



GILT SELECTION GUIDE

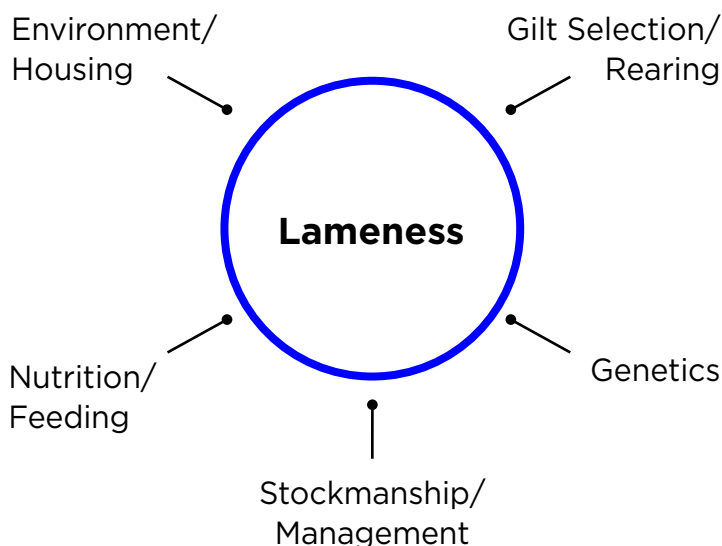


“Selecting replacement gilts with sound feet and legs, including foot or claw health, will help reduce lameness in the breeding herd.”

Dr Ken Stalder,
Iowa State University

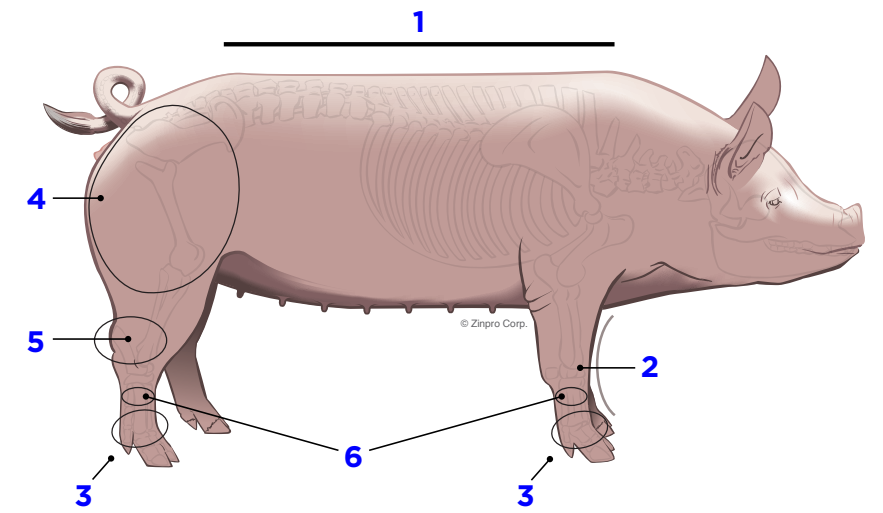
A Healthy Herd Starts with Healthy Gilts

Lameness is a major reason for decreased sow longevity in swine breeding herds. Claw lesions have been reported to be associated with Lameness. Other risk factors for sow Lameness are, housing, management, nutrition, genetics, gilt selection and rearing.



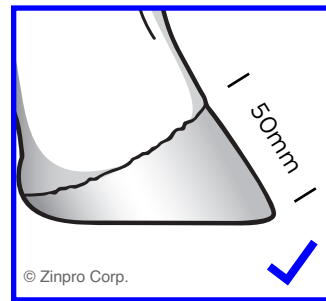
Desirable traits in legs and feet of a replacement gilt

1. Straight level back
2. Correct position of knee
3. Flexible pasterns
4. Smooth muscled ham
5. Correct position of hock
6. Large diameter leg



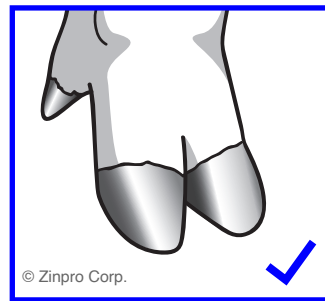
Claw Health

Dorsal Wall Integrity



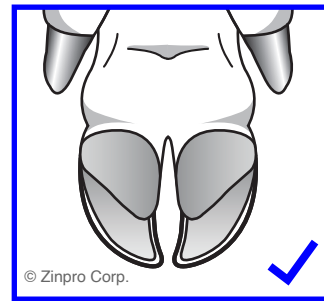
Wall is free from cracks

Toe Size



Equal size and length is desirable

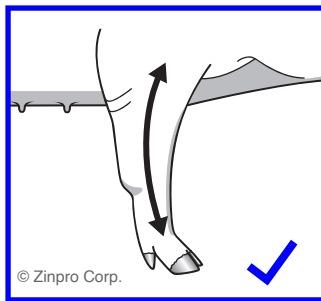
Horn Tissue Integrity



No visible lesions

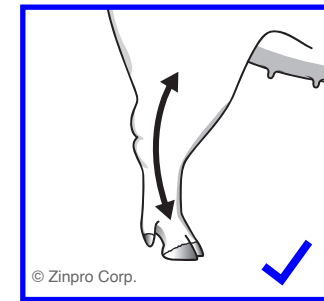
Leg Angle

Angle of Front Legs



Leg aligns with ground

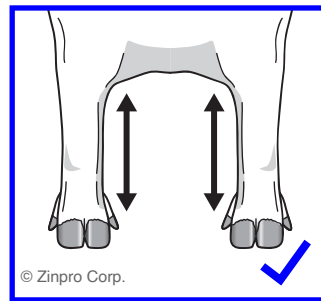
Angle of Rear Legs



Good flex in pastern, straight leg

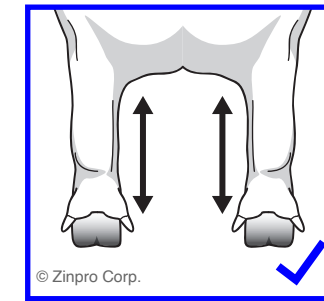
Foot Alignment

Foot Position (Front legs)



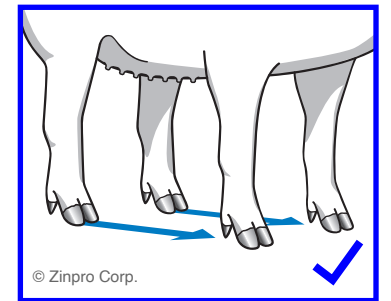
Square and sturdy stance

Foot Position (Hind legs)

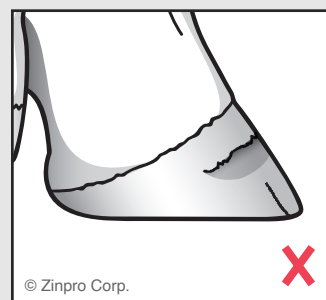


Toes forward, legs straight

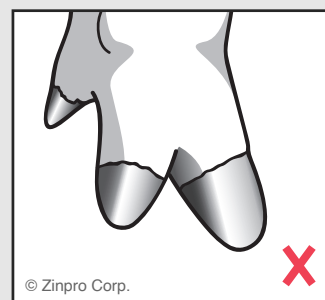
Front and Rear Alignment



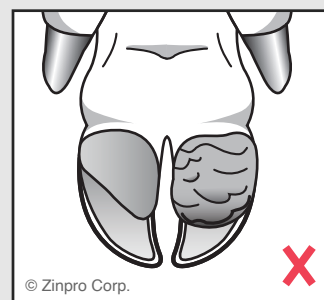
Front and back feet parallel



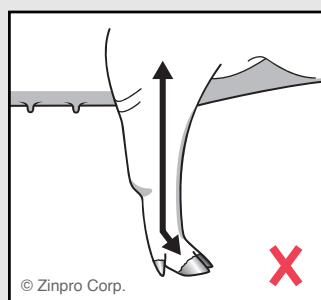
Horizontal or vertical wall cracks visible



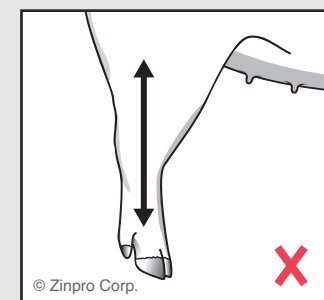
Uneven length



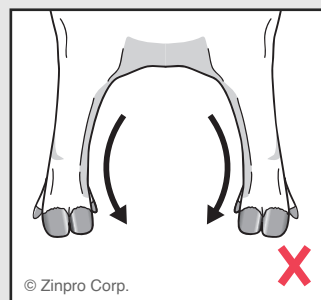
Heel overgrowth



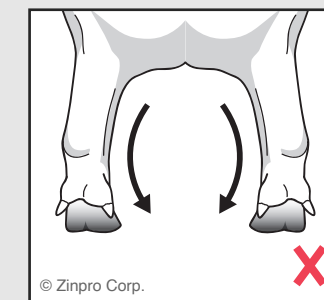
Leg aligns; dew claws nearly touch or even slightly touch the ground



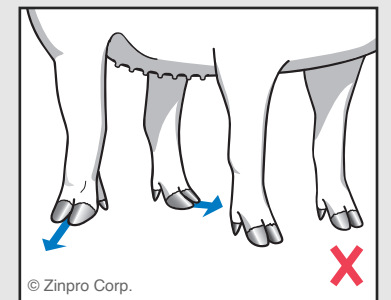
Post legged, indicated by nearly straight line from the pastern through the hock to the hip



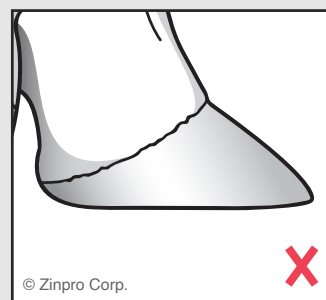
Toes turn in, bow-legged



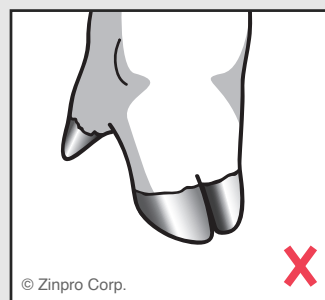
Toes in, bow-legged



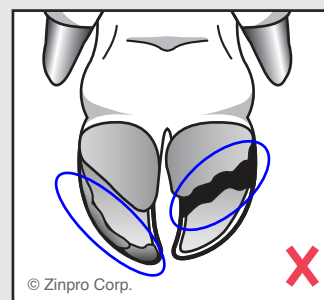
Feet do not align from front to rear



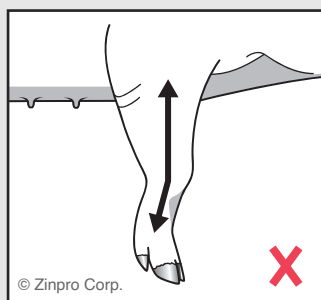
Toe is elongated



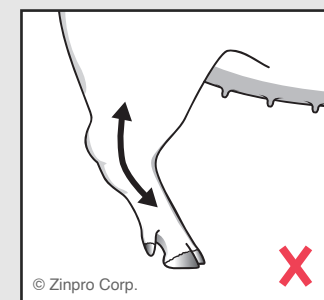
Toes too small and close together



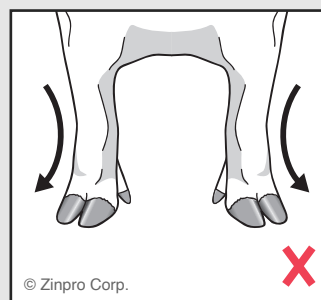
White line and heel/sole cracks



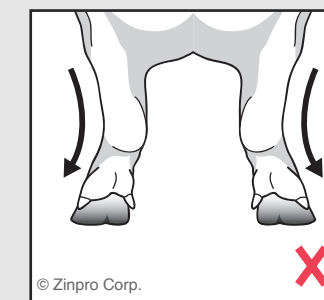
Buck kneed



Sickle hocked - legs up under the animal

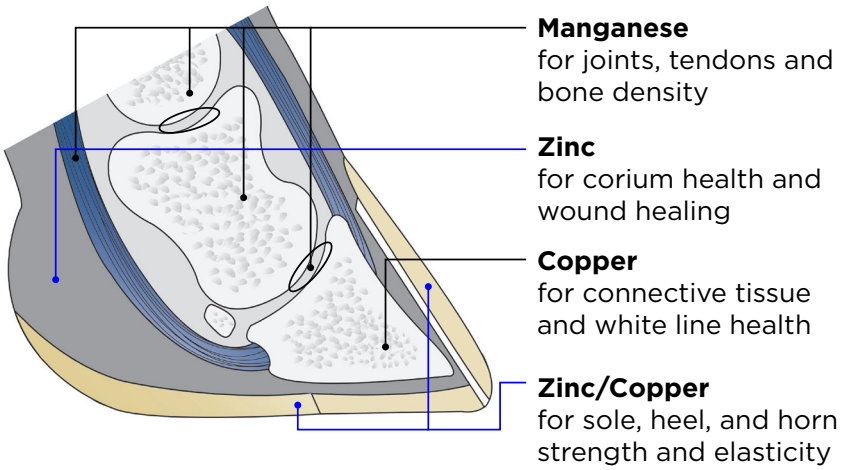


Toes turn out, pigeon-toed



Toes out, cow-hocked

Essential Nutrients for Healthier Claws



Zinpro® Availa® Sow Benefits

- Fewer claw lesions
- Less treatment for feet and leg problems
- Improved reproductive performance
- Increased sow longevity



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For more information: contact your Zinpro representative or visit zinpro.com/swine