



NFL Draft 2019 Scouting Report: DE Clelin Ferrell, Clemson

**Our DL grades can and will change as more information comes in from Pro Day workouts, leaked Wonderlic test results, etc. We will update ratings as new info becomes available.*

Our computer scouting models and I agree – **Clelin Ferrell** is good, possibly very good...but we stop there. We are not ready to cross into ‘great’ territory.

Ferrell is ‘good’ – he has the size, a great reach, a great first step off the snap. His speed-agility is a little suspect – up and down agility times at the NFL Combine, and then skipped the 40-time at the Combine as well as his Pro Day – it has me a touch worried.

It’s possible Ferrell is a very good/great college defensive end who worked on one of the best defensive lines in the history of the game. He looked awesome at times in college, but should other similar-sized, similar-testing athletes be considered better than Ferrell if they put up great numbers and tape, but had to fight through more double teams and blocking attention because they didn’t have the great Clemson front line to boost them?

Maxx Crosby of Eastern Michigan is about the same size as Ferrell, and measured better in speed-agility...why is he not a 1st-round consideration...putting up nice numbers on a lower-tier team?

I studied **Josh Allen** prior to my Ferrell studies...I’ll take Allen over Ferrell all day. Bosa-Sweat are more impressive than Ferrell, for sure.

If this makes it seem like I’m killing Ferrell, I don’t mean to. I think he’s good, I’m just not sure he’s as special as the hype is getting on him. He’s a head-down charge the backfield type 4-3 DE prospect, and if his speed-agility times are more average (agility is, and the 40-20-10-times are unknown) – he could be similar to **Shaq Lawson** and **Kevin Dodd** when they were all the rage coming out of Clemson...and now you don’t even really remember what area/round they were drafted or what teams they are on in the NFL today (Dodd flamed out hard and is out of the league already).

Watching Ferrell against Alabama and Texas A&M, he was fine/OK – but when he drew the good blockers against them...he didn’t ‘win’ as much as you’d like. The Texas A&M left tackle struggled with Ferrell, but when 1st-round pick OG **Erik McCoy** pulled around and went on/after Ferrell – McCoy controlled him, somewhat with ease. Against Alabama, I remember watching his teammate, Christian Wilkins, look exactly the same (very good) against Alabama as he did against other competition. I didn’t see the same with Ferrell against Alabama... it felt like the Tide blockers had the upper hand on him. He didn’t appear as impressive against higher competition...not what you want for a top 10-20 draft prospect.



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Ferrell is a solid/good prospect, but I think he's getting a big push from being a Clemson guy. I see Ferrell as more of a #30-60 overall prospect as a 4-3 DE pass rusher, not the guy that people think is a top 10-20, sweet consolation prize for missing out on Bosa-Sweat-Allen.

Clelin Ferrell, Through the Lens of Our DE Scouting Algorithm:

Number of games in the past two seasons with 0-2 solo tackles in a game:

21 games = **Clelin Ferrell** (29 games played...72% of his games in that span)

16 games = Montez Sweat (26 games played...62%)

14 games = Brian Burns (25 games played...56%)

13 games = Nick Bosa (17 games played...77%) *Missed most of 2018 season

12 games = Maxx Crosby (24 games played...50%)

Ferrell tends to go for the sack/TFL or nothing...doing so more than most of his fellow top rush end-type prospects.

5.0 sacks in his first three games of 2018, then just 6.5 sacks his final 12 games...just one sack in his final four college games.

Five or fewer total tackles in a game in 19 of his last 20 games.

2019 NFL Combine Measurables...

6'4.3"/264, 10.5" hands, 34.1" arms

25 bench reps

4.40 shuttle, 7.26 three-cone

DNP 40-time, broad jump, vertical



The Historical DE Prospects to Whom Clelin Ferrell Most Compares Within Our System:

It's a good comp list...the closest comps are pass rush specialists who have had success in the NFL. Not Hall of Famers, but really nice players.

<u>DE Score</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Yr</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Tackle, Strngth Metric</u>	<u>Speed, Agility Metric</u>	<u>Pass Rush Metric</u>	<u>Tackle Metric</u>
8.347	Ferrell	Clelin	2019	Clemson	6	4.3	264	9.42	6.20	7.01	5.15
4.188	Smith	Preston	2015	Miss State	6	4.7	271	8.54	4.72	6.35	4.91
5.798	Ansah	Ezekiel	2013	BYU	6	5.2	271	7.97	8.54	6.41	6.93
7.746	Quinn	Robert	2011	UNC	6	4.0	265	8.85	7.40	5.14	7.97
7.189	Morgan	Derrick	2010	Georgia Tech	6	3.0	266	8.81	5.15	7.58	7.30
8.490	Adams	Gaines	2007	Clemson	6	4.6	258	9.37	6.83	9.21	7.12
4.015	Weatherly	Stephen	2016	Vandy	6	4.3	267	8.40	8.00	6.89	5.17
3.868	Thompson	Jeremy	2008	Wake Forest	6	4.3	264	9.64	8.71	4.24	7.81

**A score of 8.00+ is where we see a stronger correlation of DEs going on to become NFL good/great/elite. A score of 10.00+ is more rarefied air in our system and indicates a greater probability of becoming an elite NFL DE.*

All of the DE ratings are based on a 0–10 scale, but a player can score negative, or above a 10.0 in certain instances.

Power-Strength Metrics = A combination of several measurements. An attempt to classify the DE prospect as more of a battle-in-the-trenches type of DE, a 'bull-rusher', and/or a DE prospect who has some DT capabilities.

Speed-Agility Metrics = A combination of several speed, agility, size measurements. A unique measuring system to look for DEs who profile more as speed-rush, stand-up DEs, and/or possible OLBs.

Pass-Rusher Rating = A combination of physical measurables, and college performance, graded historically for future NFL profiling. In the simplest of terms, this is an attempt to classify whether a particular DE is likely to achieve high sack totals in the NFL. We know the 'system'/scheme the DE goes on to play in has a part in future success...but so do the player's skills and performance history. "You can't keep a good man/DE down," we'd like to think.

Tackling Rating = A combination of physical measurables, and college performance, graded historically for future NFL profiling. In the simplest of terms, this is an attempt to classify the DE as one more likely to be involved in a heavy amount of tackles, tackles for a loss, and forced fumbles. Lower-scoring DEs in

