



This is an article about one of the so called “Pennywell Tea Cup” pigs. It was written by friends of mine, who live in the Netherlands. As you can see by their story, and the pictures, that these “Tea Cup” pigs are only “Tea Cup” sized when they are very young.



“In April 2009 a Dutch family drove to the UK to pick up a 6 week old piglet from Pennywell Farm. Not sure if it was sold as a teacup pig; the paperwork said “miniature Pennywell Farm piglet” and a newspaper clipping featured the photo of a “pocket pig at Pennywell Farm”. The piglet was called Piggy Sue (her name was changed to protect the innocent) and the family loved her very much. She was kept in a small area as an only pig, so she escaped regularly to broaden her horizon and keep herself busy. As it turned out, when in heat she became a monster pig: chasing, biting, the works. So Piggy Sue had to go. Last October we adopted her to live in our group of 12 pigs. I want to use her case to discourage the demand for ‘teacup pigs’ in The Netherlands. When I first saw her I could not believe my eyes: Piggy Sue, 8 months old, was 98 cm (38 1/2”) long and 50 cm (20”) high, much bigger than our 9 month old Kune Kune boy and larger than some of the adult potbellied pigs we have. She was very friendly and people orientated, but afraid of other pigs. Piggy Sue has the appearance of a cut and paste pig (you take the tail of a cat, the ears of a wolf, the legs of an elephant etc, put it all together and you have a 'new' animal. In this case you take different breeds of pigs to get a peculiar looking pig like Piggy Sue): piri piri (wattles hanging from the Kune Kune’s chin) and the short nose of the Kune Kune; fleshy thighs, a fat bottom and her markings could be Gloucester Old Spot. And huge ears. Kind of strange, but cute.

By now she has settled nicely in the group. It will be very interesting to see her size when she is three or four years old! Here she is with our largest potbellied pig. Probably Piggy Sue will be her size in a few years time. The Kune Kune boy in the front seems to be the same size as Piggy Sue, but he really is smaller. The red pigs are called Mangalitzas (Hungarian woolly pigs). They are the size of our wild boar, but longer. Not as huge as farm pigs, much larger than the pots.”

NOTE FROM EDITOR:

As you can see from this article and pictures, these so called advertised as a “Pocket Pig” only fits into the Green Giants pocket. Why does this continue? The breeders continue stretch the truth, saying that these pigs are only 5lbs when mature. Yes indeed a male who weighs 5lbs is mature, he can breed and make more babies. Females can breed around 6 months and these pigs are around 20lbs then. So yes that IS mature... but NOT FULL GROWN. Most pigs continue to grow until they are between three (3) and five (5) years of age.

