BEYOND THE HELIX

PERCEPTION VS. PROGRESS

THE REAL STORY OF TODAY'S DNA L241

The DNA L241 stands at the forefront of a new generation. With significant advancements over the last five years, the L241 female features exclusive genetics selected specifically for optimal performance in the North American market. On target to deliver 14 pigs that are 14 lbs. at 21 days of weaning, our dedicated team of geneticists made selections for the L241 female to improve birth weight, teat count and weaning weight - while also maintaining an emphasis on grow-finish performance. These genetic improvements have led our production research team to conduct trials focused specifically on the management practices and optimization of her performance.

The secret is out and the data is in - now is the time to bust some common industry myths about the DNA L241 female.

- *Myth: The DNA L241 female does not have the teat capacity for its litter size.*
- Fact: The DNA female's total born alive equals its teat count and she is the industry leader for teat retention. In fact, data supports that she can be loaded one piglet over teat count.

- *Myth: The DNA L241 female produces a small piglet that requires a lot of labor at birth.*
- Fact: The L241's average birth weight tops 3.1 pounds, and less than 3% of her piglets weigh 2 pounds or less. Therefore, minimal labor is required after birth for successful colostrum management.

- Myth: The DNA L241 female requires nurse sows to be successful.
- Fact: Minimizing the use of nurse sows reduces wean-finish mortality by over 1.5%, therefore maximizing a producer's farrow-to-finish profitability.

- Myth: All genetic lines require the same gestation feed to maximize productivity.
- Fact: The DNA L241 female is the industry's most feed-efficient gilt in gestation. Compared to competitors, the L241 saves producers up to $37 per sow per year in feed costs.

- Myth: The maternal component of the grow-finish pig is not important.
- Fact: Unlike other maternal lines, half of the L241's maternal index is focused directly on the market pig. This balanced approach includes selection for finishing traits — leading to fast-growing, feed-efficient offspring with nearly a $4 advantage per pig compared to other maternal lines.

If you haven't worked with or seen the DNA L241 female in the last few years, now is the time to get to know her.

To listen to the full podcast episode, visit dnaswinegenetics.com/podcasts/ and subscribe to receive future episodes of "Inside the Helix."

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