



Foreword

The National Swine Improvement Federation has, as its primary function, to develop and implement more uniform, effective, and coordinated swine improvement programs. Its members include, but are not limited to, seedstock producers, central test stations, swine testing organizations, A.I. studs, universities, and other seedstock production and marketing groups.

Each year the Federation holds a conference and annual meeting during which the impact and application of swine breeding technology are reviewed and updated. The publication of the proceedings of this conference on the NSIF website serves to advance the Federation's objective of improving genetic evaluation programs.

The 2011 conference and annual meeting were hosted by the NSIF at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln, Nebraska. This year's program honored Dr. Rodger Johnson, longtime swine geneticist with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and supporter of NSIF. Speakers were drawn from a pool of scientists who worked with Dr. Johnson including former graduate students, fellow staff members and collaborators. The program brings together a strong academic and industry-based group to address subjects including genetics, genomics and reproduction.

The symposium and annual meeting was sponsored and generously supported by financial contributions of the NSIF Member Organizations. In addition, genetic suppliers, universities, and industry participants played a key role supporting the program through direct financial contributions, committee involvement, and delivery of materials as speakers. The NSIF Board of Directors would like to sincerely thank the following organizations for their support of the conference and annual meeting: Babcock Genetics, Canadian Center for Swine Improvement, Danbred North America, Destron Fearing, Fast Genetics, Genesus Swine Genetics, Génétiporc, Global Pig Farm, Hermitage NGT, Hypor Inc., Iowa Pork Industry Center, Ivey Spring Creek Farms, National Pork Board, National Swine Registry, Newsham Choice Genetics, Norsvin USA, PIC, Puretek Genetics, S & S Programming, Smithfield Premium Genetics, and TOPIGS USA. Without this support, a high-quality symposium would not be possible.

We hope that this conference was useful and informative. The proceedings will be posted on the NSIF web site <http://www.nsif.com> along with the *Swine Genetics Handbook* containing seventeen fact sheets, the *Swine Improvement Program Guidelines*, proceedings from past conferences, and other information. The *Swine Genetics Handbook* may also be found at <http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/ansci.htm#9>.

Elsewhere in this booklet you will find a list of the 2010-2011 NSIF Officers and Directors. Please feel free to contact these individuals with questions or comments.

Jim Schneider

NSIF Secretary
Clay Center, Nebraska