



Jonathan Kinge A BQP ex independent producer

Jonathan has worked in the pig industry since being a boy, working on a state-of-the-art pig farm precollege in East Anglia, travelling to the United States to increase his knowledge of pig farming, finally putting down roots buying a farm and raising a family in the fens in 1986.

He initially set up a 70 sow herd to finish and built it up to 150 sows to finish. In 2006 he made the choice to get out of the sows and producing and finishing his own progeny to join BQP as a 7 – 100kg producer.



Jonathan says he has never looked back from those days. He continued to utilise the finishing and grower accommodation when joining BQP and the first building to be developed was the old sow barn, which is a clear span building of a yard 80' X 90' with Electronic Sow feeders in. This was penned out using Paneltim supplied from Quality Equipment, whilst also building a new shed 50' X 80' to house 400 pigs.



Old sow yards



Existing growing and finishing house



In 2009 Jonathan made use of the BQP Reinvestment scheme and tackled the final shed which used to be the farrowing house and weaner pens. The building had all the internals removed, pens were added using Paneltim and the shed now holds 375 pigs. The site now holds 2000 pigs taking them in at 7kg and growing them through to slaughter.

In 2009 Jonathan felt there was need for some reinvestment into the original finishing house muck pad due to the fact the building now held pigs of only one age and the muck pad in a wet winter often became too full, so the pad size was doubled and new concrete walls placed around it.



In 2011 this led to a total refurb of the original finishing / grower house, removing the central walkway and opening up the front of the pens; putting in all new 3 space feed hoppers and Jags drinkers.

Jonathan feels strongly that, had it not been for the security of working alongside BQP the investments he and they have made into his farm none of the above would have happened as an independent farmer. The structure of a regular stable income allowed him to budget and forward forecast. He is a great believer in the vertical Integrated system.

Jonathan believes as an independent without the security of an Integrated system he would have to tackle the rising costs of feed, organise the sale and transport of his pigs alone and in the current climate this would be extremely challenging for a family farm. particularly with rising costs over which he has no control.

Being in a stable supply chain allows him to budget, plan improvements on a farm basis whilst maintaining a profitable business. This enables him to concentrate on looking after his pigs and improving his farm, which is why he came into farming originally.