

The Mangalitsa

∞ 1833 ∞



REVIEW OF THE BREED

- Basic Information -

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*T*he Mangalitsa is a typical lard-type pig, with curly coat, medium body size and a very fine but strong skeletal structure. It was developed from 1833 on in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, but not formally recognized as a distinct breed until 1927.

No Mangalitsa pig ever was in the USA until 2007, and none of the Blondes or Reds until 2010, when they finally were imported from Austria. After actively trying for over 3 years to obtain new, non-Austrian origin blood lines, in November 2014 the first Blonde and Red original Hungarian breeding stock arrived from the Netherlands.



18 animals were imported with registration papers from the Hungarian Mangalitsa Breeders Association (MOE), currently the largest national Mangalitsa breeding association in the world. 6 additional Reds and 7 Swallow belly pigs followed in May 2016 from Barbara Meyer zu Altenschildesche in the Netherlands. The number of distinct blood lines available in Hungary currently are at 27, and the names of the boar lines are registered in the coding system of the computerized national registration system.

The number of lines available from Hungary currently are as follows: 9 Blonde, 7 Red and 11 Swallow Belly.

*T*hese new available blood lines of Blonde, Red and Swallow Belly Mangalitsas will greatly improve the existing breeding stock, and their inbreeding ratio both in the USA & Canada.

For details on available animals and their blood lines please visit the Royal Mangalitsa website:

RoyalMangalitsa.com

☞ *There are 3 distinct color variations in Mangalitsa pigs* ☞



☞ *Swallow Belly Mangalitsa* ☞ *Blonde Mangalitsa* ☞ *Red Mangalitsa* ☞





❧ *The Blonde Mangalitsa* ❧

This is by far the most popular variety. Sixty percent plus of all the Mangalitsa's in the world are Blonde. A document from 1833, that was written in the time of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, tells about the transportation of twelve Schumadinka (Sumadija, Sumadia), 2 boars and 10 sows of this lard breed from the Serbian Prince *Milos Obrenovic* (Belgrade, Serbia) to the Archduke Joseph Anton Johann to his Dömäne in Kisjeno (back than Hungary now Romania). The Archduke crossed these, in some documents also called "Milos-pigs, Sumadia pigs" with the Hungarian Bakonya pig to improve its ability to gain fat faster. This cross became the blonde Mangalitsa pig. Their descendants became the basis for subsequent fat pig breeding.

The "Kisjeno genetics", the Blonde Mangalitsa were spread all over the numerous breeding herds in Hungary. The fur is dense and long, curling quite a bit in the winter, shorter and more straight in the warmer month. Seasonal moulting is standard, and the fur of the pigs can be from more greyish to yellow or yellowish red. The yellowish red coloration is caused mostly by soil conditions.





❧ *The Red Mangalitsa* ❧

*D*erived from the crossing of the Blonde Mangalitsa with the red colored Szalontai hog, the fur is of reddish color, quite dark or reddish brown and lighter shade. Scientific studies point out that the Red Mangalitsa grows a bit faster than the other two colors. The carcasses of the Red Mangalitsas tend to have a better meat to fat ratio than the Blonde Mangalitsa. It is the newest of the Mangalitsas, developed only starting in 1910, but by the 1960's was a perfectly adjusted part of the breed according to all its standards.





☞ *The Swallow Belly Mangalitsa* ☜

*D*eveloped from crossing the Blonde and now extinct Black Mangalitsa, its back is black and the belly and the thighs can variate from blonde to yellow or yellowish red. The yellowish red coloration is caused mostly by soil conditions. It was the first color that was imported to the U.S., as most breeding animals were available in Austria at that time. All characteristics of this variety are the same as the other two. It is the smallest of the 3 variations.





☞ *The Black Mangalitsa* ☞

The Black Mangalitsa pig was officially declared extinct years ago. In Hungary this color variety was recently 'recreated' under the supervision of Prof. Péter Szabó (MOE). It is possible that some blacks also can be found in Serbia or Croatia, but they are unlikely to be pure bred.

☞ *The "Wellman Fleck"* ☞

The "Wellman Fleck", which is a variety specific feature of the breed, a bright mark (1.2 to 2 inches in diameter) displaying a gradual transition to the pigmented skin, can be found on the lower edge of the ear.





☞ *General Characteristics* ☞

The head is medium-long and the back of the nose forms a slightly broken line. The ears are medium-large and tip forward. The eyes are brown, the eyebrows and eyelashes should be black. The tail tassel is always black. The minimum number of nipples is 5 - 6 normally developed nipples on either side. They should be black. More than 6 on one side is a sign of crosses!! Their skin of their belly is ash gray. All body openings should be black.

The line of the back is slightly curved; the loin is short or medium-long. They have 2 ribs less (like the wild boar) than other breeds.

Undesirable defects in breed specific characteristics:

- *Light or pink colored skin in the belly area
- *Un-pigmented body openings
- *Dark-brown bristle-ends.
- *Either too fine or too rough bristles
- *Very long bristles on the neck (razorback)
- *Very long hair on the edges of the ears
- *Too little upright or too big hanging ears
- *Too flat feet



Defects in the breed specific characteristics that are not allowed:

- *Well-defined white spots on the skin or nose
- *Black or brown spots in the bristles
- *Yellow or yellow striped nails
- *Pink nipples
- *More than 6 nipples on each side
- *Totally white tail tassel
- *White eye-brows or eye-lashes



The Mangalitsa pig is known for its even temperament and social behavior, and can become extremely tame under the right circumstances. They have good mother instincts and the boars are mostly calm and easy to work with. **Still do not underestimate the strength of a fully grown pig, always treat them with respect.**

They are easy to keep in natural growing conditions, grouping together quite naturally, and are excellent foragers. It is a hardy breed and they can cope with very cold weather conditions. A shelter for wind protection is needed, filled with lots of straw. They also can stand very high temperatures but as pigs can't lower their body temperature by sweating, a wallow, shady place and enough water supply should always be available during warm weather. Tropical climate is not suitable for this breed.





❧ *Mixed color Mangalitsas* ❧

*I*n Hungary and Austria mixed breeding of the 3 colors is not allowed for breeding stock. In the Herdbook of the UK (BPA) mixing colors is allowed and can be registered. The reason is the tight genetic pool in each color. By allowing to cross the colors, inbreeding can be avoided. Healthy animals are more important than purity of color. As we cope with the same issue in the US, pure color and mixed color Mangalitsas will have their place in the future register.



It is not recommended to breed gilts before they are fully grown, what generally is around 12 - 14 month of age. Separate the young gilts from the young boars at least by 16 weeks of age. The breed might be slow growing, but can reproduce at a young age, 20 - 24 weeks. Early pregnancy can be dangerous for the little gilts and will harm them in their future growth.

Commodity pigs - cross breeding

The Mangalitsa is the absolute perfect pig for charcuterie, especially because of its extraordinary fat that just melts in your mouth. It has beautiful dark red, flavorful meat that is very succulent. The fat is silky, melts even below body temperature (32C/89,6F), which means it is healthy and contains lots of Omega 3 & 6. The meat to fat ration is average 40/60. Best slaughter age is around 18 month, some prefer 24 month as the meat will be even more mature in flavor.



Coppa - Neck



Loin



Neck

But for those breeders that need a shorter maturing time and are looking for larger litter sizes, or have customers that prefer a higher meat to fat ratio, crossbreeding of the Mangalitsa with other breeds has proven to be very successful.

Crosses are made between Mangalitsa and Old Line Duroc, commonly known as “Mangroc”, or Mangalitsa and Berkshire, commonly known as “Berkelitsas”. These particular crosses make for excellent roasting pigs, and have become quite popular. Other very successful crosses include Mangalitsa/Red Wattles/Mulefoots and Large Blacks.

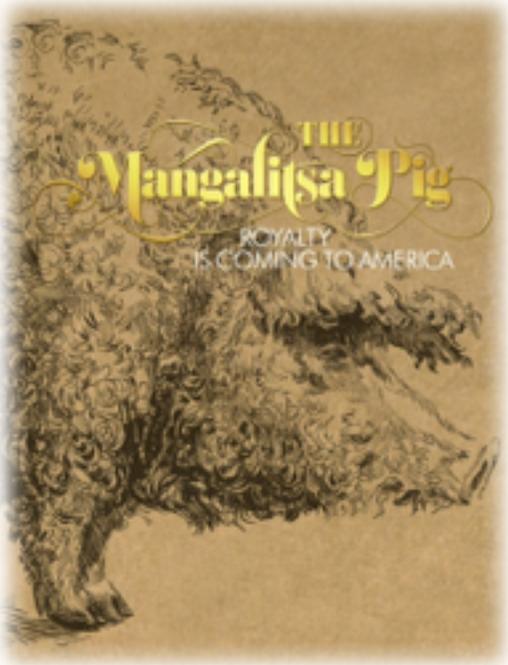
To keep in mind, when you cross breed: the FAT is not the same anymore!!

Do not call, nor label the meat Mangalitsa, as it is a cross and should be labeled & sold as such.



Additional Information

The cook book “The Mangalitsa Pig – Royalty is coming to America” is available on Amazon.com here the link [The Mangalitsa Cook Book](#)





☞ *Advice & Education* ☜

*F*or inquiries about consulting services of all types concerning the Mangalitsa Pigs, feel free to contact *Barbara Meyer zu Altenschildesche* directly at royal-mangalitsa@hotmail.com

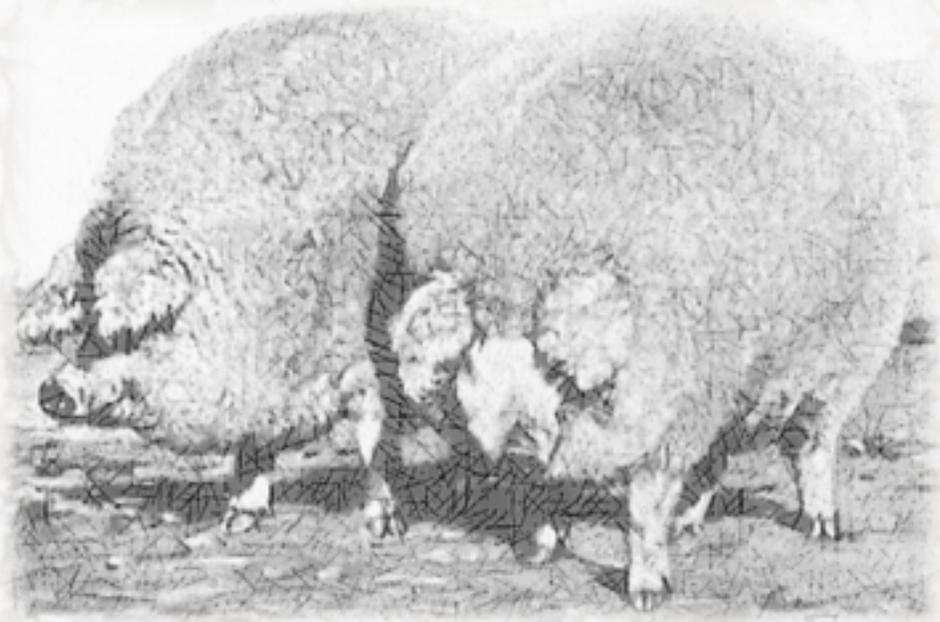
Lots of helpful information on the breed is available on our website: RoyalMangalitsa.com

If you have a Facebook account, we recommend to join the Mangalitsa Group. Here is the link to the group: [Mangalitsa Group Facebook](#)



A ROYAL BREED

The Mangalitsa Pig



For more information contact

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