

## Lesson 7: Genetic Improvement Management Practices

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Selecting a Boar for Breeding**

**Objective:** Given two boars and one sow, select a boar to improve market hog genetics.

Using the descriptions provided below, identify the sow's strengths and weaknesses in each of the three categories of breed, physical traits, and performance records. Then identify each boar's strengths and weaknesses in the three categories. Determine which breeding system to use. Match the best boar with the sow to improve market hog genetics.

Sow	Boar 1	Boar 2
Breed - Yorkshire Backfat - 0.44 inches Loin eye area - 6.45 inches Days to 230 - 165 Lean - 63.5%	Breed - Duroc Backfat - 0.44 inches Loin eye area - 5.35 inches Days to 230 - 151 Lean - 55.1%	Breed - Hampshire Backfat - 0.58 inches Loin eye area - 7.1 inches Days to 230 - 160 Lean - 61.1%

1. List the weaknesses of the sow that will be improved upon through breeding.
2. Which boar is leanest?
3. Which boar has the fewest days to 230?
4. Which boar has the largest loin eye area?
5. Which boar will be used in the breeding program?