

OUR COMMITMENT:

- Provide answers to real-world production challenges and questions that originate at the slat-level
- Collaborate extensively with the best and brightest experts from university and industry
- We share our results, for the benefit of pig producers, helping them to be more successful for their businesses and families



Want to learn more? Visit dnagenetics.com/podcasts or scan the QR Code to view our complete podcast library and subscribe to future episodes of "Inside the Helix." New episodes released biweekly.



INNOVATION FOR THE FUTURE

At DNA Genetics, our commitment is simple: "Raise the most profitable farrow to finish pigs for producers." In this inaugural edition of The Research Report, a biannual update from the DNA Genetics' Production Research and Development Committee, we'll provide a snapshot into the work we are doing, share key insights and highlight the trials we've completed—along with a forecast of what's to come.

We are a diverse team of scientists with interests in commercial production, swine health and genetic improvement. We are committed to tackling the real-world challenges that producers face every day. On our research farms, we design and execute trials that provide science-based solutions to these problems.

In 2025, we are eager to begin research focused on optimizing the management practices and nutritional requirements for the DNA Line 241 female. We will be evaluating the nutrient requirements for growing pigs and developing methods to reduce overall mortality for both pigs and sows.

We invite you to stay connected with us. We will continue to share our findings and technological advancements to help solidify your farm's success in 2025 and beyond.



Ashley Hartman, Ph.D.
Research Coordinator

RESEARCH FARM REMODEL

The new year brings exciting changes as we complete a remodeling project at our grow-finish research facility. The remodel features a new feed system combined with a feed 'kitchen' and chain disk delivery to individual pens allowing for multiple dietary treatments. Multiple water lines were installed to facilitate water treatment studies. This site contains two barns and more than 70 test pens.

Custom research partnership opportunities are available with the option to stock directly from our sow research farm to track lifetime impact.

The DNA Advantage.

Access to more than:

70,000

commercial sows, and

2 million

nursery and finisher pigs.



A dedicated research committee with more than

100 years

of research experience representing

6 specialties.

2025 PRODUCTION
RESEARCH FOCUS:

- Sow mortality
- Pre- and Post-weaning mortality
- Finishing feed efficiency
- Defining nutrient requirements for growing pigs
- PRRS prevention and mitigation
- Establishing nutritional standards of the 241 sow

Be on the lookout for more information regarding our six research presentations at the 2025 ASAS Midwest Conference and our summer internship program.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS:

In 2024, DNA Genetics conducted more than 20 research trials. Topics included:

- Evaluation of split suckling strategies on pre-wean piglet growth and mortality for high-producing sows
- Effects of pig movements in the nursery on viral load, growth and mortality
- Evaluation of a gilt PCAI catheter
- Assessing the influence of sow loading strategy, functional teat number and parity on litter performance
- Vaccine efficacy studies

9

collaborative trials, of which six are university collaborations

10+

trials in the planning stage

TRIAL SPOTLIGHT: *RISK FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH PRRS PERSISTENT INFECTION IN SOW FARMS*

The results of this recent trial highlighted the significance of an animal's breed and age at the time of PRRS infection on whether an animal remained persistently infected, shedding the virus over a longer period of time.

Younger animals at the time of infection had higher odds of becoming persistently infected, emphasizing the importance of strategic gilt loading practices to mitigate this risk. Meishan pigs exhibited a greater likelihood of persistently carrying the virus compared to Landrace or Duroc breeds. Given their frequent movement around farms for heat detection purposes, Meishans could serve as a continuous source of virus shedding, risking re-exposure to other animals on the site.

The study also explored innovative test and removal methods, which significantly shortened herd closure times compared to traditional practices. These findings advocate for timely identification and culling of infected animals.

Stay tuned for the full publication in Journal of Swine Health & Production coming in 2025! Or visit dnaswinegenetics.com/podcasts to listen to this episode featured on "Inside the Helix."