

We. A unique team.

In coming decades, global pork consumption is expected to increase by 1.5% per year, mainly in regions with a growing middle class. Pork producers are getting bigger, more professional and more vertically integrated. The green bar for sustainability continues to be raised for the different actors in the pork value chain. Within this context, Topigs Norsvin is striving passionately to be the world's most innovative swine genetics company. In other words: to create **Progress in Pigs. Every day.**

Due to up-and-coming new technologies and significant growth in Research and Development (R&D) costs, the critical mass required for successful pig breeding companies is rapidly increasing, leading to a more consolidated pig breeding industry. The recent merger of Topigs and Norsvin will enable Topigs Norsvin to increase joint yearly investments in R&D in order to meet the rising expectations of customers and other stakeholders, now and in the future.

We like to team up with our customers worldwide to support a sustainable and profitable production of high quality pork. In the end, the success lies in aligning people, pork and technology, and that's exactly what we do.

"We live in a dynamic and exciting business environment, with constant change from both a market and a technological perspective. In this context Topigs Norsvin has to make the right strategic choices to follow our vision."

Martin Bijl, Chief Executive Officer

Our Core Values:

Innovative *The world's most innovative swine genetics company*

Genetic progress is powered by an intensive R&D program in pig breeding and reproduction. Topigs Norsvin develops and implements the latest technology and knowledge to achieve genetic progress and create either added value or reduced costs in pork production. The most important product drivers are Total Feed Efficiency, the number of pigs/sow/year (PSY), growth and carcass value. On top of this, Topigs Norsvin animals are robust and produce robust progeny. This is a good example of a balanced breeding approach. In 2014 we invested €18 million in R&D, and in 2015 the budget will be close to €19 million in order to be able to serve our customers even better in the future.

The Topigs Norsvin breeding program stands for sustainable genetic progress in an integrated industry, using state of the art technology in a vast global population structure to secure a high health supply of genetic material. All breeding value

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estimations are performed with the help of Pigbase / Ingris, the largest and most sophisticated database of its kind in the world. Today Pigbase / Ingris contains historical data from more than 30 million pigs from the entire production chain. Furthermore, genetic progress is efficiently and safely distributed through state of the art AI technology.

Ambitious *The leader in the industry*

We will remain among the top pig genetics suppliers in all key markets and we will strive to double annual genetic progress on a commercial level over the coming years, just as we have done over the last four years. Our partners are equipped and supported in the best possible way to add value to their production systems. Topigs Norsvin aims to be the first choice for integrated production systems. Our efforts are tailored towards an integrated value chain in pork production, with leading products and delivering services on time and beyond customer expectations.

"We support a sustainable and profitable production of high quality pork."

Sustainable *Long-term provider of input to feed the world*

We believe in sustainability. Through efficient usage of natural resources, our products and procedures have a low environmental impact. At the beginning of the pork value chain, Topigs Norsvin

helps to serve people, planet and profit. We take responsibility for providing sustainable input into food security and food safety. Topigs Norsvin works according to the EFABAR code. This European code of conduct contains rules on sustainability. By adhering to this code, we demonstrate our commitment to the issue of sustainability and ensure that issues such as food safety, the environment, genetic diversity, animal health and animal welfare are taken into account in our breeding programs.

Partnership *The natural partner for cooperation*

Topigs Norsvin is actively seeking to develop long-term relationships with producers, integrators, processors, academic institutions and others in the pig industry in order to be the natural first choice for a long-term partner. We take pride in supporting the swine industry and our partners in a transparent way.

Our value proposition "Progress in Pigs" is supported not only by genetic progress, but also by the technical support of our specialists so as to enable producers to come as close as possible to genetic potential in real-life production circumstances. Topigs Norsvin is able to provide tailor-made solutions that perfectly match a producer's genetic requirements.

Topigs Norsvin and our global and local partners: a strong and winning team. Let's join forces!

Topigs Norsvin Canada acquires Signature Genes

On September 14, 2015, Topigs Norsvin Canada Inc. announced that it has purchased the swine genetics and business operations of Signature Genes of Ste. Anne, Manitoba.

The Signature Genes Duroc herd is a high-health, elite population of high quality Durocs that is well known in Manitoba and western Canada. Established in 1981, this herd has been performance tested for more than 30 years. Throughout these years, the use of the most modern testing methods has been applied. Measurement and selection for backfat, growth rate, feed conversion and meat quality have made the Signature Duroc desirable by producers and packers alike.

Topigs Norsvin Canada General Manager, Cam McGavin commented, "The completion of this purchase is the result of several years of planning. The merger of TOPIGS and Norsvin in 2014 brought the Norsvin Duroc line to Canada. Now with the acquisition of the Signature Duroc we will be able to offer two very distinct Duroc lines to our customers. As with all of our lines, we will apply the very best methods of genetic improvement and technology to the Signature lines."

The Signature Duroc boars and semen are currently available at several AI studs in Canada with new opportunities being pursued.



Signature Duroc

Hufco, LLC receives Spirit of Excellence Award

For the second consecutive year, Don and Bert Huftalin (Malta, IL) have received the Spirit of Excellence Award, recognizing Hufco, LLC as a quality supplier to Hormel Foods Corporation. The award is given annually to those that supply Hormel with high-quality, consistent products.

Hufco averaged over 92.5% in the Red Box at Hormel during 2013 and 2014, and recorded 94.15% during the second quarter of 2015. While this award reflects the Huftalin's husbandry and management skills, they give their genetic supplier some credit as well.

"The Norsvin Duroc had an immediate effect on the uniformity of our end product, making it easier and quicker to close out a room," noted Bert Huftalin, "and the maternal genetics increased our total born and born alive. She's a good mother with great milking ability."

Hufco began rolling their maternal genetics to Topigs Norsvin via semen almost seven years ago. "The folks at Topigs Norsvin are a pleasure to do business with – we have always received a quality product with excellent biosecurity."

Congratulations, Hufco!

Grand Vertex Opens in Illinois

Topigs Norsvin USA is pleased to announce the opening of Grand Vertex, LLC, a new boar stud near Canton, IL. Recently constructed, Grand Vertex is a fully-filtered, positive pressure facility that holds 200 boars in inventory and is managed by Professional Swine Management, LLC, a division of Carthage Veterinary Services, Ltd.

Grand Vertex is the leading nucleus-level boar stud for Topigs Norsvin USA, supplying semen to nucleus and key multiplier herds, as well as commercial customers. "This stud is well isolated

and the location enables fresh semen to be delivered to most areas of the Midwest," commented Les Cain, Chief Operating Officer for Topigs Norsvin USA. "Further, it is in close proximity to a highly experienced boar stud management team which already has a bio-secure semen courier network in place."

Grand Vertex began shipping semen mid-May, 2015 and houses boars for all of the Topigs Norsvin USA products: Tempo, Norsvin-Duroc, Z-line (Large White), and Norsvin Landrace.



Entry Sign



Barn Interior



State-of-the-art Lab



Grand Vertex, LLC

Topigs Norsvin Canada Multiplication Growth



The Hooegeveen Family

There is a high demand for Topigs Norsvin genetics in countries around the world and North America is no exception. From terminal sires to maternal products and the InGene program, producers large and small are seeking to benefit from the Topigs Norsvin genetic program. The increase of market share and demand in Canada and the USA has rapidly surpassed the supply of the high quality, productive females for which Topigs Norsvin is well known.

Verard Farms Ltd. – British Columbia

The beautiful Fraser Valley is where B.C. agriculture happens. Surrounded by large estate homes, not far from several major centres and the city of Vancouver, agriculture continues to thrive. The local market of more than 2.5 million people drives the production of specialty crops, fruits and vegetables. As well, livestock farms including poultry, dairy and hog production are common place here. Many products reach the consumer as a direct sale at the farm or at local markets.

While total sows in the valley number around 6,000 there is a great demand for quality, efficient breeding stock. Historically F1 gilts have been purchased from breeding companies and transported from the Prairies. Topigs Norsvin saw the need to establish local multiplication and eliminate the long deliveries from the Prairies.

Ard and Verna Hooegeveen have a diversified farming operation. Together with their daughters Natalie, Elaine, Susan and Megan, they manage a 295 sow farrow-finish farm and a 20,000 specialty

broiler quota. With their focus on attention to detail and production excellence, Topigs Norsvin multiplication was an obvious choice for the Hooegeveens. On August 4, 2015 a load of 200 Great Grandparent Z Line females from Paradise Valley arrived at their farm near Chilliwack. Stocking with multi-age gilts will allow them to integrate them over a cycle to begin producing Topigs 20 gilts for the valley. Their enrollment in the Topigs Norsvin InGene program will also allow them to produce and select the very best Z Line replacement gilts for their herd. Going forward, they will only purchase semen from Topigs Norsvin to manage their breeding program.

The Hooegeveens have been using the Tempo terminal semen to produce quality market hogs for Johnston's Packers in Chilliwack. A select number of these hogs are processed into special products and sold directly from the farm to the consumer. Their quality products are also available at various local markets. More information about Verard Farms can be found at www.verardfarms.com

Albion Ridge Colony – Alberta

Located in the bread basket of Alberta near Picture Butte, is Albion Ridge Colony. The colony was established in 2009 and has almost 100 members. Along with some metal fabricating, Albion Ridge specializes in crop production, dairy, and operates a 380 sow farrow to finish hog production unit. Having stocked the unit with Topigs Norsvin triple negative high health breeding stock, the decision was made in 2014 to roll the sow herd to Z Line

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females. A new quarantine barn was built to ensure that their high health status is maintained. Albion Ridge is the first Alberta multiplier in the Topigs Norsvin system and will supply many customers in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana with the highly prolific Topigs 20 female.

Reuben Wurz and his team are excellent producers and market their hogs to the Maple Leaf plant in Lethbridge. This plant requires the right combination of meat quality and colour for the Japanese export market.

Already being in a position to supply several customers with gilts, the transition from commercial hog production to specialized gilt production has been an easy one. Customer acceptance of the Albion Ridge gilts has been excellent. Local production eliminates long distance hauling and lends itself to more flexibility of delivery.

Willow Creek Colony – Manitoba

Being diversified is the key to growth and success when it comes to operating a large colony, and Willow Creek colony is no exception to this rule. Grain, hogs and manufacturing all play a key role in the businesses they run. For example, hauling anything from grain to gravel requires many variations of trailers, and Willow Creek Colony manufactures and sells Canuck Trailers, known for their quality, through several dealers. More information can be obtained at www.canucktrailer.com

A total of 5,000 sows are in production at Willow Creek Colony. The hog production units consist of two – 1,250 sow farrow to wean units located on the colony property. A third barn, Crocus

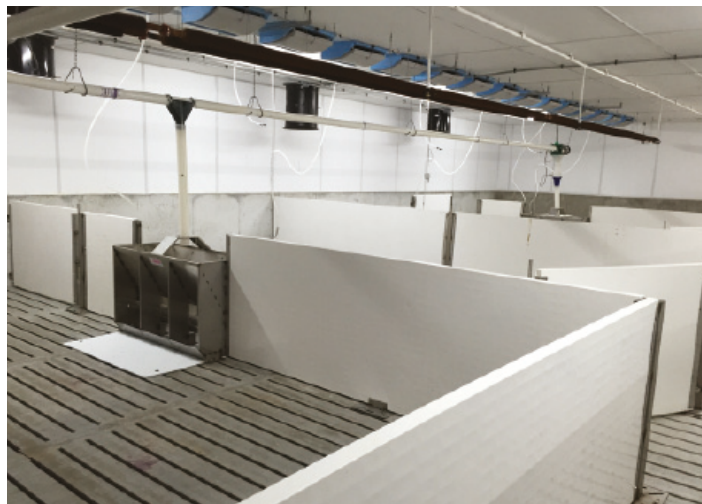
Country Pork is a 2,500 sow farrow to wean unit also owned by Willow Creek. Located 11 miles away, this unit is managed and operated by external staff. All of the weaner production from the 5,000 sows is sold to a buyer in the USA for finishing. After having been with another genetics company for many years, a decision was made to repopulate the two 1,250 sow farms with Topigs Norsvin stock in early 2014. The Crocus farm also made the change and began introducing Topigs Norsvin gilts and terminal semen to continue with commercial weaner production.

Once the previous herd was depopulated, and some barn upgrades were completed, the two home units were restocked with triple negative, high health Topigs 20 and Z Line gilts. The InGene program allows them to make their own replacement gilts and eliminate any further introductions of live animals.

Managers Alan Hofer and Jarvis Hofer, along with their barn teams, have brought the production at their respective units to new levels. As a young start-up herd with an average parity of 1.2, both barns are already weaning almost 32 pigs/sow/year. With this level of production, Willow Creek has been able to drop their sow inventory to about 1,100 sows in each barn while weaning and selling more pigs than with the previous genetics they had. In early 2015, a decision was made to change both of these farms to multiplication and produce gilts for Topigs Norsvin. Gilts will be grown out at off-site nursery and finisher barns. Barrow weaners will continue to flow to the USA while gilts will be sold to commercial producers across North America.

Hillside Colony builds new GDU

Hillside Colony of Dolland, South Dakota is a Z-line nucleus for Topigs Norsvin. They recently completed the construction on a new Gilt Development Unit to be used for Z-line grow out. The 3,000-head barn is fully-slatted with wet/dry feeders and includes a high-tech ventilation system. Z-line gilts were placed into the new barn on August 5, 2015.



Hillside Gilt Developer Unit

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AI Stud Stations

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Fort Macleod, AB
Andrew Buesekom
(888) 553-4844

Carlo Genetics Inc.

Ste. Anne, MB
George Goossen
(204) 355-4012

Total Swine Genetics Inc.

Tillsonburg, ON
Stuart De Vries
(800) 844-9913

C & M Genetics

Lucan, ON
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Ai Partners

Morris, MN
Bruce Zierke
(320) 760-3504

Whole Hog AI

Hartington, NE
Ron Brodersen
(402) 254-2444

Topigs Norsvin Insider Quiz

How to Play

Please answer the questions in our Insider Quiz. All the answers are in this newsletter. Then fax, mail or email your answers, along with your name, address, and phone number to: Fax: 204-489-3152 Email: info@topignorsvin.ca

Entries are to be received by October 31, 2015. The *first 10 entries drawn with the correct answers* will receive a \$20.00 Walmart gift card. The Topigs Norsvin rep in your area will deliver the prize. Employees of Topigs Norsvin and their subsidiaries are not eligible.

In 2014, how many Euro dollars were invested in R & D? _____

How many sows are in multiplication at Willow Creek Colony? _____

Where is Grand Vertex located? _____

Which company gave the Spirit of Excellence Award to Hufco, LLC? _____

Name: _____

Farm Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____ Email: _____

Topigs Norsvin INSIDER Quiz Winners

Here are the winners from the last issue: David J Wipf, Parkland Colony, AB; Adam Kleinsasser, Huron Colony, MB; John Kleinsasser, Midland Colony, AB; Katherina Waldner, Evergreen Colony, MB; Paul Wurtz, Horizon Colony, MB; Melvin M. Wipf, Grass Ranch Colony, SD; Sean Walter Wipf, Springfield Colony, MB; Tim Hofer, New York Farming, AB; Rudy Waldner, Sturgeon Creek Farms, MB; Matthew Wurtz, Jamesville Colony, SD

Each winner receives a \$20.00 Walmart Gift Certificate. The Topigs Norsvin rep in your area will deliver your prize. Congratulations!

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