

โครงการปรับปรุงพันธุ์สุกรที่มหาวิทยาลัยเกษตรศาสตร์

Swine Improvement Project at Kasetsart University¹

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The swine industry in Thailand has proven to be very profitable if correct farming methods are applied. The industry is becoming more and more important because pork is very popular and widely consumed throughout the country. Furthermore, pigs multiply rapidly and are relatively easy to keep, thus helping to stabilize the family as well as the national economy.

According to the statistics reported by the Department of Agricultural Economics in 1963, there are about five million pigs in Thailand with a value of about 2,500 million baht. Over 33 million baht worth of swine was exported in 1963. Most of the pigs raised and sent to the market are the native breeds and crossbreds. The native pigs possess many undesirable characteristics and are deficient in many desirable characteristics, thus, they must be improved genetically. However, they probably possess the ability to withstand and tolerate tropical heat and diseases. One way to improve the native pigs is to cross them with European or American breeds. Some attempt has been made in crossing European breeds with the native pigs, but the results have

not been very satisfactory because there were no definite breeding plans and follow-up.

Therefore, there is much need for research to find basic information. It is necessary to set up a breeding program which will introduce desirable characteristics of European or American breeds and at the same time utilizing the desirable characteristics of the native pigs. It will also furnish the basic knowledge necessary for the development of new superior breed or breeds of hogs for Thailand.

The principal objectives of this study are (1) to determine, develop, and test the breeding and selection program which may be used by hog producers to improve the performance and quality of hogs; (2) to investigate the usefulness of a crossbreeding program for the improvement of native hogs for high quality pork production; (3) to study the effects of crossbreeding and inbreeding and the

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1. A progress report of Kasetsart/Hawaii University Project No. 11, "Improvement of Swine Production Through Breeding".
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inheritance of the traits; (4) to evaluate and demonstrate the application of such knowledge in a swine breeding program; (5) to develop a breed or breeds of swine most suitable for Thailand conditions.

The points to be emphasized in the investigations are as follows:

1. To study various crossbreds in order to find the best combination of the Native and European or American purebreds with respect to growth and reproduction.
2. To compare the carcass quality of crossbred, Native and European pigs.
3. To study various crossbreeding programs, including the reciprocal crosses.
4. To study the adaptability of the crossbreds to Thailand conditions.
5. To study the heritability of the different traits to be used in forming a breeding program.
6. To study swine feeds and feed additives which have not been used before in swine production.
7. To formulate the new rations at various stages of growth and reproduction.
8. To apply all the information obtained towards the eventual development of a breed or breeds of swine for Thailand.

RESULTS

This project was approved by the KU/UH Contract on November 20, 1962. In the first year the progress of the project was slow because it started from nothing; there were no buildings and no pigs. Most of the funds came from two important sources, the KU/UH Contract and Kasetsart University. The big part of the money went for feeds and buildings. At the present there are four buildings which were constructed by Kasetsart University at the cost of 290,000 baht. The total floor area is 13,877 square feet with 116 pens. The office is loaned by the Livestock Department.

In the beginning, the foundation stock for the breeding program was donated by the Livestock Department or purchased by the KU/UH Contract. The American and European purebred animals donated by the Livestock Department were 8 Hampshires, 10 Duroc Jerseys and 10 Large Whites. Thirty native pigs and 12 American Landrace pigs were purchased by KU/UH Contract funds.

Most of the feed and some of the equipment were supported by KU/UH Contract funds.

The total number of pigs that were in the project as of the April 30, 1965 is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. *Inventory of animals.*

Breed or Cross	No. of pigs on hand 4-30-65						Total number animal on hand
	Adult		Young		Suckling		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
American Landrace	2	5	1	3	24	20	55
Duroc Jersey	5	8	—	1	—	—	14
Hampshire	4	7	—	1	13	37	62
Large White	1	5	11	13	—	—	30
Native	5	19	8	—	—	—	32
A.L. × Native	—	—	1	11	—	—	12
D. × Native	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
L.W. × Native	—	5	—	3	—	—	8
H. × Native	—	—	—	—	3	5	8
A.L. × Hampshire	—	—	10	8	—	—	18
A.L. × Duroc	—	—	3	3	13	9	28
Total	17	55	34	43	53	71	273

General Managerial Practices

All the pigs were raised confined in pens with concrete floors. The area of the floor space in each pen and each house is different. This depends on the stage of growth of the pigs. House No. 1 is called the farrowing house, having a wider space for each pen (164 square feet) than the pen in the other houses (House No. 2 and 3—each pen is 88 square feet; House No. 4—each pen is 124 square feet). In this house, ten pens are specially developed for the farrowing sows. It has a brooder in each pen which has the space of 25 square feet and there are guardrails along the walls but there is no farrowing stall. House No. 1 consists of 5236 square feet and is divided into 26 pens. Houses No. 2 and 3 consist of 4480 square feet and each house is divided into 28 pens. House

No. 4 consists of 4161 square feet and is divided into 32 pens.

The feeding of the animals depends upon the stage of growth and reproduction. For different kinds of rations, see the appendix. The method of feeding is hand-feeding or full-feeding by hand twice a day and giving fresh green Para grass between feeding periods. The amount of feed given daily is not restricted except for the pregnant animals. Drinking water is made available at all times. The hog pens are constantly kept dry and clean.

Baby Pig Loss The study "Causes of Death of Pigs From Birth to Weaning" was made during the period January 1963 to December 1964. There were 259 pigs born to apparently healthy sows (5 Duroc

Jerseys, 5 Hampshires, and 10 Natives). Seventy-seven pigs died during the suckling period. This was 27.2% of all the pigs born alive and 29.7% of all

pigs farrowed. The distribution of the death rate by age during the 8-week period is shown in Figure 1.

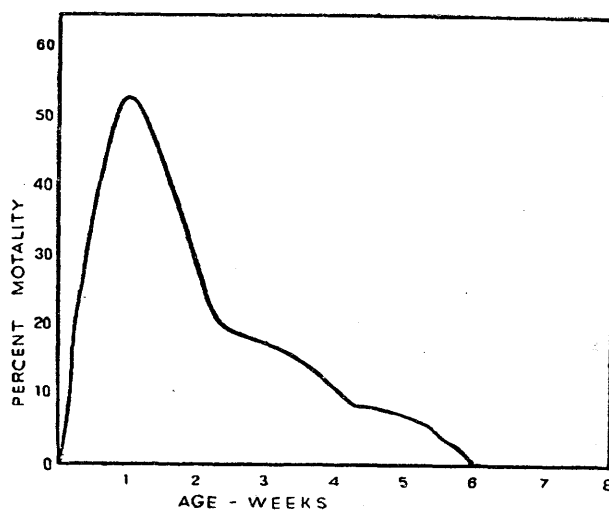


Fig. 1. Distribution of suckling pig mortality to 8 weeks.

Table 2 shows that the common causes of death were as follows: (1) 30 were crushed by sows; (2) 19 died of general weakness due mainly to a low birth weight of less than one pound; most of them died within a few days after birth and all died within 7 days; (3) 10 died because of various diseases such as pneumonia, impaction of stomach, gastro-

enteritis, and hepatitis; (4) 9 were born dead; and (5) 9 died of no apparent cause.

Scouring was observed in almost all litters and as early as one week of age. Some deaths may have been due to scouring which lowered the resistance of the pigs to other diseases.

Table 2. Causes of death of suckling pigs.

Causes of Death	Number of pigs	Percentage of all pigs farrowed	Percentage of all losses	Percentage of all pigs farrowed alive
Low birth weight	19	7.3	24.6	7.6
Pathological	10	3.8	12.8	4.0
Born dead	9	3.5	11.8	—
Crushed by sow	30	11.6	39.0	12.0
No apparent cause	9	3.5	11.8	3.6
Total	77	29.7	100.0	27.2

Birth weight, survival rate and weaning weight are shown in Table 3. The bigger the animals at birth, the higher the survival rate and weaning weight. This may be explained by the

fact that the bigger the animals are at birth, the stronger and more active they are. Most of the lower weight animals were born from the Native mother.

Table 3. *The effect of weight of individual pigs at birth on their survival and on their weaning weight.*

Birth weight lb.	Number of pigs			Percentage weaned of total		Average weaning weight lb.
	Farrowed	Born dead	Died during suckling	Farrowed	Farrowed alive	
0.1 - 0.5	14	1	7	42.85	46.15	11.25
0.6 - 1.0	50	4	12	68.00	72.90	14.10
1.1 - 1.5	76	2	24	65.77	67.56	13.59
1.6 - 2.0	54	—	13	75.92	75.92	18.52
2.1 - 2.5	21	—	8	61.90	61.90	20.70
2.6 - 3.0	25	—	4	84.00	84.00	23.54
3.1 - 3.5	11	—	—	100.00	100.00	21.94
3.6 - 4.0	7	2	—	71.40	100.00	34.80
4.1 - 4.5	1	—	—	100.00	100.00	46.00
Total	259	9	68			
Average				70.30	73.85	22.72

Table 4 shows the comparison of baby pig losses during the period May 1, 1964 to November 30, 1964 which was 45.21% with the period December 1, 1964 to April 30, 1965 which was 10.2%. It is seen that the death losses during the first period were much too high. Thus, in 1965, the general managerial and feeding practices were improved.

At the suggestion of the Advisor, the slatted floors were placed inside the brooder area for the bay pigs. These slatted floors served to keep the baby pigs off the damp dirty concrete

floors and kept them dry and clean. Cases of scours were reduced significantly.

During the first few days after birth, the baby pigs were confined in the brooder and released only to nurse the sows. Confinement of the baby pigs reduced the chances of sows crushing them.

It is seen that the use of slatted floors in the brooders and confinement of the baby pigs for a few days except for nursing reduced the baby pig losses significantly.

Table 4. *Death losses of baby pigs.*

Breed or Cross	5-1-64 to 11-30-64					12-1-64 to 4-30-65				
	Sows Farrowing	Gilts	No. born alive	Died suck- ling	% Death	Sows Farrowing	Gilts	No. born alive	Died suck- ling	% Death
A.L.	4	—	34	5		4	—	45	1	
D.	2	—	17	5		—	—	—	—	
H.	—	—	—	—		1	5	64	6	
L.W.	2	—	18	11		—	3	31	7	
N.	1	—	15	15		—	—	—	—	
A.L.×N.	8	—	89	54		—	—	—	—	
D.×N.	1	—	14	4		—	—	—	—	
L.W.×N.	3	—	25	6		—	—	—	—	
A.L.×D.	1	—	12	5		1	2	35	3	
A.L.×H.	3	—	18	2		1	—	12	2	
H.×N.	—	—	—	—		1	—	9	1	
Total	25	—	242	107	45.21	8	10	196	20	10.20

Feeding Practices

Feed costs make up more than three-fourths of the swine production costs. Feeding is important for the strength, survival, size and quality of pigs at weaning and marketing periods. Thus, it is very important that boars, gestating sows, lactating sows, and growing pigs at all stages are properly fed. All the rations for this project were formulated according to the requirements set forth by the U.S. National Research Council. Formulas for the various rations are given in the appendix.

Besides developing the basic rations for all classes of pigs for the project, some studies were made to determine the effects of feeding different levels of sweet potatoes and cassava meal to swine.

The levels of dried sweet potato meal tried were 20, 30, 40, and 50

percent of the rations. The rate of gain and feed efficiency were very poor for the high levels of sweet potatoes. It seems that the maximum level should be about 20 percent. More work needs to be done to get a more definite answer.

The levels of cassava meal tried were 10-15, 20-25 and 30-35 percent of the ration. Fairly good results were obtained by all levels. Again, more work needs to be done to establish definite recommendations.

Breeding Practices

To develop a new breed of swine for Thailand, first, it is necessary to find out many basic information. Therefore, the breeding program is divided into three steps.

1. The first step will be concerned with the crossbreeding and reciprocal crosses. The purpose is to make com-

parisons between the native pigs and crosses between European and/or American breeds and the crossbreds of Native crossed with the different breeds of European or American breeds. The comparisons will be made especially on

the economically important traits. In the crossbreeding program, one male will be mated randomly with one female. The breeding plan is shown in Table 5.

Table 5. *Crossbreeding plan.*

Female Male	(5) Native	(5) Duroc	(5) Hampshire	(5) Large White	(5) Landrace
(5) Native	X	X	X	X	X
(5) Duroc	X	X	X	X	X
(5) Hampshire	X	X	X	X	X
(5) Large White	X	X	X	X	X
(5) Landrace	X	X	X	X	X

Note: (—) = Number of animals

X = Mating

2. Then the selected animals in the first step will be used for crossing with the other breeds to make the breed crosses and rotational crosses. The comparison will be made among the different crossing methods such as the criss-cross, reciprocal cross and rotational cross.

3. The selected animals in the second step will be used as foundation stock to continue the lines to develop the new breed. Selections will be made on the basis of the records made in performance tests, conformation, carcass quality, adaptability to Thailand's environmental conditions, etc. Therefore, a flexible system of inbreeding will be applied within lines in order to fix desirable qualities and to increase prepotency.

Selection of Breeding Stock

Maximum benefits from crossbreeding will be obtained by careful selection and performance-testing of the breeding stock used.

The genetic merits of the boars will be selected on the basis of superior records for the economically important traits—growth rate, feed efficiency, and carcass quality as well as desirable conformation.

Replacement gilts will be selected on the basis of the dam's productivity, growth rate, back fat thickness and desirable conformation.

Data to be recorded are as follows:

1. Reproduction

- a. Length of gestation period
- b. The number and weight

- of pigs born per litter (dead and alive)
- c. The number and weight of pigs weaned per litter
 - d. Abnormalities or inheritance defects
 - e. Age of gilt and boar at first farrowing and first service
2. Growth and growth pattern
 - a. Weaning weight at 56 days of age
 - b. Growth pattern from weaning to marketing. All pigs will be weighed at 14-day intervals from the 56th day of age until they are slaughtered at 100 kg. body weight.
 3. Feed efficiency. Each litter will be fed separately. The amount of feed eaten by the pigs during the feeding period will be divided by the gains made during this same period to determine the amount of feed required per unit of gain.
 4. Carcass quality. When the pigs reach the marketing weight (100 kg.) they will be weighed and slaughtered to find the following characteristics:
 - a. Dressing percentage
 - b. Carcass measurement
 - 1) Carcass length
 - 2) Backfat thickness
 - 3) Lean cuts (ham, loin, picnic, Boston butt)
 - 4) Loin eye area
 5. Live animal scores. All pigs will be rated individually by scoring when they reach 90 kg. Scoring will be done by a committee of two or three men.

The results of the studies on litter size, birth weight, growth rate during suckling period, weaning weight, comparative studies on growth rate and feed efficiency from weaning to market weight, and carcass characteristics are shown in Tables 6, 7 and 8.

These are only preliminary data on a limited number of animals. Therefore, no conclusions are drawn. They are presented only to show trends as seen thus far.

Table 6 *Litter size, birth weight, weaning weight and rate of gain of pigs farrowed.*

Observation	Crosses or breeds						
	L.W.×N.	D.J.×N.	A.L.×N.	A.L.×H.	H.	D.J.	N.
No. of pigs farrowed	43	40	18	14	51	40	53
No. of litters	4	4	2	2	5	5	5
Litter size	10.7	10.0	9.0	7.0	10.2	8.0	10.6
Litter size at weaning	8.5	6.0	7.0	6.5	7.4	5.2	6.8
Birth weight (lbs.)	1.2	1.4	1.1	2.8	1.9	2.9	1.4
Weaning weight (lbs.)	14.4	16.4	16.3	23.3	19.3	18.9	15.5
Rate of gain (lbs.)	0.24	0.27	0.27	0.37	0.31	0.29	0.25

*LW = Large White

DJ = Duroc Jersey

N = Native

H = Hampshire

AL = American Landrace

Table 7. *Carcass quality of crossbreds.*

Observation	Crosses	
	Large White × Native	Duroc × Native
No. pigs slaughtered	7	7
Av. liveweight before slaughter (kg.)	100.94	100.92
Av. dressing percentage	73.97	74.25
Av. backfat thickness (mm.)	45.76	46.018
Av. loin eye area (sq. in.)	3.648	3.335
Av. % lean	25.12	26.904
Av. % loin and tenderloin	5.51	5.604
Av. % bacon	23.04	23.424
Av. % head	7.90	7.58
Av. % bone	15.34	15.44
Av. carcass length (mm.)	745	735
Av. % fat	27.64	26.18

Table 8. *Growth rate and feed efficiency of various breeds and crosses.*

Breed* or cross	No. of pigs	Average initial weight (lbs)	Average final weight (lbs)	Period of test (days)	Average daily gain (lbs)	Feed efficiency
D.J. (F)	9	41.33*	182.22	140	1.01	3.72
D.J. (M)	11	41.45	200.18	140	1.14	3.30
Hampshire (F)	8	26.00	133.67	140	0.79	3.72
Hampshire (M)	14	28.50	154.21	140	0.89	3.69
DJ × N (F)	10	24.70	199.40	182	0.97	3.88
DJ × N (M)	2	28.00	215.00	182	1.02	3.86
LW × N (F)	6	19.00	203.60	182	1.05	4.18
LW × N (M)	8	21.12	210.37	182	1.12	3.91
N	11	20.63	145.45	182	.60	4.25

*Crosses are Male × Female
LW = Large White

DJ = Duroc Jersey
N = Native

SUMMARY

This project was set up primarily to improve swine production through breeding and to develop a breed or breeds of swine for Thailand. The project was approved for support by the Kasetsart University/University of Hawaii Contract on October 20, 1962. It actually got underway about June 1963. For the foundation stock, the Livestock Department donated Hampshire, Large White and Duroc Jersey boars and gilts; native pigs were purchased by the Contract from the South; and the Contract imported American Landrace from the Jack Ching Farm in Hawaii. In two years the inventory of pigs has grown from nothing to 273 pigs.

One of the major problems was baby pig scours and losses. This was largely corrected by using slatted floors

in the brooder area and increased attention after farrowing.

The results of the studies on litter size, birth weight, growth rate, weaning weight, market weight, feed efficiency and carcass characteristics are given.

With much of the managerial problems well under control, more attention can be concentrated on breeding plans.

Plans for the Future

1. Will continue to make comparisons of the economic traits of various breeds and crossbreds in order to find out the best combination of crosses.

2. Studies will be made of different methods of crossing to find out the best method or methods to use in this project.

3. The best crosses will be se-

lected for use as foundation stock and will be used in developing a breed or breeds of swine for Thailand.

4. In addition to the breeding program, effort will be made constantly to find ways of improving feeding and other managerial practices.

สรุป

โครงการนี้ได้ดำเนินการเพื่อที่จะบำรุงพันธุ์และปรับปรุงการผลิตสุกรให้ดีขึ้น โดยอาศัยวิธีการผสมพันธุ์ จุดมุ่งหมายของโครงการนี้ ก็เพื่อที่จะสร้างพันธุ์สุกรพันธุ์ใหม่ที่ดีและเหมาะสมกับประเทศไทย โครงการนี้ได้รับการเห็นชอบ และความช่วยเหลือ ภายใต้สัญญาความร่วมมือระหว่างมหาวิทยาลัยเกษตรศาสตร์และสวออี และจากการช่วยเหลือของมหาวิทยาลัยเกษตรศาสตร์ให้ทุนในการก่อสร้างคอกสุกรเป็นเงิน 290,000 บาท โครงการนี้ได้เริ่มดำเนินงานเมื่อเดือนมิถุนายน 2506

กรมปศุสัตว์ได้ให้การช่วยเหลือด้านพันธุ์สัตว์ โดยมอบสุกรพันธุ์แฮมเชียร์ ลาร์จไวท์และครอกให้จำนวนหนึ่ง ส่วนสุกรพื้นเมืองและพันธุ์อเมริกันแลนเครสนั้น ได้จัดซื้อโดยสัญญาเกษตรศาสตร์สวออี ภายในเวลา 2 ปี โครงการนี้ได้เพิ่มจำนวนสุกร

สำหรับใช้เป็นสุกรพันธุ์พื้นเมืองและการทดลองเป็น 273 ตัว

การศึกษาของโครงการได้กระทำอย่างละเอียด เริ่มด้วยการเลี้ยงสุกรในระยะต่างๆ ซึ่งได้พบว่าปัญหาใหญ่ที่ควรแก้ไขก่อนได้แก่ โรคช้ำขาวและการตายของลูกสุกรเป็นจำนวนมากเมื่ออยู่ในระยะคูดนม ปัญหาเหล่านี้ได้แก้ไขด้วยวิธีการเลี้ยงดู การให้อาหาร ปรากฏว่าได้ลดปริมาณการตายของสุกรอย่างมีนัยสำคัญในทางสถิติ (ตารางที่ 2-4)

ผลของการศึกษาที่น่าสนใจในเรื่องขนาดของครอก น้ำหนักแรกคลอด อัตราการเจริญเติบโต น้ำหนักหย่านม ประสิทธิภาพของการใช้อาหาร และคุณภาพของทารกของสุกร ได้แสดงไว้ในตารางที่ 5-6

การศึกษานี้มุ่งไปในเรื่องการผสมข้ามพันธุ์แบบต่างๆ เช่นการไขว้พันธุ์และแบบสลับหมุนเวียน ฯลฯ ซึ่งบางโครงการย่อยได้ทำไปแล้วและกำลังดำเนินต่อไป คือ

1. เปลี่ยนลักษณะต่างๆ ที่สำคัญในทางเศรษฐกิจของลูกผสม ที่มาจากการผสมข้ามพันธุ์แบบต่างๆ เพื่อให้ทราบว่าลูกผสมใดให้ผลดีและได้รับการถ่ายทอดของลักษณะพันธุ์ในทางพันธุกรรมอย่างใดบ้าง

2. เพื่อศึกษาวิธี การ ผสม ข้ามพันธุ์ แบบต่าง ๆ ว่าวิธีการใดที่เหมาะสมที่สุดใน การที่จะนำไปใช้แนะนำประชาชน เพื่อผลิต สุกกรเป็นการค้า
3. ลูกผสมที่ดีที่สุดจะใช้เป็นสุกรพันธุ์ ต่อไป เพื่อผลิตสุกรพันธุ์ใหม่ในอนาคต.
4. พร้อมกันนี้ยังได้ศึกษาเรื่องอาหาร การให้อาหาร และการปฏิบัติรักษาที่ถูกต้อง ในการเลี้ยงสุกรด้วย

APPENDIX
RATION

Feed ingredient	Creeping feed	Growing pigs			Boar	Lactating sow	Before & after farrowing
		10-25 kg	25-60 kg	60-100 kg			
Rice bran	10	30	40	47	40	27	67
Broken rice	12	20	25	30	35	15	10
Corn	25	30	18	10	10	35	10
Peanut meal	5	3	3	2	4	4	3
Soybean oilmeal	15	5	9	6	6	6	6
Fish meal	7	12	3	3	5	8	4
Bone meal	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Skim milk	15	—	—	—	—	5	—
Oyster shell	—	—	1.5	—	—	—	—
Sugar cane	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salt	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Trace minerals	100 gm	100 gm	100 gm	100 gm	100 gm	100 gm	100 gm
Antibiotics mix (20 ppm) ¹	500 gm	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vitamin B ₁₂	15 gm	15 gm	10 gm	10 gm	10 gm	15 gm	30 gm
Vitamin mix (A+D ₃ +B ₂) ²	5 gm	5 gm	5 gm	5 gm	5 gm	5 gm	4.5 gm
Methionine	300 gm	—	—	—	—	—	—
Calcium pantothenate	42 gm	42 gm	—	—	—	5 gm	20
Furazolidone mix (11%)	—	—	—	—	—	—	150 gm

1. Active ingredient: Chlortetracycline/Aureomycin
2. Trade Name: Rovimix AD₃B₂
3. Trade Name: Nf-180

APPENDIX

RATION

Feed ingredient	Gestating sow
Rice bran	40
Broken rice	20
Corn	25
Supplement	15
Salt	0.5
SUPPLEMENT	
Fish meal	30
Soybean oil meal	35
Peanut oil meal	15
Koa haole <i>Leucaena glauca</i> leafmeal	14
Bone meal	4
Oyster shell	1
Trace minerals	400 gm
Rovimix AD ₃ B ₂	80 gm
Calcium panthothenate	75 gm
Choline	310 gm
Vitamin B ₁₂ mix	75 gm