

## Letter from the Editor

Dear IPP Family

March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb. April showers bring May flowers. The first an old proverb to give people hope after a long winter, and the second, a saying to get people eager for sunny weather. Either way you look at it, spring is on its way and we all look forward to feeling the warm sun on our faces. But there is a darker side of springtime and that is the multitude of chores staring us in the face. Cleaning the stalls, fixing fences, seeding pastures, it seems from sun up to sun down the tasks are endless. As much as we look forward to fairer weather, it does come with a price. In today's world, it can be easy to get caught up in our daily grind and forget to "take the time to smell the roses"! Now is the time new piglets are coming into the world. Don't be so busy you forget to stop and cuddle one or two as you clean their stall. When repairing the fence line, try to pause your tasks long enough to watch the piglet zoomies in the pasture. Give your sows and boars an extra scratch while you check them for external parasites and try to remember why you decided to raise this breed in the first place. Because of their character and individual personalities. Because of their mothering instincts and loving temperament. Okay, let's admit it, because they taste great...but mostly because they are good for your soul!

Happy Spring!

Carrie Beegle



## Pig Tales

**I was walking through the farm and three pigs jumped out of a tree. It was a Hambush!**



Spring is just around the corner! My favorite time of the year! I have some exciting news to pass along to all of you. In the last edition of the IPP Press, I mentioned that the next step in the upgrade was going to be the addition of the online Breeder Prefix application. After giving it a lot of thought, we decided to move in a different direction instead. Getting an online COI (Coefficient of Inbreeding) calculator and a Hypothetical mating calculator up and running is going to affect more people than the online breeder prefix application, so we are going to concentrate on getting that implemented first. There is a lot that has to go into getting this set up in conjunction with the Registry database, so we don't expect it to be ready for a few months, but we are very excited for this new step in the upgrade!

Moving forward there will be two types of memberships. This is an attempt to be able to continue a one-time fee for a Lifetime membership.

- The Basic membership which is a Lifetime membership and includes: the Breeder Prefix of your farm, the ability to do litter notifications and registrations.
- The Premium membership which will be an annual fee of \$25. This membership will include your farm information on the Registered Breeder page, the use of the COI and Hypothetical mating Calculators, & access to the Herd book once it is active. Fees will renew on July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

After getting some very helpful feedback on the online system, we have implemented a few changes in your online accounts. A "one-time use" tab has been added to each pig's personal account that will allow you to input your AKA name of your pig. You just click on the "Add AKA" tab and you can add the "called name" of your pig if you so choose. There is also a tab to mark a pig as deceased, so if you have a pig that passes away or one you take to butcher, please just click this tab and your pig will be marked as deceased. Both tabs are one time uses, so make sure everything is correct before you click to submit. Happy Farrowing to All of You!

# IPP Press Quarterly Newsletter

April 1st, 2022 5th Edition

## Prep a Pig for Show

Written By, Tracy Jensen

Is your pig ready for the Show? Should you shave your pig? Should you wash it or brush out its long, luscious coat? Does your pig need a day at the spa or maybe a pedicure/manicure? Ok well I wouldn't go that far, but when it comes time for that big show this summer, or you are ready to sell that prized pig, don't let the grooming go down the drain.

Now if you were in 4-H you would be shampooing, conditioning, and even clipping the fur on your pig to have it ready for show day. But we are going to talk the basics of showing the best your pig has to offer. Below we will shortly touch on some of the most important parts of preparing your pig for the big day.



Cayla Aski's boar is a perfect example of a show ready pig!



Submitted by Sarah Culver



The boar pictured above was submitted by Sadie Courser.

- 1) **Socializing:** The IPP is notorious for their charismatic behavior and curiosity with humans. But if you just got a pig that is shy or jumpy you will need to spend time building the bond especially if you are desiring a breeder that you be depending on for several years. Start with treats and belly rubs. As for our family we don't use treats as much as scratches and belly rubs as positive reinforcement. But when you want a pig to stand for a photo or move a certain way a treat is a great option.
- 2) **Washing & Grooming:** Make sure your pig can be sprayed & scrubbed down. Most pigs love this, but it's important that they can stand and allow you to wash & scrub them. Introduce a brush and spend a few minutes every day using it as a scratching assistant. Brushing the hair helps make those crazy hairs lay the right direction when it comes to showtime. You may even desire to clip their fur if it's very long and doesn't lay down well.
- 3) **Feed & Minerals:** Make sure those prized pigs are getting the quality nutrition they need so their skin and fur looks bright & healthy.
- 4) **Deworming, Lice Control, & Vaccinations:** Try to plan your deworming schedule so it ends 1-2 weeks before going to the show. NOTE- If you are showing a feeder that could be butchered within days or weeks of the show, you need to follow the residue warnings labeled for that particular deworming medicine. If you use a vaccination program on your farm or if you are showing in a state that requires a certain vaccination to show, it is recommended to do so more than a week or even two weeks prior to traveling.
- 5) **Hoof Trimming:** Most pigs under the age of 18 months – 2 years won't need to be trimmed. And many times, being a pasture pig, your pigs are already out running and playing which is a natural trimming tool. If you live in places with excessively wet conditions or smaller confined pens, your pig may not be able to wear down those hooves. In that case trimming may be advised if you are going to show an older pig. The "HOW TO" is a discussion for another day!!! But I can tell you if that pig is trained to lay for belly scratches your job trimming hooves could be a lot easier!
- 6) **Show Time:** When you get in the ring with your pig you will want to be able to tell your pig how and where to walk, like a runway show for the judge. Utilizing a show stick to tap the sides of the pig trains the pig to walk in the direction you desire. If we all used food in the ring it wouldn't be a pretty sight. The pigs would be too busy scarfing food and the judge would have a hard time comparing pigs. In 4-H this is a very important detail, training your pig to strut its stuff for the judge is a big bonus allowing the judge to see all angles of the pig at your discretion. The show stick is meant guide it in the direction you need it to go. Starting this 4-6 weeks before showtime is generally a good idea. Just hop out to the pen and guide your pig around with a stick to help create the habit of following your instructions and understanding the show stick.



## How to Shoot a Video Like a Pro

1. Get your body in position so your every breath does not lead to camera movement. Use the ground, a wall or other item to brace yourself and get different perspectives.
2. Shoot with the sun on your back. Play with different lighting and times of day to see what matches your pig best.
3. Instead of standing on the side or in front, try positioning yourself in the middle of all the 'action'.
4. Pay attention to the 'sounds' of the barnyard when you are filming. Are they distracting or do they add to the image you are trying to portray?



Illustration submitted by Jim Molloy

- a. Creating a video clip: Typically, more than a minute but less than 2 minutes for storage purposes. The video is possibly the most important piece of a virtual depiction of your busty beauty or handsome hog! You want the best clip of you and your pig working together. A clean pen preferable on flat level surface where the video can see a clear gait of the hog and how easily it walks around. The video should show both sides as well as the pig walking to the camera and directly away from the camera. These shots allow the judge to see the width of the hips, angle of the hocks and how freely the joints work to allow movement.

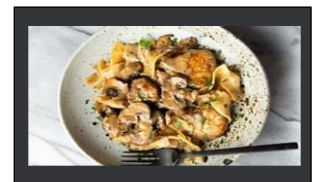
There you have it! A pig so clean and well behaved you could take it to the grocery store. Okay maybe not quite, but all these things are the best of Husbandry and of course take up a lot of time, kinda like children. Do them as best you can and involve your kids, grandkids, or your neighbors' kids. Even a little time consistently given, as you raise your pride IPP's, will help you and your show stock build a healthy bond. In the end this creates a wonderful show pig and will positively reflect on your show card. Judges that notice two pigs of the same top quality will turn to the smallest details when looking to place that top pig.

## *Creamy Pork*

Submitted by a "Pasture Pig Pork Lover"

Just writing this made my mouth water. We'd love to see your creations! Please post them on the Idaho Pasture Pig Facebook page. Happy Cooking!

- 1-2 pounds pork, cut into ½" cubes
- 2 tsp flour
- 4-8 tsp paprika (add according to your taste)
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- 2 TBSP butter
- 1 ½ cup heavy whipping cream



Place flour, paprika, salt and black pepper in a Ziploc bag. Add pork and toss until the pork cubes are covered.

Preheat a skillet and add butter on medium heat. Place pork in heated skillet and cook until brown (145-165 degrees internally).

Lower the heat and add heavy cream. Stirring constantly, bring the mixture to a boil and cook uncovered until the cream slightly thickens (5-7 minutes).

Serve hot over egg noodles or rice.

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## Words From an Amish IPP Breeder

Amish farms spread all across our county and bring to us a reminder there are those who still hold traditional values. Many Amish have ventured into the Idaho Pasture Pig world and we rarely get a glimpse of their thoughts, hopes and dreams. In this issue we count ourselves lucky to read, firsthand how Amos Riehl from Diversified Farms in Montezuma, Indiana first came upon this breed and how he feels about his IPP's. Thank you, Amos, for your insight and your dedication to this breed.

Hello From Diversified Dream Farm,

I got my first pair of Idaho Pasture Pigs in 2014, over 7 years ago. I first found out about them in a Farm Show magazine several years earlier. At that time, I was not ready to pursue them, but I knew, from the description, that I had to try them when I was ready to get back into pigs.

I had tried conventional crossbred hogs, farrow to finish, on pasture, soy free, & organic and found it not profitable even with direct marketing.

I had to let that farm go and work something else for a few years, but being a farmer at heart, it was temporary. That is when I saw the Farm Show article.

When I was ready to get started with IPP's, I could no longer contact the people who developed the breed, who lived in Idaho. I was finally able to talk to a lady in California who knew that they had gotten out of pigs entirely and most of the herd went to Pennsylvania. She gave me the contact information for Dave & Jodi Cronauer at White Bison Farm.

A friend and I made a trip to New York that fall to pick up a Red Devon bull for him and a cow and calf for me. Having been in contact with the Cronauer's, we stopped at their farm in the early morning hours to pick up the pigs and they were ready and waiting for us!

In time, we had a litter of eight of the cutest little pigs. I could not remember ever having a litter before that, that was up and out of their nest exploring their stall within just hours of being born, like these did. With dozens of litters since then, I like them more than any other breed we have tried, and we have tried quite a few.

The Idaho Pasture Pigs fit right into any diversified farm, and I think every homestead should have some. I have kept a half dozen sows and a couple of boars for several years and with breed improvement being my biggest interest, I think every generation is getting better. We still direct market some every year, with feedback on the excellent meat. I sell some feeder pigs every year and have repeat customers for those. There also seems to be a rising demand for quality breeding stock. Since the pandemic, this seems to be a breed whose time has come.

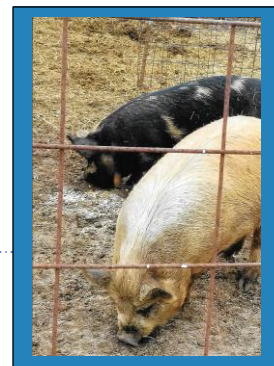
One of the things that we are excited about is a recent purchase of a property that is three times the size of where we are now. It is very likely we will double or triple our herd size in the coming years. Hopefully the old saying about hogs being mortgage lifters will hold true!

Has anyone ever done any production trials of grain and feed costs compared to conventional confinement? I would like to see the data if there is any. We could have a real marketing point if we could show numbers of the IPP's costing less per pound to raise because of eating less grain and more forage (with direct grazing being cheaper than harvested grain). Of course, the higher the cost of grain, the bigger the difference. With production performance of any kind, if you can't or don't measure it, how can you improve? So here is the challenge for everyone involved with Idaho Pasture Pigs.

We have the best type of pig I have ever found. Let's not lose sight of any of the most important traits: meat quality, docility, & ability to thrive on a high forage diet with fast enough growth rate to return a decent profit with meat production. Litter size also makes a difference. Your list might look a little different than mine, but I think that is okay. We can work together.

Have fun on the journey!

Amos Riehl  
Diversified Farms, Montezuma, IN



## Biosecurity— Protecting the Herd

Kirstin L. Bordner—Mouse Creek Farm

Kirstin Bordner has done extensive work on biosecurity on her farms and has worked in conjunction with her local Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture developing best practice procedures. Her dedication to herd and flock biosecurity has benefitted a multitude of farms in her area. Thank you, Kirstin for sharing your experience and knowledge in this area allowing us to keep our animals and homesteads safe.

In my day job as Turkey Grow-Out Manager, biosecurity is something that is on our minds every day, but Biosecurity is not just for confinement farms. The concept is to **keep the outside out and the inside in**. How do we accomplish this on a pasture system?

**Wear separate clothing that is barn only**, this clothing/shoes should never leave the farm, no running to the farm store “quick”. Farm stores, feed mills etc. are a good way for people to cross traffic, potentially dragging something home to your farm. Keep a can of Lysol, hand wipes etc. in the door of your vehicle to spray your shoes and clean your hands after leaving the store.

**Work youngest to oldest/Limit visitors**, attempt to set up one way traffic and keep visitors away unless proper biosecurity measures are followed. Foot baths/Lysol, hand sanitizer are good things to keep on hand. When establishing a new homestead, biosecurity should be part of the building plan.

**Quarantine all new stock for 30 days**. Ideally this area should be away from your other stock. Feed this group last, a separate pair of boots or boot covers would be beneficial.

**Water sanitation!** Sanitize water, cover water barrels, clean tanks. Many sanitizing agents are pH sensitive so getting a water test will help you pick which sanitizer you may need. Bacteria begin to build as soon as you fill your tank or barrel. I use Reliant tablets (<https://www.bestvetsolutions.com>) which are quick and easy, my pH is a 7, if your pH is higher than you may need to add an acid. I could go on, but honestly, this subject probably deserves a write up of its own.

**Know what is in your area and be prepared to deal with it**. For example: As of February 23, 2022, there is High path. Avian Influenza in commercial turkeys in Indiana and Kentucky, commercial broilers in Kentucky and Delaware, and backyard birds in Virginia, New York and Maine. AI follows the migration flyways and we can watch it move north as birds migrate. If your state has an alert system, join it. Separate any sick animals from the herd, consult your veterinarian, and if needed, vaccinate.

**Control flies and rodents**. Rotate bait and insecticide to prevent resistance. Keep manure cleaned up and composted. Keep barn area mowed and free of brush to prevent rats from moving in. If farrowing in a barn once the animals are removed, remove all feed and manure and bait immediately.

**Here are 2 links to biosecurity information**. The second link is an interactive program designed for 4H but I went through it myself and it is very good for everyone. (And a lot more fun!)

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/defend-the-flock-program/dtf-biosecurity/bird-biosecurity>

<https://www.healthyagriculture.org/training/youth-4h-ffa/biosecurity-learning-modules/>

Link to Animal Health and Hygiene products. <https://www.bestvetsolutions.com/products>



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## Save the Date!

The Idaho Pasture Pig Breed Association  
2022 Breed Show and Expo!

When: June 10th, 11th, & 12th

Where: Croton, Ohio

Join us for our second in person Show and  
Expo!

We are currently planning for an afternoon  
arrival on the 10th, showing and events during  
the day of the 11th, show winner  
announcements on the morning of the 12th  
with closing down at noon, and raffle drawings  
throughout the weekends events.

More Info Coming Soon!

We are excited to announce that the Idaho Pasture Pig Breed Association is ready for their 2<sup>nd</sup> On-Site Show & Expo!

Meet breeders and owners, see some of the best of the breed, and learn from experts .... It should be both fun and educational and we hope that everyone who is able gets a chance to attend!

### IPPR and IPPBA

I wanted to take a moment to clear up some questions regarding the Idaho Pasture Pig Registry and the Idaho Pasture Pig Breed Association. Education and the betterment of the breed is the goal for both groups. They are comprised of different board members and are two different entities, but strive to work together to build awareness and education within the breed.

- The primary focus of the IPPR is the Registration of the Idaho Pasture Pigs, continued education regarding the breed standard, overall care, feed, importance of minerals, shelters, best way to promote grazing, & a YouTube channel dedicated to education of all things related to Idaho Pasture Pigs.
- The primary focus of the IPPBA is to build a diverse community of IPP owners & breeders all over the United States. They focus on Shows, Conventions, and Educational Clinics to help educate and spread the word about this amazing breed of pig.

## The Registry needs you!

The Advisory Board would like to ask all of you as breeders and as owners of these amazing pigs to provide us with some topics you would like included in the next editions of the IPP Press.

- Anyone who would be interested in writing an article for submission in a future edition should send an email to the IPP Press
- Anyone with any topic ideas or things you feel should be included in an upcoming edition of the IPP Press please send an email.
- We would love pork recipes, cartoons, and “food for thoughts”
- The email address to for the IPP Press is [IPPpress2021@gmail.com](mailto:IPPpress2021@gmail.com)

## New Advisory Board Member Needed

The Registry would like to Thank Carrie Beegle for all her hard work and assistance as a member of the Advisory Board this past year. Carrie has been an asset to the Idaho Pasture Pigs as well as the Registry. It is with a sad heart that she has decided to resign from the Advisory Board and concentrate on her homestead and family going forward.

The new Advisory Board member is needed for the section in Red.

Requirements are:

- You must live in the Red section
- Have raised Idaho Pasture Pigs for at least a year
- Are a Registered Breeder of Idaho Pasture Pigs

If you meet all of these requirements and would like to join our Advisory Board, please send an email to the Registry at [idahopasturepigregistry@yahoo.com](mailto:idahopasturepigregistry@yahoo.com).

Please include the following information:

- contact information & farm name
- Length of time you have owned Idaho Pasture Pigs
- Why you would like to be a part of the Advisory Board
- How you feel you can benefit the Advisory Board

