tokyo, Japan and Reggio, Emilia, Italy. For these accomplishments, the National Swine Improvement Federation honored Everett Forkner as 1982 NSIF Seedstock Producer of the Year.