

# "White-Faced" Swine

New Hereford breed of hogs  
is Latest feat of American hog breeders

A. Mack Scott, '43

THE term "Hereford" no longer refers specifically to the white-faced cattle that are seen the country over. A new breed of swine, the Hereford breed, has been developed with body color conforming to that of the Hereford breed of cattle.

This breed of swine was originated and developed by Mr. R. U. Webber, proprietor of the Parkland Stock Farm, La Plata, Missouri. The foundation stock being developed as early as 1902. As to the breeds used in securing the Hereford, the originator discloses only the fact that they are, "a cross of the white and red-blooded stock Duroc, Chesters, and O. I. C.'s and a peculiar strain or graft. The latter being withheld until further experience can be had along that line." Undoubtedly the red color was derived from the Duroc and the white color from the Chester White, followed by inbreeding which resulted in the development of this com-

paratively new breed. The Hampshire was probably used in the foundation stock as shown by the occasional belting that appears in the herds.

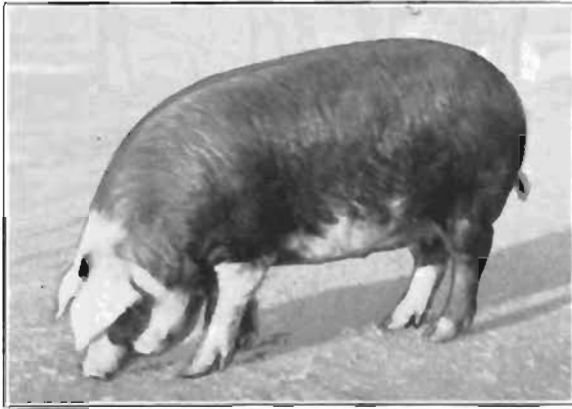
## Characteristics

The color and conformation are outstanding characteristics of this breed. The founders' idea in coloring was a cherry-red body, white face, white belly and white legs, such as the prescribed colors for the Hereford cow as set forth by the American Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association. Actually, the coloring of the individuals of this breed varies somewhat. The extent and amount of white markings is not established, but the originator's idea is being used as the aim to perfection. The number of "seedy cut" bacon bellies is reduced because of the lack of pigment in the underline. According to the National Hereford Hog Record Association all entries into the registry must be not less than two-thirds red in color.

The Hereford is small in size as compared with the other common breeds, and is in fact the smallest of all swine breeds. The mature boar weighs 750 pounds top weight, with the sow weighing 650 pounds top weight. This breed lacks the ranginess of many breeds, being fairly compact, having very little arch to their backs, and being short legged which gives them that "chunky, bulky" appearance. The



A herd of Hereford gilts



Cherry Blossom Queen

Hereford is quick maturing, being able to finish in five or six months at 180-225 pounds. If a larger carcass is desired they can be finished and carried at 400 pounds.

#### Associations

Two record associations now exist for this breed. The original association, The Universal Hereford Record Association, was started in 1920 by the founder and present secretary, R. U. Webber. In 1934, The National Hereford Hog Record Association was formed; A. J. Way of New Sharon, Iowa, being the present secretary. The latter association is more functional and does not recognize the pedigrees of the original association. Only about 100 head of the foundation stock were used by the new association in preparing their record book.

Much interest has been shown in this breed throughout Iowa. Hereford hogs have been exhibited at the Iowa State fair since 1931, and during the 1940 state fair the Iowa Hereford Hog Breeders Association was organized. John C. Schulte, Norway, Iowa, was elected president and Orval Weimers, Conrad, Iowa, is the secretary-treasurer. At present there are approximately fifty active Hereford hog breeders in Iowa offering Herefords for sale.

The verification of their slogan "coming

hog of America" can well be realized by the supporters of this breed if the Hereford proves valuable to the producer and provides a carcass of high dressing qualities to the packer.

#### New Journal

In addition to its official journal, the American Veterinary Medical Association has commenced the publication of the American Journal of Veterinary Research. The advantages of a research journal are obvious. Many articles of the research type which hitherto had to be refused can now be published promptly and the authors thus encouraged. The Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association will be reserved for clinical work and articles of smaller scope.

Restrictions have again been placed on the importation of parrots by the United States Public Health Service because of psittacosis.

During July and August (commonly known as "dog days") the star Sirius, rises with the sun. In ancient times it was believed that the ascent of this star caused the dogs to "go mad." This belief may be due to the fact that dogs, like people, become irritable when they are hot and uncomfortable and this irritability is mistaken for symptoms of rabies. Data compiled by the Illinois Department of Public Health, by the Hygienic Laboratory, Wash. D. C., and by the Kansas and New Jersey Experiment Stations indicate that the greatest number of cases occur during summer months, the peak sometimes occurring as early as March with the low point in July and August.

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