



# ABA Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork

*The ultimate in  
flavorful and tender pork*

- Flavor and tenderness qualities recognized and prized as early as 1700 in England
- Parentage continuously recorded since 1875 by the American Berkshire Association (ABA)
- Revealed as the finest-quality pork for eating quality by national scientific tests since 1991
- American Berkshire Association genetic selection and monitoring programs maintain and enhance the eating quality
- ABA 100% Pure Berkshire Pork Certification Program assures integrity and traceability
- Always choose Berkshire pork with the ABA Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork label for the finest eating experience



**American Berkshire Association**  
PO Box 2436, West Lafayette, IN 47996  
765.497.3618 • [www.americanberkshire.com](http://www.americanberkshire.com)

This 100% Pure Berkshire Pork has been certified by the American Berkshire Association and was raised by \_\_\_\_\_

Contact the producing farmer at (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ if you want more information or have questions.

For more information about the ABA Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork Program visit [www.americanberkshire.com](http://www.americanberkshire.com).



# THE BEST PORK EATING EXPERIENCE

American Berkshire Association (ABA) Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork excels in characteristics that contribute to eating quality. Flavor, juiciness, tenderness and color are assured by genetic purity that results from over 125 years of ABA pedigree integrity. Berkshire pork producers must comply with a third party audited certification program before using the American Berkshire Association (ABA) Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork seal.

<p><b>Heritage</b></p>	<p>Berkshire pigs provide true 'heritage' pork. They were recognized and prized for their eating qualities over 300 years ago in England. They have the oldest recorded purebred swine pedigree history in the U.S., starting in 1875.</p>
<p><b>Genetic Purity</b></p>	<p>The ABA pedigree registry system certifies genetic purity. The ABA Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork program requires pedigree history on all breeding and market animals as well as DNA testing for meat quality genes.</p>
<p><b>Traceability and Inspection</b></p>	<p>ABA Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork program links pork products to the farms of origin. Producer farms, packers and processors are inspected and certified by ABA representatives.</p>
<p><b>Eating Quality</b></p>	<p>The National Barrow Show® Sire Progeny Tests have been sponsored annually by Hormel Foods, National Association of Swine Records and Iowa State University since 1991. Meat quality and eating quality trait results confirm the premium position of the 100% Pure Berkshire pork. Berkshire pork ranks at or near the top for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Ultimate pH Score- relates to low cooking loss, better water-holding capacity, high degree of tenderness</li> <li>• Loin Firmness / Drip Loss- results in improved processing quality, tenderness</li> <li>• Meat Color- consumers consistently prefer darker pork</li> <li>• Cooked Loin Quality- high scores for intramuscular fat percent, tenderness and juiciness all predict better consumer satisfaction</li> </ul>
<p><b>Continued Superiority</b></p>	<p>The National Barrow Show® Progeny Test is open to all purebred and crossbreds. Nearly 300 Berkshire sire groups have been evaluated, more than any other breed. In 2009, 20 of the 40 sire groups were purebred Berkshires. Berkshire breeders are committed to documentation and improvement of their pork products. ABA Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork continues to excel all other breeds in meat quality attributes.</p>
<p><b>International Recognition</b></p>	<p>Japanese consumers have a special name for the Berkshire breed. They call it kurobuta, or "black pig". Because pork from the purebred Berkshire is so tender, juicy and flavorful, the Japanese have long recognized the value of Berkshire pork. Much of the ABA Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork produced in the United States is being exported to Japan.</p>
<p><b>Stockmanship and Animal Welfare</b></p>	<p>Purebred Berkshires are raised by farmers who are proud of their animals and dedicated to producing a product desired by consumers. Purebred Berkshire pigs are more sensitive to their environment than crossbred pigs. Berkshire pig producers must be excellent caretakers.</p>

To learn more about ABA Certified 100% Pure Berkshire Pork visit [www.americanberkshire.com](http://www.americanberkshire.com) or call 765.497.3618.