

RE: tail set

Jeanette Beranger ALBC

1/23/13

To: 'RedWattle Association'



From: **Jeanette Beranger** (jberanger@albc-usa.org) You moved this message to its current location.

Sent: Wed 1/23/13 2:48 PM

To: 'RedWattle Association' (redwattles@hotmail.com)

Hi Kathy,

Sorry it's taken a while to get back to you but I was on the road in the Midwest for about 10 days and am just back in the office.

Although it's not in the breed standard, it is a fault among basic judging of breeding stock for pigs. If an animal is to be considered breeding stock, they should be structurally sound. A low tail set indicates two problems in the animal, first the low tail set (also known as "steep rump") means that the animal will eventually have issues with its joints because the joints are not positioned optimally for fluid movement. Eventually that animal will have issues with being able to breed properly because his legs are not positioned properly due to the low tail set.

Second, a sow with a steep rump will have problems birthing. Same kind of reasoning in that the pelvis is malpositioned and does not allow for a straight shot through the birth canal for the piglets. Certainly not something you want to pass on to offspring by using the boar in question.

By the way, the same can be said for a tail set that is way too high. I found good photos of proper tail set at:

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/agripedia/agmania/livestock/Hogs/hogrump.asp>

I also found references to low tail set being a fault in both old and new texts.