









The Livestock Conservancy

Quick Reference Guide to Heritage Hog Breeds

Photos	Breed	CPL Status	Adult Weight M/F (lbs)	Average Litter Size	Temperament	Adaptations	Use	Optimal Harvest Weight (lbs)	Hanging weight (60% dress out)	Notes
	Hereford	Watch	800/600	10 piglets	docile	Good in any climate and can do well on pasture and confinement	lean meat	250-260	153 lbs	An American breed developed to have same color pattern as Hereford cattle. They make excellent 4-H pigs and will do well in beginners hands. Fast growth rate.
	Gloucestershire Old Spots	Critical	300/275	6-10 piglets	docile	Needs shade so to avoid sunburn of white skin but does well in most climates	lean meat	260-280	162 lbs	Breed created to forage on windfall fruit and dairy by-products such as whey. Known for gentle temperaments and good mothering skills.
	Guinea Hog	Critical	200/150	6-10 piglets	docile	Good in any climate and terrain, can be long-lived	meat and cured products	150-180	100 lbs	Great homestead pig, excels in production of cured meat products. The breed has a close affinity to rural southern culture in America.
	Large Black	Critical	750-650	8-12 piglets	docile	Good in any climate, forages well in wooded areas	meat and cured products	230-250	144 lbs	Produces a very tender meat, has been crossed with Ossabaw to make excellent cured meat products. They are typically very laid back but can become very large.
	Mulefoot	Critical	550-450	5-6 piglets	docile-active	Good in any climate and in wet conditions with its non-cloven hooves	lean meat	250-260	153 lbs	Easy keepers, great choice as homestead pig or for small scale pork production. They are active grazers and perfect for homesteads and or small farm production.
	Ossabaw Island	Critical	300/200 (variable among lines)	6-10 piglets	active	Good in any climate and terrain	meat and cured products	175	105 lbs	Excellent for silvopasturing in woods and for the production of cured meat products. Very active foragers with strong maternal instincts. Best kept in groups as they are very social.
	Red Wattle	Critical	750-550	9-10 piglets	docile	Good in any climate and terrain	lean meat	260-280	162 lbs	Developed in Texas as easy keeper with rapid growth rate, another top choice with chefs. Typically docile but will get very large.
	Tamworth	Threatened	500-600 for both sexes	~10 piglets	docile-active	Good in any climate and terrain, very athletic	lean meat	250-275	160 lbs	Excels on pasture and is an active grazer. This breed is popular with chefs. They are very athletic and will need good fencing to keep them in.