

Show Pig Project: Feed Projections

By Sarah Smith and Jean Smith, WSU Extension Educators, 2009

Purchase Date: Depends on show date
Beg. Wt. 80 lbs (70-90 lbs)
Birth Date: 8-10 weeks

Weigh-in Date Shows typically have
 80-120 day test
Weight: 100 lbs
ADG goal: 1.4-2.0 lbs/day

Show Date: Know the date of the fair
Finish Wt: 265 lbs (245-285 lbs)

Rule of Thumb: Pigs will normally eat
 3-5% of their body weight

Self feeders are a common way to feed young growing pigs. When first introducing pigs to self feeders, fasten the lid up so they will learn where to eat. After a few days let the lid down and monitor the amount of feed the pigs are consuming to make sure they are using the feeders correctly. Keep enough feed in the feeder to keep feed available at all times, however be careful to not put so much feed in the feeder that spoilage occurs. Self feeders are to ensure pigs have feed at all time--not to reduce work or requirements to check on your animal's care and well-being!

If your pig is getting too fat or putting on weight too quickly, you may need to remove the self feeder and limit feed the pig two times a day. To keep the animal content you will want to feed the pig at least 2.5-3.0% of his body weight in feed. You can also reduce gain by reducing the amount of energy in the diet by substituting less energy dense feeds like alfalfa or whole oats. Be carefull not to add more than 10-15% of these alternative feeds as they can cause the ration to become unbalanced for the essential amino acids or B-vitamins. Exercise during the cool of the day can also be used to maintain weight.

FEEDING

Date In	Feed Type	% CP Levels	# Days	Feed (lbs/d)	Total Grain	Expected ADG	Total Period Gain	End Period Wt
Days 1-10	Starter/Grower	20-22	10	3	30	1	10	80
Days 11-20	Grower	18-20	10	4	40	1.3	13	90
Days 21-30	Grower	18-20	10	4.5	45	1.5	15	103
Days 31-40	Grower	18-20	10	5	50	1.5	15	118
Days 41-50	Grower	18-20	10	5	50	1.5	15	133
Days 51-60	Grower	18-20	10	6	60	1.8	18	148
Days 61-70	Finisher	16-18	10	7	70	2	20	166
Days 71-80	Finisher	16-18	10	7	70	2	20	186
Days 81-90	Finisher	16-18	10	7	70	2	20	206
Days 91-100	Finisher	16-18	10	8	80	2	20	226
Days 101-110	Finisher	16-18	10	8	80	2	20	246
Days 111-120	Finisher	16-18	10	8	80	1.8	18	266
			120		725	1.70	204	266

Unlike ruminant animals, cattle and sheep, pigs are unable to synthesize essential amino acids and B vitamins by the microbes in the rumen. Therefore, special attention must be given to providing pig a well-balanced diet for their specific level of growth (weight and age). The most efficient way to meet your pig's nutritional requirements is to

Stage of Production	Avg Wt.	CP %	Lysine%	ME, Mcal/lb	Fat %	Ca%
	Range					
Starter	35-100	20-22	1.0-1.5	1.55-1.60	5.5-6.5	.65-.75
Grower	100-150	18-20	.90-1.0	1.55-1.60	4.5-5.5	.60-.65
Finisher	150-260	16-18	.80-.90	1.55-1.60	3.5-4.5	.50-.55

CP = Crude Protein, ME=Metabolizable Energy, Ca=Calcium

These calculations are AVERAGES. DO NOT use these numbers as your sole feeding guidelines. You must pay attention to feed bunk management, feed nutrient analysis, animal's genetics, level of exercise, and environmental conditions. Remember exteme hot, cold, or wet enviromental conditions will negatively impact your animal's weight gain or feed efficiency.