

PIG FARROWING WORKSHOP

Jeffrey Linton & Rory O'Neill

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Introduction – Rory O'Neill

BURKEFIELD FARM



Pasture
raised



Heritage
breeds



Natural
feeds

Nestled in the hills of Eastern Northumberland County, Burkefield Farm breeds and raises heritage pigs for the charcuterie and specialty meat market.

Introduction – Jeffrey Linton

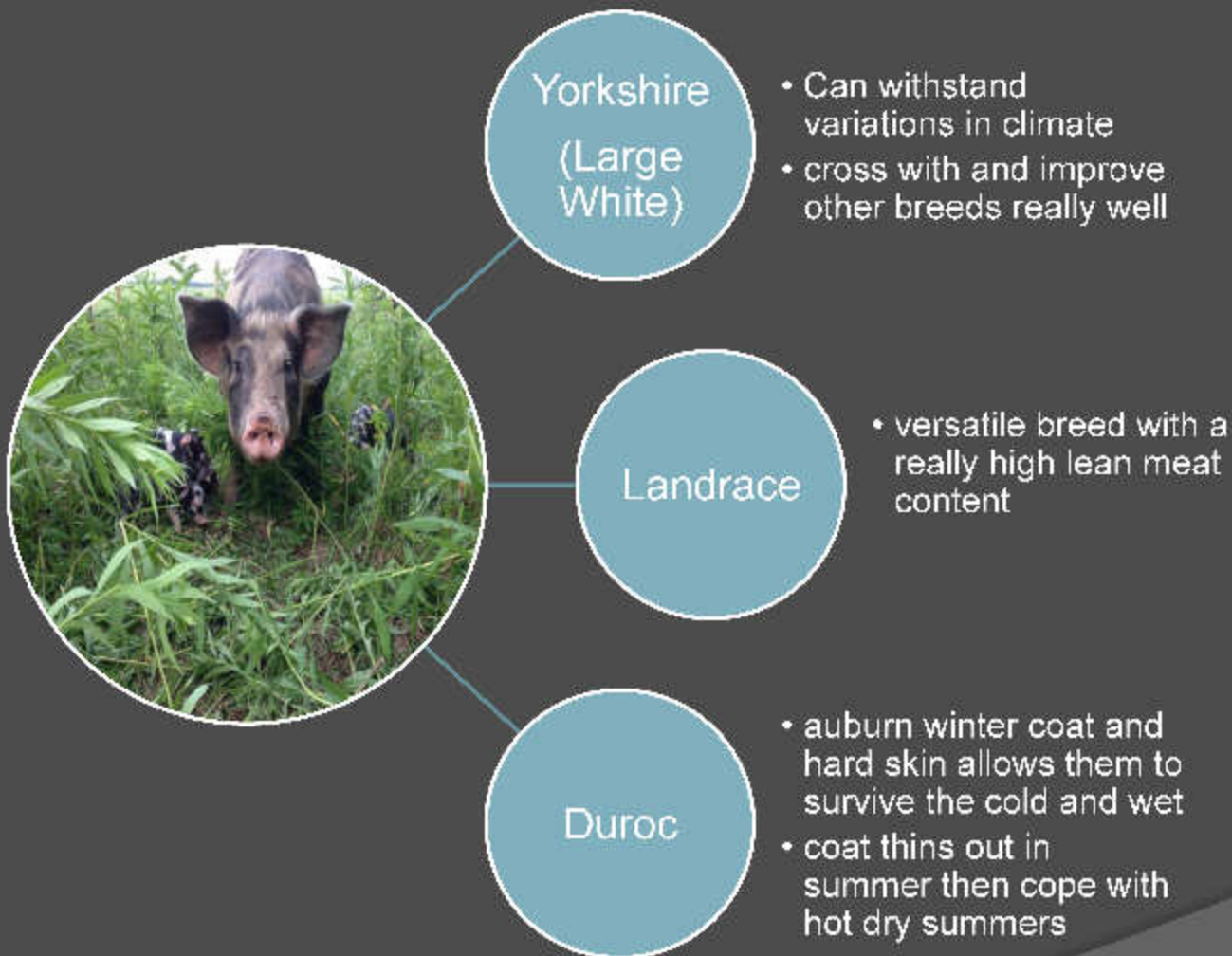


- a small farrow to finish family run farm located in Walton, Ontario.
- niche market pork producer who believes in humane and sustainable production.
- pasture raised, antibiotic free hogs are raised outdoors between Spring and Fall and during the Winter season they are raised in an old fashioned bank barn with an outdoor option.

Our Presentation Goal



Breed Selection (LPP)



These sows are also chosen for their great motherly instincts and nurturing qualities (historical characteristics of the York-Landrace breed) and their muscle tissue (Duroc trait).

Breed Selection (BFF)



Berkshire

- Heritage genetics
- Adaptable
- Hardy
- Mild temperament

Tamworth

- Traditional breed
- Outdoor foraging genetics
- Excellent mothering abilities

Other criteria: sows are selected for muscle definition, especially large hams and broad shoulders, reflecting market demands

Breeding

⦿ Breeding/Rebreeding

- sows are bred approximately 5-7 days in estrus after weaning
- our boar shares the pasture with the sows and assist in detecting Heats

⦿ Feed

- hogs are fed a non genetically modified and antibiotic- free grain based feed which include bio-dynamic minerals
- supplement their nutrients by foraging

JEFF LINTON CUSTOM SOW PREMIX

Ingredients:

Bio-Ag Sow Premix, Kelp Meal, Mineral Premix #1, DiCal, Feed Limestone, Flax Oil



Breeding (BFF)

⦿ Breeding/Rebreeding

- Multiple sows are placed in an outdoor paddock with boar who freely breeds with them
- Breeding spring and fall

⦿ Feed

- Sows are on mixed chop supplemented with forage and vegetables and fruits from the farm

The Pasture (Space Requirements)



The Pasture (BFF)



Pre-Farrowing Care



- Sows moved about a week prior to farrowing
- Fed with Gestation ration and de-wormed
- Sow huts padded with straw

Pre-Farrowing Care (BFF)



- Limit groups to 2 or 3 sows
- Huts as large as possible
- Access to shade and mud wallow critical in summer

Farrowing Space



Farrowing Space (BFF)



Farrowing



Farrowing (BFF)



- 1 day old

Post Farrowing Care (Sows & Piglets)



- Keep bedding clean and dry
- Ensure enough calcium and phosphorus in diet
- Foraging aids in milk production



Post Farrowing Care (BFF) (Sows & Piglets)



Castration



- ⦿ LPP
 - Day 1 – “farrowing coma”
- ⦿ BFF
 - 8 weeks
 - ~ 1week to heal

Weaning

- Our piglets are weaned at around 6 - 8 weeks old and are placed in a separate pasture to grow and mature.



Weaning (BFF)

- Weaning at 8 – 10 weeks
- Larger piglets
- Fully transitioned to solid food



Conclusion

For more information:

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Questions



Questions
are
guaranteed in
life;
Answers
aren't.