Andrew Baker

Owner of The Baker's Pig – Welsh Charcuterie & Smokehouse

Background Info

- Welsh hill-farm located on Y Mynydd Du (The Black Mountain) in South Wales – part of the Brecon Beacons National Park
- Over 25 years Pig Farming Experience



Background Info

- 2018 built a production facility on the farm to manufacture a range of charcuterie products:
 - Air dried hams
 - Slow-fermented salami
 - Nduja
 - Sanguinaccio Dolce

Rare-Breed Pigs (UK)

- There are 11 heritage breeds in the UK
- All 11 are considered rare and at risk of extinction
- Three categories:
 - Endangered (100 to 200)
 - Vulnerable (200-300)
 - At Risk (300-500)

Endangered List (100-200)

- British Landrace
- Large Black
- Middle White
- British Lop

Vulnerable List (200-300)

- Large White
- British Saddleback
- Berkshire
- Tamworth

At Risk List (300-500)

- Oxford Sandy and Black
- Gloucester Old Spot
- Welsh

Our Rare-breed Pigs

- We only breed Berkshire pigs
 - Total UK numbers:
 - Breeding Sows 324
 - Registered Keepers 108
 - The Berkshire is the oldest recorded pedigree pig in Britain
 - Dating back to the 17th Century
 - Modern Berkshire was improved in the late 18th and 19th Centuries by the introduction of Asian breeding

Key Characteristics

- Covered in thick Black hair
 - Pink skin when hair removed
- White blaze down front of face
- White socks
- White tip of tail
- Pricked up ears

Key Characteristics

- Berkshire pigs can cope with most conditions and are well suited to an outdoor system
- Very good maternal instincts
- Docile and easily managed
 - Ideal starter pig
- Average Litter size 9.98 piglets (2009)

Key Characteristics

- Medium sized breed
 - sows weigh around 220kg and boars 280kg
 - Porkers: 50-60kg dead weight
 - Bacon: 75-80kg dead weight
 - Tend to lay down too much fat when taken on further

Carcass Quality

- Excellent flavour
- 8 month pig 80kg dead weight
 - 3.0 3.5kg Coppa

Results...

Any Questions?