

### **Beatrice, 2020**

Each spring I buy around 150 started pigs to raise for customers.

Even so, Gail likes to have a sow give birth to a litter of pigs on the Farm.

She always names the sow or bred gilt, Beatrice. A gilt is a young female pig that has not yet given birth.

A gilt becomes a sow when she produces her first litter of piglets.

This year Beatrice is a Landrace gilt that we bought from a good swineherd near Staples, Minnesota.

The Landrace breed of pigs were developed in Denmark over 100 years ago.

They are long, white animals that are known for their gentle nature and excellent mothering.

This pig is calm and easy to work with.

She has eight nicely formed and healthy piglets.

My father raised Landrace pigs when I was a boy in the 1950s. I enjoyed staying up to help the pigs when they farrowed at night.

Tom

