

March 2010 Prospect Breeding Gilt Class

Official Placing:

4-3-2-1

Cuts: 2-5-4

4-3-2-1 is my preferred alignment for the prospect breeding gilts. In an opening pair of females that need to sort up from a stand point of skeletal width and maternal look, it's the minor differences in design and structure where I prefer 4 over 3. In breaking this down, not only is the Yorkshire appearing gilt stronger behind her blade, but more importantly, she's the bigger-footed, larger-boned gilt that offers a more correct set to her rear pasterns. Now it's obvious to me 3 is bigger in her kind, she is the longer-sided gilt that's also taller at the top of her blade. Still she's second on my card; I'd like to see her spine hook up more correctly out the back side of her blade, as well she is a bit smaller in her bone work and needs more flex in her back pasterns.

Now keeping it simple in the middle pair, the belted gilt just offers more brood sow power. She's clearly more opened up underneath, offering a bolder shape to her rib. I just in vision her to lie down and produce the wider skeleton, lot one show prospects. Now there are pieces that I prefer in 2. She covers the surface on a larger foot and bone, as well she reads leveler out of her hip, but in the same breath she gets over whelmed from the stand point of body and skeletal width.

Despite these harsh criticisms her advantages come in functional kind and look of durability that places her over 1 in my concluding pair of females that contrast in type. The spot gilt is the looser skeleton gilt that's more laid back in her shoulder, offers more flex and cushion through her lower joints and possesses a better look from the side. Furthermore she's leveler from blade to hip and with all this combined I feel she will offer more longevity to the crate. Now on one hand the blue gilt is slightly deeper through the center portion of her rib, as well the most expressive in her muscle shape and ties more dimension to the lower portion of her ham. But on the other she concerns me from a functionality standpoint. She is just too hard in her general build. More concerning, she is steep out of her hip and the straightest in her shoulder and hock.

Thank you,

Zach McCracken