



Enthusiastic Rossville Breeders Find Strong Demand For Their 'Spots'



"Spots" are a family deal.

It's been that way for three generations, and enthusiasm of the breeders indicates the tradition will continue much longer.

That's the Spot hog business for Larry and Sheri Wehner and their son, Joe, at Wehner Farms near Rossville.

"My grandpa, Clyde Miller, raised Spot hogs. I showed Spots in 4-H, and it's just continued with our sons,

Hunter and Joe, showing the home raised Spots, too," Larry Wehner said.

"I've always really enjoyed the hog business, and have a prejudice for Spots," Wehner added. "There aren't that many purebred Spot operations around, but Joe seems to have the bug for them like I do and my grandpa did.

"We have 10 sows now. There are six Spots, three crossbreds and one Chester White. Joe (shown with his dad) is starting a Chester herd," Wehner noted.

Seed stock produced by Wehner Farms has been in demand by other hog breeders, however, Wehner explained, "This is primarily a show pig operation."

Advertised on 580 WIBW, their eighth prospect sale will be a joint effort with C&L Show Pigs, Saturday afternoon, March 30, at Holton.

"We also consigned four pigs to the prospect sale at Allen County Community College in Iola, where Joe is attending on a livestock judging scholarship, and lives on the college farm," Wehner said.

Producing two litters per sow annually, Wehner said, "We have sold some summer show pigs into Oklahoma and Texas, but most of the summer pigs go to commercial feeders around here. We feed some hogs, too, and have good demand to sell the processed pork."

Wehner Farms' pigs have collected numerous championships at Kansas county fairs, and their breeding hogs have rated the Supreme Breeder in the Spot show at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson on several occasions.

Regular exhibitors at the National Summer Type Conference and Fall Classic events, Wehner Farms have sold their Spots for top prices on numerous occasions with buyers from throughout the country.

Involved in leadership of pig show circuits, Wehner admitted, "Showing pigs makes people crazy, and I'm one of them. It does cost a lot to get pigs, fit them and haul around to all of these shows. But, to put it in perspective, just think what some families spend going to all their softball tournaments, and the like.

"It's whatever you prefer, and I've always liked the Spot business. Joe is about as crazy as I am, too, and plans to continue raising Spots after college," Wehner summarized.

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Padre says:

*"Easter spells
out beauty, the
rare beauty of
new life."*