

TERMINAL SIRE LINES

OMX

OPTIMUM GROWTH, MAXIMUM FEED EFFICIENCY



The new OMX boar has been developed from the renowned Rattlerow MaxiMus and OptiMus sirelines. Combining selection indices over several years has resulted in a boar line which captures the advantages of both existing breeds.

With a combination of over 25 years of selection, the OMX brings to the producer and processor a unique balance between high lean meat yield and exceptionally fast, feed efficient lean growth. With a significant increase in processor loin and ham yield, it also ensures an improved killing out percentage and feed efficiency for the producer.

OMX boars are bred to be positive for the BETTERgen muscle+ gene, the only gene marker for lean and carcass uniformity. This leads to

improvements in P2 and uniformity of carcasses at heavy slaughter weights.

OMX progeny are also renowned for their robustness and speed of growth pre-weaning. Increased hybrid vigour promotes fast early growth, higher weaning weights and lower pre-weaning mortality. Progeny are calm, easy to handle and show very low levels of vice across a wide range of finishing conditions.

- **Excellent lean growth and feed efficiency**
- **Exceptional killing out percentage**
- **Maximum ham and loin value**
- **Robust piglets and high weaning weights**
- **Additional hybrid vigour**
- **Calm and easy to handle**
- **Very low levels of vice – can be reared without tail-docking.**

TERMINAL SIRE LINES: **Easy2Improve**

OMX

Rattlerow has developed separate sire lines that allow their progeny to excel in differing economically important traits. This permits breeders to select a sire line to improve certain carcass, feed efficiency or growth traits that are best suited to maximise profitability within their own business.

Advanced performance testing

Rattlerow boars benefit from testing within one of the most technologically advanced systems in which animals are genetically linked to herds across international populations. Our UK boars are produced and performance tested on nucleus farms owned and managed by Rattlerow. Feed intake, real time scanning and ultrasonics are used to collect accurate information on feed efficiency, growth and carcass quality. Using the Rattlerow BLUP programme individual estimated breeding

values (EBVs) are calculated on a weekly basis.

The OMX boar, in addition to conventional testing, also benefits from BETTERgen® muscle+ gene.

BETTERgen® muscle+ is a patented gene marker that identifies boars that carry a mutation responsible for increased muscle mass and reduced fat deposition. The marker explains up to 25% of the variation in meat quality traits, notably P2. As a result, progeny carrying this gene will express lower backfat and improved loin and ham yield and greater total lean meat percentage.

Economic index

Economic, production and marketing data are used to combine the EBVs into a single sire line index value called the £ Index. This index reflects the differing financial value of a boar, expressed in terms of the additional profit per litter sired

by that boar, relative to all other boars tested. The difference in the £ INDEX value between two boars of a similar line and BETTERgen® status, predicts the financial advantage expected between two litters they might produce.

Boar selection and acclimatisation

Only the very top performing boars are selected for AI based on their economic index. Great emphasis is placed on the visual selection of stock throughout the Rattlerow programme. After test and during the specialist hardening off, boars are repeatedly assessed on numerous points of conformation and any animal not achieving Rattlerow's exacting standards is culled. This critical selection over many generations has greatly aided uniformity within the Rattlerow lines.

Adding value by harnessing biotechnology

