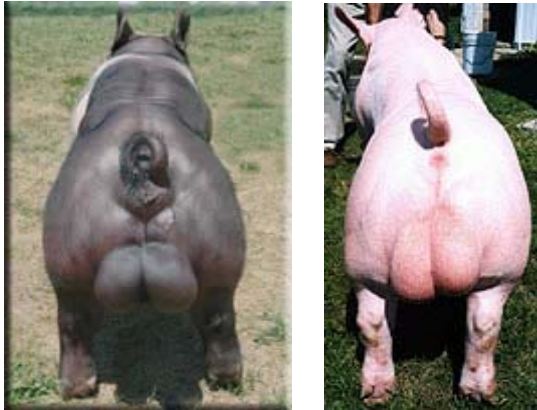


Swine Testicles, Sheaths, Underlines, and Vulvas

Ideal Testicle Size

A boar should have large even testicles. A boar with large testicles is most likely to produce earlier maturing daughters.



Large Even Testicles

Bad Testicle Examples



Small Testicles



Uneven Testicles



Small Uneven Testicles

Underlines

Boars should be evaluated for their underline quality because they will pass their underline quality on to their offspring. Boars should have a high quality underline with as many teats placed as far forward as possible. The underline should be free of pin nipples and none functional teats. Boars with four teats placed above the sheath are considered longer bodied and more desirable. Teats should be placed snugly to the abdominal wall and not pointing in different directions.



4 Teats Placed Above the Sheath



3 Teats Placed Above the Sheath



Pin Nipples / Bad Spacing / None Functional Teats

Sheath

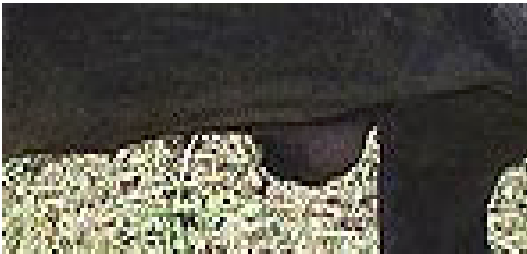
The ideal sheath should be small or medium in size. Barrows should have a smaller and less prominent sheath in comparison to boars. Boar should have a larger and more defined sheath.



Small Sized Sheath



Medium Sized Sheath



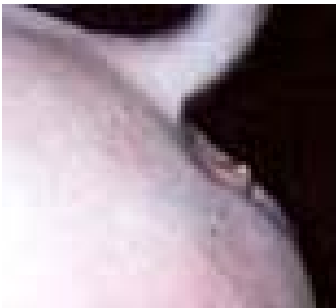
Large Sized Sheath

Vulvas

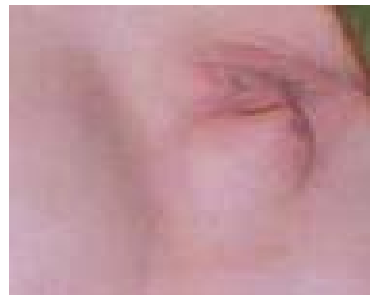
Upturned vulva- The tip of the vulva is turned upwards towards the tail. This reproductive abnormality can make it difficult for a boar to naturally breed.

Infantile vulva- The vulva is very small in size. This reproductive abnormality can make it hard to breed the gilt naturally or by artificial insemination. An infantile vulva means the reproductive tract on the inside is abnormally smaller than normal. If bred the gilt may have difficulty farrowing with an infantile vulva and smaller reproductive tract.

Ideal vulva- The vulva is proportional in size with the tip pointing downward. It is not too large or too small but proportion to the gilts rump when viewed from behind.



Upturned Vulvas



Upturned Vulvas



Infantile Vulva



Ideal Vulva

Underlines

Breeding Gilts should be evaluated for their underline quality. The underline should consist of refine teats that are evenly spaced and placed as far forward as possible. Gilts should have at least 6-9 teats per side and a total of 12-18 functional teats. The underline should be free of pin nipples and nonfunctional teats. Teats should be placed snugly to the abdominal wall and not pointing in different directions.

Ideal Underline



Refine and Even Spaced Teats

Bad Examples of Underlines



Too Refine Underline



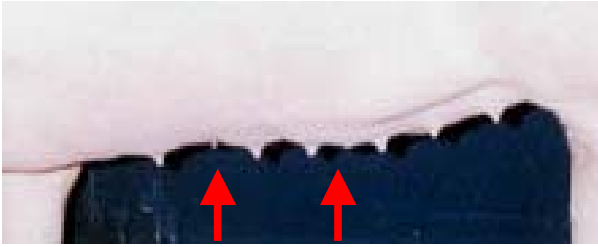
Course or Blunt Teats



Teats Placed Too Far Back / Only 4-5 Teats per Side



Bad Spaced Underline



Pin Non Functional

Pin Nipples / None Functional Teats/ Bad Spacing