



**This is an example of a frothy or toothpaste like mouth. The boar will do this when there is a gilt or sow cycling to be bred. You may also see it with females. Boars will gnash and grind their teeth and make different vocal sounds. Grunts, squeaks and squeals. He will nudge her all over but especially around the neck and jowls and the rear or hind area.**

**Sometimes the froth is very obvious and will even drip to the ground, and sometimes it's barely noticeable.**

**If there's more than one breeding age boar in the area with the cycling gilt or sow, they will probably compete with each other, meaning they will fight. This doesn't always happen but it's highly likely. This can cause injury to the boars and can be permanent. Never come between 2 fighting boars or attempt to break them apart. You will risk serious injury to yourself.**

**No matter how friendly and gentle your boar usually is, this is a time to watch from a far. By instinct, boars at this time only have breeding on their minds and he is not your friend .**



The top circle is where you may see proof that breeding took place if you don't witness the breeding. You might see a rubbed or balding area that's called, "Boar Blight" on your gilt or sows back. This doesn't always occur, but when seen it's a good indicator.

The boar's penis has extended from the sheath and penetrated the vulva/vagina of the gilt or sow.

Nature has made them so that breeding is easier when both hogs are close in size. Successful breeding is more difficult if one is much different in size. If the boar is much larger, you also risk injury to your hogs. Your gilt or sow could break down under the weight possibly causing injury to both hogs. In larger boars, due to the angle of penetration and height of the boar, your boar's penis could also bypass the reproductive organs of the gilt or sow. Even though ejaculation takes place, it's not in the correct area. Many times with larger boars and smaller gilts or sows, ejaculation takes place near the bladder. The result is no pregnancy and the blame is placed on an infertile gilt or sow when it's actually a mating problem that might be solved by breeding like sized hogs. If the boar is much smaller than the gilt or sow, there is also difficulty in penetration to the correct area.

Notice the balancing of the boar's rear legs. This is difficult for him, and makes it difficult for her too. Strong legs are important.



The sow or gilt will be supporting the majority of the boars weight on the rear portion of her body, while the boar is bearing down with his weight to support himself. The boar will also be supporting his weight on his rear legs. This is one of many reasons that the legs be strong, straight and thick. Ideally if possible, breeding should occur on level ground to avoid possible injury. Breeding is a heavy balancing act and many different kinds of injuries can occur.

The gilt or sow and the boar may breed several times during her cycle. If there's more than one boar available, she may also breed with him and the resulting litter could be sired by both boars. A gilt or sow will only stand for breeding during her cycle. To time your litters or farrowing to a desired season or month, you can mark cycle dates on your calendar. They cycle anywhere from 18 to 21 days.

Breeding is instinctual for hogs. Never come between two boars competing for breeding with a gilt or sow. It's also risky to try to break up a breeding event that's in progress. Because it's instinctual, all they have on their mind is breeding. They are not your friend at this time. You could risk serious injury to yourself or to your hogs. It's best to know your (their) dates, schedule your breeding, and let nature take over.