

# THE POWER OF GENETICS

EXPLORING THE UNIQUE TRAITS THAT DEFINE US



**DR. AMANDA CROSS**

**Director of genetic programs**

Dr. Amanda Cross started her undergraduate career as a chemistry major. However, she needed an additional class to fulfill a science credit, so she took a “fun animal science course”—breeding and genetics and swine management. After taking these two courses, Cross decided to double major in chemistry and animal science.

After completing her Bachelor of Science in animal science degree from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina, Cross started working on her Master of Science in genetics, which heavily focused on collecting farm data.

**“I really enjoyed working with the farm teams and explaining the ‘why’ behind the data we were collecting,” she said.**

While working on her PhD in genetics, Cross ran the swine

unit at South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota, and worked with the US Meat Research Center in Clay Center, Nebraska.

Originally from Raleigh, North Carolina, Cross joined DNA Genetics in 2017 as the director of genetic programs. In this position, she is responsible for ensuring our genetic program is implemented correctly at our nucleus and customer farms.

When asked about her favorite part of her position, she said it's analyzing data and seeing our genetic progress, but also working with customers for improvements.

**“As geneticists, our role extends beyond the walls of our farms,” she said. “When we have better genetics, it creates a better pig and, in the end, better food for consumers worldwide. It’s an exciting field with new advancements made every**

**day. I’m excited to see where the industry is in the next five to ten years.”**

In her free time, Cross enjoys relaxing and spending time with her family and friends.

To learn more about DNA Genetics' robust genetic program, visit [dnaswinegenetics.com](https://dnaswinegenetics.com).