

- a selection pressure (selection intensity/generation interval ratio) of 35-45 points on the boars according to the magnitude of the line ;
- correct economic management depending on production of at least 100 litters per year ;
- less than 1 p. 100 increase in the inbreeding coefficient per generation.

**Utilization of a control herd
to estimate genetic change of fattening and carcass traits
in the *Large White* breed in France from 1965 to 1973.
A preliminary note**

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No real control herd presently exists in France, but it seemed to be possible to consider as such an experimental herd kept at the « domaine de Galle » (I. N. R. A.) for another purpose. This *Large White* herd, established in 1965 with 10 boars and 120 sows, was primarily used for a selection experiment on litter size at birth. Being not subjected to any selection on growth and carcass traits, the Galle herd could be considered as a control for these production traits, supposed to be genetically independent of the litter size. Available data consisted of measurements on 60 gilts from the Galle herd, tested in competition with 112 contemporary gilts from 26 selection herds of the *Large White* breed. Comparisons were made within-testing period for 14 traits. Results definitely show a favourable genetic trend of *Large White* breed since 1965, both for rate and economy of gain and for most of body-composition traits. The estimated genetic gain is around 7.5 F per year. Another point of concern is the unfavourable evolution of meat quality, particularly of ultimate pH of muscle. The genetic assumptions underlying the validity of this estimation of genetic change are discussed. A statistical analysis of a larger number of data is now in progress.

**A comparison of the crossbred progeny
of *French Landrace* and *Pietrain* boars**

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Both *French Landrace* and *Pietrain* boars were randomly used (by A. I.) on *Landrace* × *Large White* sows of commercial farms. Gilts and barrows sampled in resultant litters were sent to an experimental station where they were fed *ad libitum* (test started at 30 kg) and slaughtered at