Smithfield Foods Inc.
United States — 1,241,000 sows
Smithfield Foods is a $15 billion global food company and the world’s largest pork processor and hog producer. Based in Smithfield Va., the company was started in 1936 by the Luter family. Smithfield employs more than 54,000 people in North America and Europe. The company ships meat exports to 4,600 customers in 40 countries around the globe. Smithfield is a subsidiary of WH Group, and these sow numbers are in addition to WH Group’s other company sow production numbers.

Triumph Foods
United States — 487,200 sows
Triumph Foods was formed in 2003 by a group of the largest U.S. independent pork producers, with operations beginning in 2006, and it is now the second-largest pork processor in the United States. Its goal was to establish a fully integrated pork industry model. Today, the business includes one processing facility in St. Joseph, Mo., along with a joint venture plant with Seaboard Foods in Sioux City, Iowa, as well as three further processing facilities under Daily’s Premium Meats.

Zhengbang Group
China — 400,000 sows
Founded in 1996, Zhengbang Group is a national agricultural industrialization-leading enterprise with headquarters in Nanchang City, Jiangxi Province, China. The main scope of business includes animal husbandry, crop planting, agricultural materials marketing, distribution and financing. Zhengbang employs more than 35,800 people and has 315 branches across China. In 2018, the company produced over 5.5 million hogs.

BRF
Brazil — 400,000 sows
BRF is one of the largest food companies in the world, with more than 30 brands in its portfolio. BRF is the result of a merger between Sadia and Perdigão, two of the primary food companies in Brazil. As the process was concluded, both Sadia and Perdigão stopped functioning as independent companies and became subsumed as brands under BRF’s portfolio.

Seaboard Foods
United States — 340,000 sows
Seaboard Foods is an integrated food company producing and marketing pork both domestically and internationally. Seaboard has processing facilities in Guymon, Okla., and Sioux City, Iowa, as well as further processing at its co-owned facility with Triumph Foods, Daily’s Premium Meats. Seaboard has 5,200 employees and operates in numerous states.

Muyuan Foodstuff Company Ltd. was established in 1992 and formed its pork production business model as “self-farming and multiplication, large-scale integration.” Currently, the company has 88 wholly owned subsidiary companies and two joint stock companies. In 2018, the company marketed 11.01 million hogs and established an annual capacity of producing 5 million tons of feed and slaughtering 1 million hogs. The company has formed a completely closed pig production industrial chain integrated with research and development, feed processing, breeding pig multiplication and commercial pig farming.

Cooperl
France — 251,000 sows
Cooperl is a private agricultural cooperative with headquarters in the Brittany region of France. The company was founded in 1966 by 24 farmers, and today it has 2,700 members producing 5.5 million pigs. As the leading integrated pork producer in Europe, it has aggressively invested in specialized pig production through feed mills, packing plants and stores.
Pipestone Veterinary Services
United States — 251,000 sows
Pipestone Veterinary Services has provided quality care to animals, large and small, since 1942. Pipestone System shareholders are Midwest farmers who share the values of supporting animal care and bringing the next generation back to the family farm.

Iowa Select Farms
United States — 242,500 sows
Iowa Select Farms is the largest privately owned pork production company in the United States. Located in Iowa, the company has 242,500 sows and markets over 5 million hogs annually.

Vall Companys
Spain — 213,000 sows
Vall Companys is a leading family-owned agribusiness firm established in 1956. In 2018, the company produced 4.5 million head of pigs, along with 72 million head of poultry, 1.79 million metric tons of feed and 470,000 metric tons of flour. The company works with 2,100 associated farms and 5,500 collaborators. Vall Companys is based on an integration model in which farmers provide facilities and labor. The rest of the services — animals, feed, veterinary control — are provided by the integrating company.

Truein
China — 200,000 sows
Truein Group was established in 1988. Today, the company is a fully integrated industrial value chain system covering the grain trade business, feed production, breeding and multiplication, pig farming, slaughtering and processing, cold chain logistics, terminal sales and online business. The company has been exploring a new model for local “black pig” farming; in the meantime, it has been expanding the commercial pig farming scale for the three-way crossbreeds Duroc, Landrace and Yorkshire. In 2018, Truein Group produced 2.27 million hogs.

Tech-Bank
China — 200,000 sows
Ningbo Tech-Bank Company Ltd. was founded in 1996 and went public with an initial public offering in 2007. The company has five business lines, including aquatic feed, biological products, pig breeding (Hanswine), fresh food (Fantast) and engineering construction (Tech-Bank Kaiwu). In the area of pig breeding, Hanswine Food Group strategically invested in Choice Genetics, and it multiplies the genetics for the Chinese hog market. Tech-Bank produced 2.17 million hogs in 2018.

The Maschhoffs
United States — 196,000 sows
The Maschhoffs family farm dates back to 1851 in Carlyle, Ill. Today, more than 4 million pigs are raised each year, combining company farms and independent production teams. The Maschhoffs is one of the largest family-owned pork production networks in North America.

Aurora Alimentos
Brazil — 186,000 sows
Founded in 1969, Cooperativa Central Aurora Alimentos is one of Brazil’s largest industrial complexes and is a global leader in meat processing technology. Its operation covers pork, poultry and dairy, with more than 850 products marketed. Aurora Alimentos serves customers in Brazil and internationally.

Prestage Farms
United States — 185,000 sows
Prestage Farms was founded in 1983 by Bill and Marsha Prestage and is a leader in both pork and turkey production. This year, the company opened its newest processing facility in Eagle Grove, Iowa. Prestage is committed to customer satisfaction, and it has operating divisions across five states in the U.S.

Cofco Group
China — 180,000 sows
Based in China, Cofco Group has global distribution in agriculture, grain, oil and foodstuffs, and it does business in more than 140 countries and regions all around the world. Cofco Meat Co. was formed under the Cofco Group in 2016, with its business involved in feed manufacturing, pork production, slaughter, production and sales of fresh pork and meat products, and import and sales of frozen meat products. The company has two core brands for fresh pork and meat products, Jia Jia Kang and Wan Ke Wei. In 2018, the company produced 2.55 million hogs, with production mainly based in the provinces of Jiangsu, Hubei, Jilin and Hebei.

Carthage System
United States — 180,000 sows
Established in 2000, the Carthage System is managed by Professional Swine Management in Carlyle, Ill. The Carthage System has a long-standing history of successfully partnering with farm families across the Midwest looking to invest or expand their pork production. It is committed to helping these families remain an important part of our nation’s food supply. The Carthage System has continued to experience growth with a focus on learning, teaching and understanding new technologies.
Miratorg
Russia — 138,000 sows
Russia’s largest pork producer, Miratorg is currently in the process of building new farms, feed mills and a slaughter plant to double production. This is a four- to five-year project. Fully integrated from farm to plate, Miratorg’s business includes crop production; feed mills; farms; slaughter; fresh meat processing; further processing, including ready meals; distribution; branded supermarkets; developing export markets for pork (heat-treated); and offal products. Miratorg is also Russia’s largest beef producer, with more than 500,000 cattle.

New Hope Group
China — 160,000 sows
New Hope Group, founded in 1982, has more than 600 subsidiaries and branch companies and nearly 70,000 employees. It is located in more than 30 countries and regions around the world. New Hope Liuhe Corporation Ltd. under the group was established in 1998 and became a listed company in the Shenzhen Stock Exchange Market in the same year. New Hope Liuhe is focused on the development of food and modern agriculture. It is a wholly integrated industrial chain, covering the business of feed, farming, meat products and financial investment across China and in nearly 20 countries, such as Vietnam and the Philippines. New Hope Liuhe produced 3.1 million hogs in 2018.

Piensos Costa
Spain — 120,000 sows
A leading Spanish family-owned agri-food group, Costa Group was founded in 1966. The business includes every segment of pork production, from manufacturing animal feed and management of the integration to slaughtering, cutting and commercialization of the product. Costa Group is the first “white pig” meat group to achieve the AENOR Conform Animal Welfare certificate on all of its farms and in its entire production process. On the swine side, Costa Group has produced 3 million hogs.

Betagro Group
Thailand — 120,000 sows
Founded in 1967 under the name of Betagro Company Ltd., Betagro Group started its business with its first feed mill in Pra Pradaeng, Samut Prakan Province. The group has grown substantially ever since: first, by establishing a livestock production facility in Pak Chong, Nakhon Ratchasima Province; and then expanding further into the integrated agricultural sector with a complete production base in Lopburi Province, which includes everything from manufacturing and livestock farming to animal breeding. The group has also developed strategic collaborations with local farmers. Examples include price guarantees for broilers and layer chickens; contract farming for fattening swine; production and distribution of hygienic and fresh pork, chicken and eggs; manufacturing of processed foods for domestic consumption; and export to international markets. Betagro is Thailand’s second-largest swine producer and has plans to expand, as well as ban both types of sow crates. The company hopes that in 10 years, the measure will apply to 250,000 sows.

AMVC Management Services
United States — 143,000 sows
AMVC Management Services is focused on providing solutions to total herd management and prides itself in offering customers a progressive systems approach to quality pork production. AMVC has more than 600 employees and 19 veterinarians on staff, and it manages 40 sow farms ranging from 1,200 sows to 10,000 sows.
Olymel
Canada — 106,000 sows
Located in Quebec, Canada, Olymel was founded in 1991 by its principal owner La Coop fédérée. Over the past 25 years Olymel has pursued an aggressive expansion. Besides various production facilities and distribution centers across Canada, it has offices in Japan, Australia and South Korea; employs 13,000 people; and exports to more than 65 countries. Today, Olymel has a capacity of 167,000 hogs per week and 2.4 million birds per week, with a revenue of $2.7 billion (USD).

HB Xiangda
China — 105,000 sows
Hubei Xiang Da Agriculture and Husbandry Company Ltd. was established in February 2001. The company is a national leading enterprise in agriculture, with the integrated industrial chain covering the business of pig farming, slaughtering, meat processing and feed production. HB Xiangda strives for rapid development through two models, “self farming” and “free farming”; and it established a green industrial chain, “from farm to table.” The company currently has 6,700 employees, 17 wholly owned subsidiary companies and 66 branch companies in Hubei, Anhui and Henan provinces. The company produced 2.2 million hogs in 2018.

Maxwell Farms
United States — 100,000 sows
A subsidiary of Goldsboro Milling Co., Maxwell Farms was established in 1989. The firm is committed to genetic improvement and is one of the leading North Carolina pork production companies.

Yangxiang
China — 100,000 sows
Yangxiang Corporation Ltd. was founded in 1998, and it has 39 subsidiary companies and branch companies with 5,000 employees. A scientific and technological agricultural and husbandry enterprise with an entire industrial chain integrated with business, Yangxiang is involved in pig breeding, hog production, swine semen, pig feed and pig equipment. The company produced more than 2 million hogs in 2018. In the future, the company aims to use internet technology to find more ways to implement “intelligent pig farming,” and explore easier and more efficient ways to raise pigs. The company marketed 2.27 million hogs in 2018.

Rusagro
Russia — 104,000 sows
Russia’s second-largest pig producer, with operations in the Belgorod and Tambov regions of the country, Rusagro’s pig business is fully integrated. Known for its products under The Butcher’s Word brand, Rusagro is currently building new farms in the far eastern region of Russia, near the border with China. The first phase of this business will be to house 30,000 sows to supply pork to the local area. The plan could grow considerably if continual exports to China become a reality. Rusagro is also planning another 60,000 sow expansion in Samara, Russia.