



Over grown nails.

Per the owner these nails are the result of lacking certain vitamins and minerals in the hog's environment and can be corrected by having them added to the hog's feed. These hogs are on the way to recovery and looking good now.

There are areas across the country where some vitamins or minerals are lacking in the soil, or there is too much of a good thing that will counteract or naturally deplete what's already there. This is why it's always necessary to be aware of your hog's health and watch for changes.

Per the owner this condition resulted from too much natural calcium, shale, and iron in the soil. The calcium, shale or iron binds with the naturally found zinc and is extruded thru the feces, which doesn't allow for the zinc to be used by the natural processes of the body.

In this case additional zinc was added to the hog feed in the vitamin and mineral pack, or sow pack. Biotin was also added and is a health aid for feet and nails. Biotin assists with elasticity in hooves or toe nails. It's also used to assist with litter size.

It's not enough to only feed and pasture your hogs. Check the feed to assure it contains the right amounts of everything needed for optimal health. Grazing hogs get a lot of their nutrition from plant matter but if the soil is not healthy for the proper nutrition of hogs then it's also not growing healthy plants for them. Hogs also absorb minerals from the soil thru their feet, noses and skin. Soil samples can be taken to your county extension office for testing, or some feed mill sources also do sampling and testing and many of them are free. Problems such as this can be easily remedied by adjusting the feed to the proper amounts of what is lacking. It would not be practical to spread or broadcast the vitamins or minerals across the pastures. Never is only pasturing or only providing feed good enough for optimal health.