

K-STATE

Show Pig Guide



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Contributions

A special thanks to these people and organizations for helping us get together this great material.

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National Hog Farmer

National Swine Registry

Certified Pedigreed Swine

National Pork Board

Pork Checkoff



Educational Materials

Listed below are educational resources available for use. Many of the websites have excellent information that can assist you with your youth swine project.

KSU Youth Livestock Program

<http://www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu>

KSU Swine Nutrition and Management

<http://www.ksuswine.org>

KSU College of Agriculture

<http://www.ag.ksu.edu>

<http://www.facebook.com/KStateAg?v=wall>

<http://twitter.com/kstateag>

The Kansas Pork Association

<http://www.kspork.org/>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kansas-Pork-Association/65989263077>

<http://twitter.com/KansasPorkNews>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/KansasPork>

<http://piggingout-n-about.blogspot.com/>

US Pork Center of Excellence – Pig Information Gateway

<http://ksu.porkgateway.com>

The National Pork Board

<http://www.pork.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/ThePorkCheckoff>

<http://twitter.com/PorkCheckoff>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/PorkCheckoff>

The Pig Site

<http://www.thepigsite.com>

The National Swine Registry for Hampshire, Duroc, Landrace, and Yorkshire

<http://www.nationalswine.com>

Certified Pedigree Swine for Chester Whites, Spotted, and Poland China

<http://www.cpsswine.com>

The National Berkshire Association

<http://americanberkshire.com>

Breeds of Swine

<http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/swine/>



Selecting Your Youth Swine Project

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

Before selecting your youth swine project, you should consider factors such as where you will be exhibiting your animal, gender, and breed classification. There are some shows that only allow barrows or only allow gilts. It is necessary to research early and to know where you would like to exhibit your animal.

If you choose a specific breed you must follow the purebred classification guidelines in order to be allowed to show in that particular breed. Also, be sure you understand any requirements for registration papers to show a purebred gilt or barrow at the various shows you plan to attend.

Selecting the correct size of pig is one of the most important factors in selecting your youth swine project. You do not want to purchase an animal that is too old and will be larger than needed at the show and/or too young that will not make the weight for the show. For county fairs in July you will want January or early February born pigs. For the August county fairs, early to mid February born pigs are generally ideal. For the Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show, mid February to mid March aged pigs are generally purchased.

Look for physical characteristics such as muscle top shape, ham expression, thickness of shoulders as well as base width in your animal. You will want a leaner animal that is free of excess fat and clean topped, not wasteful through the middle portion of the body and one that exhibits a clean neck/jowl.

Another characteristic to look for is structural correctness. Things to look for in structural correctness include: even size and shape of toes, angulation and backward slope through the knee of the front legs, the set of the hock in the hind legs, free of joint swelling, and looseness in the hip and shoulder, allowing them to walk without restraint.

There are many places both in state and out of state to purchase pigs. You may visit prospect sales, breeder's farms or raise your own. For a quick list of breeders you can visit www.thepigpage.com.

Here is an easy checklist for selecting your youth swine project:

- ☐ Where will you be exhibiting your project? _____
- ☐ Is there a gender specification for this show? _____
- ☐ What breed are you going to exhibit? _____
- ☐ What age should your animal be for ideal weight at your show? _____

Things to look for:

- ☐ Physical Characteristics
 - Muscle top shape
 - Ham expression
 - Thickness of shoulders
 - Base width
- ☐ Leanness
 - Free of excess fat and cleaned topped
 - Clean neck/jowl
 - Not wasteful through the middle portion of the body
- ☐ Structural Correctness
 - Even size and shape of toes
 - Angulation and backward slope through the knee of the front legs
 - Set of the hock in the hind legs, hocks free of joint swelling
 - Looseness of the hip and shoulder, allowing them to walk without restraint

Information is available on the following pages that will help explain terms and descriptions in selection and judging of market and breeding swine. This will help you gain more knowledge for evaluating your youth project.



Notes



Swine Terminology

Breeding Swine Terminology

Breeding swine are generally placed on a combination of:

- Structural correctness
- Volume
- Scale – growth potential
- Correctness of condition
- Balance
- Muscle
- Sex characteristics

Market Swine Terminology

Market swine are generally placed on a combination of:

- Muscle
- Leanness
- Structural correctness
- Balance
- Volume

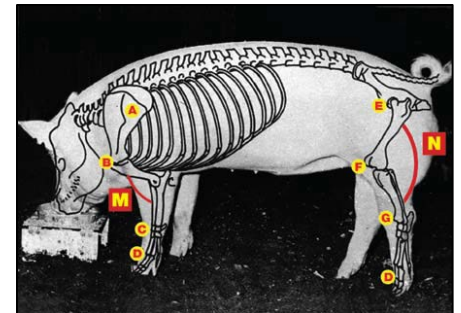
Structure

Desirable

Angulation/cushion of pastern
 Sounder
 More flex (give) through his/her hock or knee
 Freer or easier moving
 More desirable slope to his/her shoulder
 Leveler rumped gilt that was more correct in her movement
 Longer strided
 Straighter tracking
 Truer from knee to ground
 Looser jointed
 Heavy bone
 More durable, heavier structured
 More even toe size
 Sets down a bigger foot
 More conferment adaptable as she is ...

Undesirable

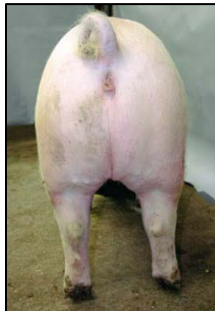
Stiff or steep in her pasterns
 Least structurally correct
 Stiff and peggy behind
 Tighter moving
 Straight shouldered
 Steep rumped
 Short strided
 Cow hocked
 Over in his knees
 Tight jointed
 Frail
 Refined
 Uneven toe size
 Small footed



Desirable front and rear leg structure.



Normal (good) rear leg structure.



Good leg set, good width between her legs.



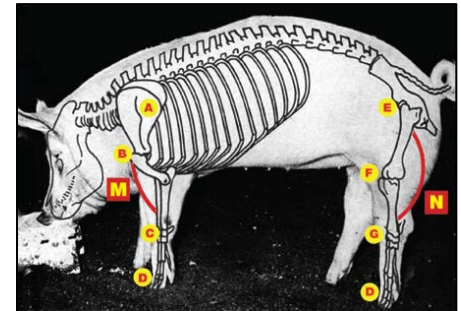
Narrow set to rear legs.



Example of soft (weak) pastern.



Straight front legs, "buck-kneed."



Undesirable front and rear leg structure.

*All photos in Swine Terminology courtesy of Pork Checkoff, Iowa State University Extension and National Hog Farmer.



Swine Terminology

Growth - Production

Desirable

Appears to have taken fewer days to 240 lb
Appears to be faster growing
More youthful appearing, later maturing
Larger (scaled, outline)
More production oriented

Undesirable

Appears to have taken the most days to 240 lb
Slowest growing
Earlier maturing
Small scaled, short bodied
Slow growing, pounds light

Muscling

Breeding Gilts

Desirable

More (correct, desirable) in her muscle (design, pattern)
Longer and looser in her muscle design
Heavier muscled
Squarer and thicker rumped, hiped
Longer & looser in her muscle design
More muscular down her top
More correctly shaped down her top
More expressive down her top
Meatier spread down her top
Thicker (top, rump, ham)

Undesirable

Tight in her muscle design
Tight wound
Light muscled
Narrow rumped

Market Hogs

Desirable

More expressively muscled
Square, more muscled top
Wider rumped
More shape to ham

Undesirable

Flat
Narrow topped
Narrow rumped
Flat hammed

Leanness

Desirable

Leaner/trimmer
Cleaner elbow pocket
Leaner shape of top
Cleaner jowl
Showed more blade action, movement

Undesirable

Heavier condition
More condition in elbow pocket
Round top
Wasty jowl



Swine Terminology

Balance

Desirable

Leveler design/leveler topped
High tail setting
Longer necked, longer fronted
Longer sided

Undesirable

Broken topped or high topped
Steep rumped
Short necked
Short sided, coupled

Volume/Stoutness

Desirable

Higher volume/more capacious
Fuller ribbed
More spring of her rib
Greater spring of rib
Wider based
Wider chested
Wider (between/through) his blades
More width of skeleton
Bigger bladed, bolder bladed

Undesirable

Least capacious
Shallow ribbed/tight ribbed
Flat rib
Flat ribbed
Narrow based
Narrow chested
Narrow and flat shouldered
Narrow skeleton
Tight shouldered

Sex Characteristics

Female

Desirable

Prominent underline
More evenly spaced underline
Finer, more desirable texture
More correct teat (nipple) design
Set further forward



A good underline.

Undesirable

Flat underline
Uneven spacing
Coarse underline
Inverted nipple/pin/blunt
Pin nipple



A poor underline.

Male

Desirable

More testicular development
Cleaner tighter sheath
More rugged/muscular appearing
More aggressive

Undesirable

Least testicular development
Wasty sheath
Frail, fine boned

Carcass

Desirable

Should rail a carcass requiring the least fat trim
Should yield a carcass with a higher % muscle
Should have a greater lean yield
Should have a leaner, more shapely carcass
Should have a higher % of primal cuts

Should have a carcass with the highest % lean

Undesirable

The most fat trim
The lowest % muscle or lean



Notes



Purebred and Crossbred Lines

Purebred

Duroc

- Red pig with drooping ears
- Excellent terminal sire breed
 - Growth and feed efficiency
 - Carcass characteristics
 - Excellent meat quality
- Originated in New York/New Jersey area in early 1800's



Classification (National Swine Registry):

- Must be red in color and possess Duroc Breed Character (ears must be down and medium size).
- Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- Must NOT have any white hair located on the animal.
- Must NOT have any black hair.
- Must NOT have more than three black spots on the skin and none of these spots can be larger than two inches in diameter.
- Must NOT have any shading or indication of a belt.
- Must be stress negative.

Hampshire

- Black pig with white belt and erect ears
- Originated in Hampshire, England
- Imported to U.S. in 1825
- Terminal sire breed
 - Excellent growth rate and efficiency
 - Excellent carcass characteristics



Classification (National Swine Registry):

- Must be black in color with a white belt starting on the front leg. The belt may partially or totally encircle the body.
- Must possess Hampshire breed character (ears must be erect and not rounded).
- Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- Must NOT have any white hair or indications of streaking on the forehead.
- Must NOT have any red hair.
- Must be stress negative.



Purebred and Crossbred Lines

Yorkshire

- White pigs with erect ears
- Maternal line breed:
 - Highly prolific
 - High milk production
- Originated in York, England
 - Imported to U.S. in 1820's



Photo courtesy of Mason Livestock.

Classification (National Swine Registry):

- Must be white in color and possess Yorkshire breed character (ears must be erect).
- Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- Must NOT have any colored hair other than white.
- Must NOT have colored skin pigmentation larger than one U.S. minted silver dollar.
- Must NOT have masking above the eyes larger than a silver dollar.
- Must be stress negative.

Landrace

- White in color
- Ears droop and slant forward with its top edges nearly parallel to the bridge of a straight nose
- Noted for their ability to farrow and raise large litters
- Descended from the Danish Landrace that originated in 1895



Photo courtesy of Cedar Ridge Swine Genetics.

Classification (National Swine Registry):

- Must be white in color and possess Landrace breed character.
- Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- Must NOT have any colored hair other than white.
- Must have down ears.
- Occasional spot of black on the skin may appear on the body only.

Berkshire

- Black with 6 white points, erect ears
- Originated in Berkshire Co. England and imported to the U.S. between 1820 and 1850
- Terminal Line Boar
 - Popularity has increased with interest in meat quality "Berkshire Gold"
 - Good pork quality but poor overall growth



Classification (National Swine Registry):

- A black and white animal with erect ears exhibiting Berkshire character.
- Must have white on all four legs, face and tail (unless tail is docked). One of the white leg points may also be missing.
- Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- Must NOT have a solid white or a solid black face from the ears forward.

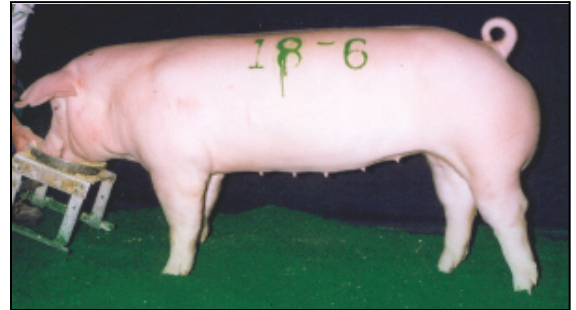


Purebred and Crossbred Lines

- Must NOT have a solid black nose (rim of nose).
- White is allowed on the ears, but NO solid white may appear on the ears.
- Occasional splash of white may appear on the body.

Chester White

- White pigs with down ears
- Maternal line breed:
 - Highly prolific
 - Highly durable
 - High milk production
- Originated in Jefferson County, New York in 1884



Classification (Certified Pedigreed Swine):

- Must possess Chester White breed characteristics.
- Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- Must be solid white in color, no color on the skin larger than a U.S. silver dollar, no colored hair.
- Any skin pigmentation other than white that exceeds five in number are disqualified.
- Ears must be down and medium size.
- Any signs of weighted ear tags or evidence of past existence of such ear tags are determined to be not permissible and are grounds for disqualification.

Poland China

- Terminal line breed:
 - Muscle
 - Big framed
 - Long bodied
- Originated in Ohio in 1816



Classification (Certified Pedigreed Swine):

- Must possess Poland China breed characteristics.
- Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- Must be black with six white points (face, feet and switch) with an occasional splash of white on body. A hog may not possess more than one (1) solid black leg and be determined as a Poland China. Note* (tail docking is permissible)
- Must have down ears.
- Must not have evidence of a belt formation.
- Cannot have red or sandy hair and/or pigment.
- Hogs that have weighted ear tags or evidence of tampering of ears with possible ear tags are ineligible.



Purebred and Crossbred Lines

Spotted

- Terminal line breed:
 - Growth
 - Carcass quality
- Originated in Ohio in 1880's

Classification (Certified Pedigreed Swine):

- Must be black and white.
- Must possess Spotted breed characteristics.
- Must be ear notched within seven days of birth.
- Ears cannot be erect.
- Any red tinted or brown spots are ineligible.
- No solid black head from ears forward.
- No distinct white belt pattern (hair or skin) encircling and extending down and onto each shoulder.
- Any signs of weighted ear tags or evidence of past existence of such tags are determined to be not permissible and are grounds for disqualification.



Pietrain

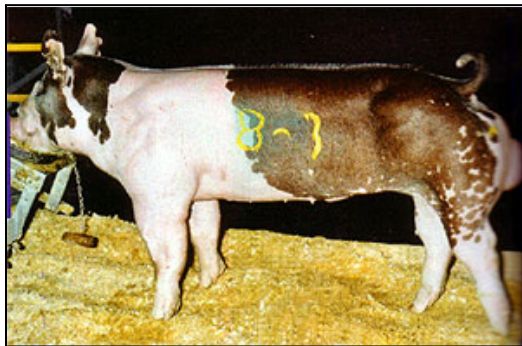
- Originated in Belgium, imported to U.S. in 1960's
- Terminal line boar
 - Noted for extreme carcass characteristics
 - Noted for high stress susceptibility
 - Recent interest in carcass leanness has increased the breeds role in various boar lines





Purebred and Crossbred Lines

Crossbred Swine





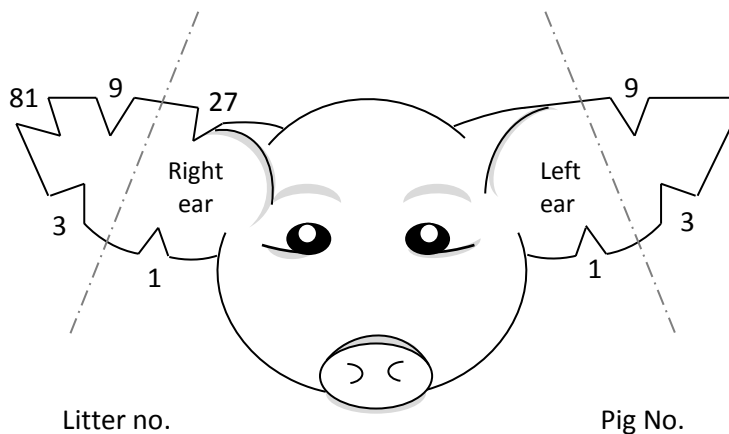
Notes



Universal Ear Notching System

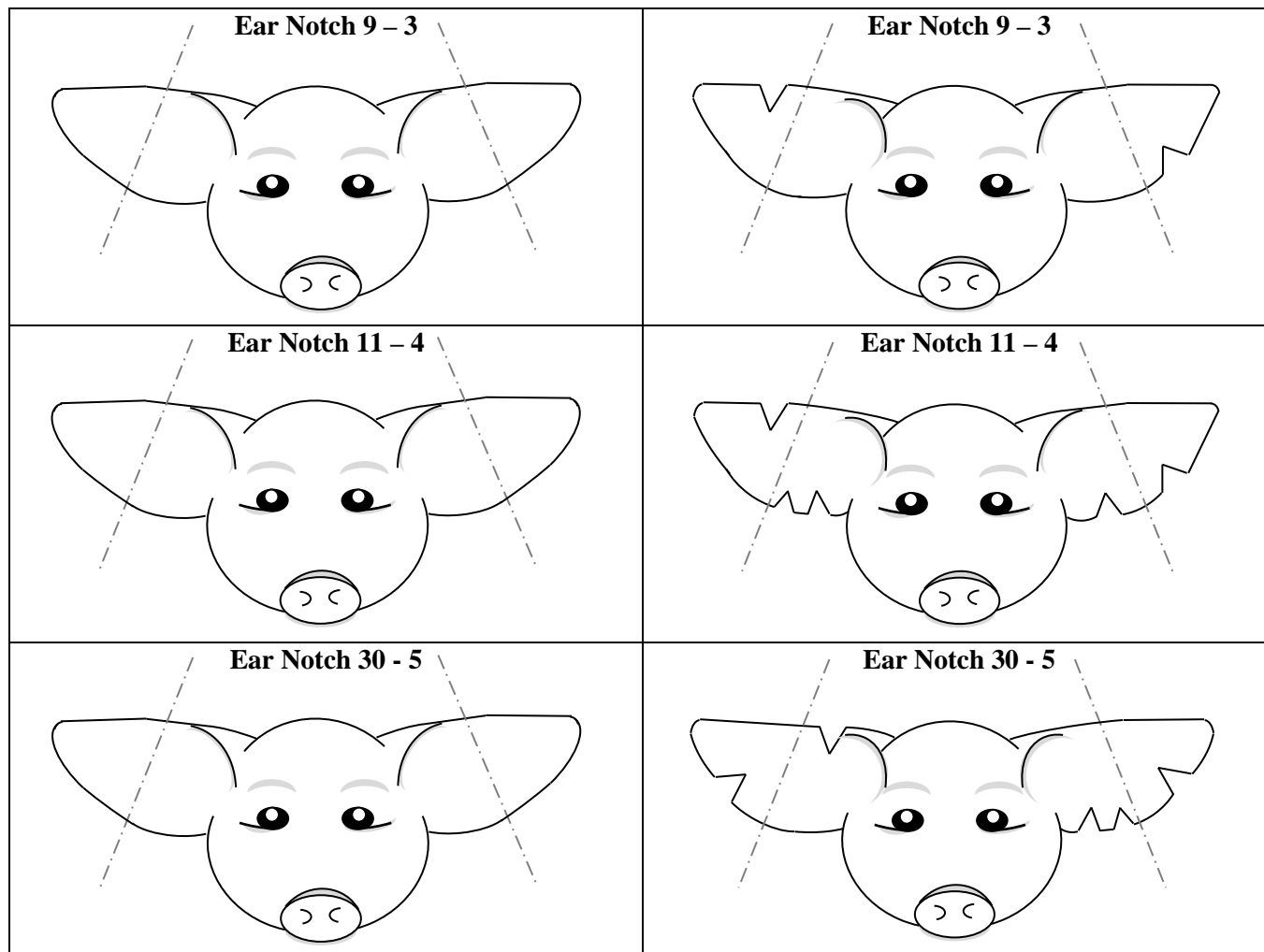
Joel DeRouchey
Extension Specialist
Updated January 2013

Kristine L. Clowers
Youth Livestock Coordinator



The Universal Ear Notching System is the standard way to permanently identify swine. This is generally completed during the first week after farrowing while the pigs are still small and easy to handle.

The pig's right ear is the litter ear and the pig's left ear is the individual pig number in the litter.





General Care and Management

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

Facilities

- Warm, draft-free pen when pigs first arrive home
- Check pen for sharp objects or corners that might scratch or injure your pig
- Provide a large pen (generally at least 16 square feet per pig) so the pigs have room to move around freely and that there is a dry area at all times for the pig to lay on to prevent them from chilling at night or causing other stress
 - Even if your pigs have access to a wet area during hot days, they **MUST** have a dry place to sleep at night
- Proper shade and ventilation
 - Clean, dry bedding in cool seasons
 - In warm summer months, dampen sand or wood shaving to provide the best environment for the pigs to stay cool
 - Avoid using too much straw or similar bedding for pigs in summer
 - This type of bedding simply holds in too much heat
 - Use common sense when using facilities that are too enclosed or hot. Ask yourself would I like to stay in here during a hot, humid Kansas day?
 - **DO NOT** expose white hogs to direct sunlight for an extended time
 - Red and black marked hogs need some sunlight to help darken their skin and hair coats
- **ALWAYS** provide access to fresh water and feed
 - Clean water tanks out weekly
 - Your animal's performance will only be as good as the water that it drinks. This is easily one of the most overlooked areas when caring for your swine project
 - Check the feeder daily to ensure that old or moldy feed is not preventing your pig from eating

Health Status

- Check daily for sickness (coughing, rough hair coat, will not stand, etc.)
- Administer proper medication when ill or lame
- Be aware of all withdraw times when using vaccines and/or medicated feed
- Treat for internal and external parasites/worms once a month

Weigh Each Pig—Mandatory

- The most important information you can have is the weight and gain of your pig throughout the spring and summer.
- No two pigs are alike in their growth patterns.
- Always weigh pigs at the same time (i.e. before or after you feed).
- Keep a notebook of the date and weight of each pig from year to year.
 - This will help you with your management year to year if you have documented history of your pigs from previous years.
- If you do not have a scale to weigh your pigs, you can use clothing tape to help you estimate the weight.
 - A confined pig is required to get an accurate measurement.
 - We suggest taking three separate heart girth measurements and using the average inches measured.



General Care and Management

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- Measure the distance from the top of the shoulders down and around the chest of the pig just behind the front legs and back up to the starting point.
- The pigs should be on continuous feed and water to insure accuracy of results.

Inches of Clothing tape	Pig Weight, lbs
25	49
26	59
27	69
28	67
29	89
30	99
31	110
32	120
33	130
34	140
35	150
36	160
37	171
38	181
39	191
40	201
41	211
42	221
43	232
44	242
45	252
46	262
47	272
48	282

Groesbeck et al. 2003, KSU



General Care and Management

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Washing

- Pigs should be washed weekly to help remove old, dry skin.
- Any mild soap, such as dish soap, works very well.
- You can also apply a conditioner to soften and moisten the pigs hair
- Always brush your pig after washing until it is almost dry.
 - Brush the hair from the front to the rear of the pig.
- Apply a thin coat of baby oil to the hair and skin once the pig is dry.
 - Use a spray bottle to apply the oil; it only takes a small amount.
 - Only apply oil in the evenings. Pigs will get extremely warm during the day with a coat of oil that was applied in the morning.
- Overall goal is to improve the hair coat and freshness of the pig. Washing and brushing your pig is an effective way to calm and relax your pig before you go to the show.

Exercise

- Exercising increases the pigs metabolism rate.
- Exercising builds the respiratory system so they do not tire and get as warm when driven at the show.
- Generally, you can start routinely exercising your pig when it reaches 150 lbs.
- In the beginning, exercise one to two times per week for 10 to 15 minutes.
- You should drive the pig like you would in the show ring. DO NOT do anything to the pig that you would not do in the show ring.
- Do not chase, yell or do anything to scare your pig when exercising.
- Exercising helps the pig loosen its joints and makes the pig “feel better.”
- Halt exercising your pig if it is sick, lame, or injured.
- Set up an obstacle course and practice driving your pig. Your pig will be familiar with your commands and this will help you be more competitive in showmanship.



Notes



Show Pig Nutrition

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Starting your pig off right

- Allow free access to feed and clean water at all times
- From 50 to 150 lb. a 1.25% to 1.35% total lysine diet is generally fed
- From 150 lbs until show day, a diet from 0.90 to 1.0% total lysine should be more than sufficient to meet the pigs needs for proper development

Rules of thumb in determining feed costs:

1. The average amount that your pig will grow a day is between 1.7 and 2.0 pounds.
2. The average amount of feed your pig will consume a day is between 5 and 6 pounds per day.

****The amount of feed that it will take to feed a pig from 50 pounds is as follows (Assuming a 3:1 feed conversation; that is, for every three pounds of feed your pig eats, he/she will gain one pound of weight)

Ending Weight	Amount of Feed
240 lbs	570 lbs
250 lbs	600 lbs
260 lbs	630 lbs
270 lbs	660 lbs
280 lbs	690 lbs

Ideal situation

- Place on full feed from time of purchasing until show day
- Reality is this situation rarely occurs, and an alteration in daily feed intake by the pig is often a necessity to maximize appearance of your pig

How do I push the pig to gain more weight in a small amount of time?

- Feed the pig 4 to 6 small portions a day
- Feed a ration that has been pelleted
 - Pelleted feed can increase feed intake and daily gain by 3 to 7%
 - Pelleting increases the feed digestibility of protein and carbohydrates which translates into increased energy for the body to use for gain
- The use of Paylean in the diet can increase weight gain 6-8 pounds during the last 21-28 days before your show
- If your pig has a low appetite, adding fat to the diet can help add needed weight as the pig is consuming a higher level of energy that can be used for weight gain
- **Consequences of this type of feeding program**
 - Increased average daily gain
 - Maximum potential for muscle deposition will occur
 - An increased amount of body fat will develop due to the pig simply putting on more weight in a shorter period of time
 - Pigs will generally look very “full” as a larger middle section will develop which may or may not be desirable for your pig
- **When is the best time to push your pig for increased daily gain?**
 - Between 125 to 210 pounds
 - Pigs during this stage are developing muscle in a higher proportion compared to fat in the body



Show Pig Nutrition

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How do I properly lower daily gains to prevent an excessively heavy pig?

- If you start with a pig that is larger than you need for your show
- Place on full feed until it reaches about 150 pounds
 - Now is the time to slow the pigs growth rate
- You must lower the feed intake and hand feed each day
 - However, you must feed enough to meet the pigs maintenance requirement (see chart below)
- Feeding at maintenance level will not stunt growth, simply prevent additional growth and maintain body weight
- NEVER feed below the maintenance requirement of your pig

Maintenance requirements by body weight

Weight, lb	Complete feed required, lb	Mcal, ME	Lysine requirement, g/d
150	2.1	3.21	0.9
160	2.2	3.34	0.9
170	2.3	3.46	0.9
180	2.4	3.58	1.0
190	2.5	3.70	1.0
200	2.5	3.81	1.1
210	2.6	3.93	1.1
220	2.7	4.04	1.1
230	2.8	4.15	1.2
240	2.8	4.26	1.2
250	2.9	4.36	1.3
260	3.0	4.46	1.3
270	3.0	4.57	1.3
280	3.1	4.67	1.4
290	3.2	4.77	1.4

1 lb of corn = 1.55 Mcal, ME; 1 lb of SBM = 1.53 Mcal of ME

- **The amount of feed per day listed in the chart does not seem like very much feed at all, what can I do so the pig is not so hungry all the time?**
 - Remember, the amount in the chart is for no weight gain, you can increase that amount to grow the pig slowly, which is the recommended practice, not just holding at the same weight.
 - You can feed a portion of the ration as rolled oats or a fibrous ingredient such as beet pulp, wheat middlings or soybean hulls. This will add bulk and make the pig feel fuller after the meal but only add a small amount of energy. Show feed suppliers offer various supplement products or complete rations to help with this issue.
 - But... fibrous ingredients themselves do not provide enough protein (amino acids) to meet the body needs... so you must use these in combination with the normal ration to meet the pigs dietary needs. In addition, you may provide a top dress protein additive.
 - It is recommended that pigs are weighed a minimum of twice per week to determine progress of the holding period.



Show Pig Nutrition

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- **Do I need to top dress with additional protein, vitamins or mineral sources when I am holding my pig?**
 - Generally no if your pig is 150-220 lb. However, prolonged restricted feeding decreases the level of nutrients for a longer period, which may start to make the pig look stale and begin to lose muscle shape. However, show feed suppliers offer supplements that can be used during holding periods to ensure all the proper nutrients are still consumed by your pig.
 - When holding your pig above 220 lb, a supplement or top dress might be needed to prevent your pig from looking stale or to prevent muscle loss.
 - Typically the most economical protein source to top dress with is soybean meal. Other sources that can be used include dried blood products, dried whey, and eggs or egg product additives.
 - Soybean meal is generally the least expensive and matches the pigs needs for daily protein very well
 - In addition, restriction of feed intake will lower the amount of vitamins and minerals coming into the body. A maintenance diet will not cause deficiencies...but...we should supply additional vitamins and minerals to the pig to prevent body losses.
 - When you are done holding, gradually over three to four days increase the feed amount until they are back on full feed.
 - Pigs will compensate for some of the weight restriction by gaining faster the week after they are brought back up on feed, so monitor closely there weight gain.
- **What if I purchase the right size of pig and determine at a weight over 220 lb that the pig is going to be too big?**
 - Start to reduce the amount of feed intake as soon as possible
 - When holding in this weight range, you should top dress with a protein product/supplement.
 - Never feed below the energy maintenance requirement
 - Use a fibrous ingredient to help “bulk” the ration to increase the amount of feed fed each day so the pig does not become shallow in appearance.
 - Exercise, exercise, exercise
 - Your pig will burn calories when exercised. You should exercise every other day for 20-30 minutes which will help reduce weight gain and keep your pig feeling good during this time.
 - Weigh pigs twice weekly at a minimum during this time period to monitor weight adjustments.
- **It is 2 weeks before the show and my pig is already at the ideal weight, now what?**
 - Crucial management is now required. This situation is the most unwanted by all pig showmen, and you can do the most harm to the appearance of the pig if you do not pay close attention.
 - For one week, feed the pig at maintenance, supply a protein top dress, and exercise daily. Also, add a high fiber ingredient or supplement to keep the pig full and not get a hollow appearance.
 - After week one, bring pig back up on feed, continuing to feed a protein top dress to bring back a fresh appearance.
 - NEVER use water restriction as a way to reduce body weight.
 - Use water electrolytes during these two weeks to help reduce any staleness that may occur.
 - Avoid using the feed additive Paylean during this time, as Paylean increases growth rate of pigs, which wants to be avoided during this time.



Notes



Paylean® (Ractopamine Hydrochloride)

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

What is this feed additive?

- Feed additive manufactured by Elanco Animal Health
- Label claims of increased weight gain, improved feed efficiency, and increased carcass leanness
- FDA approved for use in pigs only (Not for cattle and sheep)
- No withdrawal time when feeding this product
- Paylean is labeled to be fed to pigs over 150 pounds during their final 45 to 90 pounds of gain before market.
- The dosage of Paylean in feed is labeled for 4.5 to 9 grams/ton. All feeding levels (lower or higher) are in violation of labeling by FDA.

What are the limitations and cautions for use?

- Paylean is labeled to be fed in a complete swine ration containing at least 16% crude protein.
- Pigs fed Paylean are at an increased risk for exhibiting the downer pig syndrome. Pig handling methods to reduce the incidence of downer pigs should be thoroughly evaluated prior to initiating use of Paylean. Paylean is NOT labeled for use in breeding swine.
- The only approved feed medication that is approved to be fed with Paylean is Tylosin (Tylan) at 100 g/ton.

Realistically, what can I expect from feeding this product?

- For the first two weeks, expect a 5 to 15% increase in weight gain and feed efficiency. After 28 days of feeding, do not expect any further improvements in gain compared to a diet not containing Paylean. After 28 days, pigs will generally be 6-8 lbs heavier than if they were not fed Paylean.
- Muscle mass will not be noticeably different until Paylean is fed for three weeks (increased loin eye area).
- If Paylean is fed for more than 4 weeks, feed intake and weight gain will begin to decrease.
- Every pig will be affected slightly differently with this product. An obvious consequence will be jeopardized structural correctness and an increase in the stress gene expression if your pig carries this genetic gene.

How and when to feed Paylean?

- If you need added weight gain before your fair, you can feed Paylean for 2 to 4 weeks if the weight is needed.

How much of this product should I feed?

- If you are only feeding this product for 1 to 2 weeks before show day, then 4.5 or 9 g/ton is an appropriate level.
- If you are feeding this product for over 2 weeks, then generally feed 4.5 g/ton complete feed.
- Be very careful if feeding this product as a top dress and not in the complete ration. It can be very easy to overfeed when in a top dress form.



Paylean® (Ractopamine Hydrochloride)

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What are the concerns or side effects of this product?

- If you start feeding it, you DO NOT want to stop or take them off. Your pig will lose the muscle shape and extra weight gain within a couple days. This includes at the show, keep them on the same feed that you had been feeding them previously that contained Paylean.
- Observations have shown in some cases that the temperament of your pig is increased. Pigs NEED to be handled more gently and with greater care, as they can be more prone to show stress and become more hyper.
- By far, the largest concern is how structural soundness can be jeopardized. Some pigs clearly become restricted in movement from the increased weight gain and muscle in the short period of time that they are on it.
- Visit with your feed supplier more about their recommendations and the levels of Paylean that they offer in their feed.

Prospect Pig Buyer Beware!

- Some reports indicate some feeder pigs being sold as youth projects are being fed Paylean.
- In addition, gilts and boars of breeding age at different shows and sales may have been fed swine rations with Paylean, so ask before you buy.
- While this is only a small minority, they are jeopardizing the integrity of our youth projects.
- Always ask the breeder or seller of your youth project if their pigs have ever been fed Paylean.
- If the pigs have been fed Paylean, NEVER buy the pigs. Breeders are responsible for selling you quality pigs without trying to falsely enhance them.



Clipping Your Pig

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

- Clipping is a tool used to help trim the long hairs of a pig to help give it a fresher, more attractive look. Clipping also helps to improve the muscle shape of pigs by removing long hairs that cover up the natural curves on a pig.
- Clipping, when done correctly, can enhance the appearance of your pig, but when done incorrectly, it can make your pig look unattractive.
- If you choose to clip your pig, it ideally will be done **one or two days before going to your show.**
 - Use a guard that leaves a minimum of **1/2"** of hair. Because each brand of clipper blades may have a different name for the various sizes, please check to make sure you have a clipper guard that meets this minimum length before you start clipping.
 - NEVER shave the hair off a pig – market purchasers can refuse these pigs due to the short hair length and it also makes your pig look very unattractive.
 - Start clipping from the rear of the pig moving your clippers up and forward, which will be against the grain (lay) of the hair.
 - Be sure to clip all long hairs – this includes legs, belly, the entire underneath of the pig, as well as tail, ears and face. NEVER use a smaller guard to clip the top of your pig than what you used on the side of the pig as it causes unevenness that is unattractive.
 - When clipping the tail, use your guard to clip the hair on the bottom 2/3 of the tail, and then just trim the long hairs on the end of the tail. You do not want to trim the hair all the way down the tail so when the pig curls its tail it will look natural.
 - If you have a red hog, do not do a dramatic difference in guard width, as the hair clipped at different lengths will have contrasting red colors.
 - Generally, you can clip the body of your pig while it is eating and unrestrained. However, to restrain your hog to clip the head and face, use a soft rope that has a loop on the end. If you use a regular hog snare, place duct tape over the cable wire so the nose does not get scratched.
 - When you are done, brush off clipped hair and apply a light coat of oil.
 - Prior to clipping - It is important that you have been applying some baby oil or similar oil based product for several days prior to clipping so the hair is soft and will trim easily. Also, if the hair is hard after clipping, it will stand up and not lay down nicely (i.e. your pig will look like a porcupine!).
- **NEVER clip your pig at the show.** This practice is to be done at home prior to leaving. Failure to make time to prepare properly at home is not an excuse to clip the pig at the show.
 - Do not clip pigs at shows because it may add to the stress level of the pig and cause it to get excited and hot.
 - Since your pig is not used to being clipped, it might now be more scared of you, which will not help when you show your pig!



Show Preparation: Week Prior and at the Show

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

One week before the show

- If your pig is on a self-feeder, monitor its appearance closely. Some pigs may look more attractive if you begin to hand feed instead of remaining on the full feeder.
- Make sure your pig is bedded with wood shavings or clean bedding that will help the hair this last week. Avoid keeping the pig in a muddy pen prior to the show.
- Be sure that your pig is used to eating and drinking out of the feed pan that you will use at the show.
- Wash your pig two to three times during this week with a mild soap. Rinse your pig and brush dry. Then apply a light coat of baby or mineral oil to the hair coat. This will soften the hair, shine the skin, and will help develop a fresher appearance. Only apply oil in the evening when it is cool.
- Know all of the policies, requirements, and rules at your show.
- Start packing the show box for the show. **You should pack the following supplies before you leave:**
 - ☐ Bedding
 - ☐ Health paper
 - ☐ Sprinkle can
 - ☐ Short hose
 - ☐ Hand cleaner
 - ☐ Electrolytes
 - ☐ Soap and scrub brush
 - ☐ Towels
 - ☐ Driving tool and small pocket brush
 - ☐ Water pan, feed pan and plenty of feed
 - ☐ Hammer, nails, wire, and pliers
 - ☐ Safety pins for exhibitor back number card
- If you want to clip your pig, now is your last chance and this should generally be done 1 or 2 days prior to leaving for the show.

Leaving for the show

- Feed your pig only $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the normal daily ration. This will help your pig travel more comfortably. To help keep your pig hydrated, you may want to begin using electrolytes in the water. You can use electrolytes in the water for the remainder of the time at the show as well.
- When loading your pigs for the show, do not overcrowd and keep them comfortable. It is recommended you practice loading your pigs a couple times prior to loading for the show. This will allow the pigs to know the routine and lower the stress of the pigs and you!

At the show fairgrounds

- Calmly move your pig to the correct pen after you unload.
- Be sure that there is plenty of clean dry bedding for your pig at all times.
- Give your pig a drink of fresh water. Also, give your pig about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a regular feeding. This can help calm and relax them.
- Weigh your pig in at its natural weight.
- After weighing in, be careful not to full feed your pig immediately. This can cause digestive upset due to the changes in feeding amounts the couple days prior. Giving many smaller amounts can help lower the chance of them going off feed.
- Feed your pig to give them a natural look.
- Always provide all the water they want to drink. If you restrict water consumption, you will cause your pig to go stale in the matter of a few hours.
- That evening when the weather cools, exercise your pig to help its joints stay loose and flexible. However, avoid going in and out of the same gate in the show ring, as your pig will learn more quickly the location to leave the show ring and go back to the pen, which will cause problems show day.
- Get plenty of sleep; you have a big day tomorrow!



Show Preparation: Week Prior and at the Show

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

Show morning

- Feed and water your pig the first thing in the morning when you arrive at the fairgrounds. Your pig will be hungry, so get it fed!
- Give enough feed and water to get a proper fill to make your pig look its best. Never overfeed first thing in the morning, as your pig will get a big belly. Remember, you can always feed again later that morning or afternoon if your pig looks like it could use more before you go into the ring.
- Cleaning your pig
 - Wash pig with gentle soap and thoroughly rinse.
 - Rub a hand cleaner (i.e. Go-Jo) on your pig and let it cover the pig for a couple of minutes and rinse. This really will get the dirt off and add a shine and luster to the hair and skin.
 - Brush the hair so the hair lies properly (brush front to back).
 - Before returning your pig to its pen, make sure all dirt and manure is removed from its pen. Add additional clean bedding if needed.

Show time

- Give your pig a small drink of water.
- Make sure that your pig is brushed off so no dirt or bedding is present.
- Be sure to have a nice looking driving stick and small pocket brush.
- Sprinkle a small amount of water on your pig to give it a fresh look. NEVER use any type of oil before going into the ring. Make sure you know what the show rules are describing what can be on the hair of the pig in the show ring.
- Most importantly, make sure you look ready.
- Wear proper clothing. If a T-shirt is given to wear, be sure to wear it. If not, wear a clean, neat shirt and dark pants. Wear leather shoes or boots. Never wear tennis shoes or a hat in the show ring.
- Be sure that you are wearing the proper exhibitor number.
- Know your pig's ear notch or tag number for easy check-in.
- If you have to wait in a holding pen, stay calm and try to keep your pig from getting dirty.
- Once you enter the show ring, have fun!!

After the show

- Once the show is completed, you still have the responsibility of taking care of your pig.
- Your pig should always continue to have plenty of fresh water and feed and stays cool.
- Also, pay close attention to your pig so that it is relaxed and not overly stressed from being shown.



Swine Showmanship

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

Showmanship is the skill of exhibiting your animal in a way that the judge sees the best physical characteristics of your animal. Due to the nature of the livestock you are exhibiting, proper showmanship is not something that happens automatically. Hogs, like many other animals require time spent training and practicing. Certain species of livestock, especially swine, require more training because they are not easily handled with a halter or chain. Showmanship is based on how well you, the exhibitor, handle and control your hog in the show ring.

What to Do at Home

Your animal will not cooperate in the show ring without proper practice and training at home. Since hogs can roam freely through the show ring they require more attention to be able to control and drive them. Necessary steps need to be taken at home, before the show to ensure that your animal is tame and can be shown to the best of their ability.

*To **drive a hog** means to controllably move a hog throughout the ring with your driving tool.*

First 30 Days of Ownership

The first 30 days you have your hog is an essential time for you to interact with your animal. Since your hog has been moved to a new facility, usually without other animals it's used to, you need to gain your animal's trust. This also helps calm your animal and make them tame. During this time you should "become friends" with your animal by feeding, washing, brushing and cleaning their pen. By doing these small things the animal will slowly become docile and easy to work with. This process takes a lot of time with some animals.

Exercising and Practicing

Exercising routinely helps your animal's growth and development as well as gives you showmanship experience. Here are some tips to keep in mind when starting to work with your animal:

- Anything you do with the animal at home will relate to what your animal does in the show ring.
- Use the same driving tool at home as you plan to show with.
- Mix up your exercise pattern, animals can fall into a rut of doing the same thing over and over again.
- Once your animal is easily controlled with your driving tool it is a good practice technique to put up obstacles to walk your animal around.
- Clip your animal before you go to the show. Clipping at the show grounds can add unnecessary stress to the animal.

At the Show

Once you arrive at the show, prepare your pen for your animal and get all of your tack set up. It is a good practice to keep the same routine at the show as you would normally do at home so your animal will not get stressed in a new environment. If you arrive to your show a few days early, feed at your regular feeding times and exercise daily as you did at home. Feed, water and wash your animal ahead of time on the day of the show. Make sure you have a clean pen for your hog if it were to lie down before the show.

During the Show

It is important to remember that the judge is looking at how you exhibit your animal during showmanship. Many times, neat dress is a factor that comes into play. Proper dress for show day is jeans without holes or tears, leather boots, belt, and a button up shirt. It is important for you to take a brush into showmanship with you in case your animal was to get dirty in the ring.





Swine Showmanship

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

When you enter the show ring, stay calm. Once your animal is let out of the gate, drive your animal slowly across the ring so that the judge gets a good view of the side of your animal. If your animal takes off running when the gate opens do not run but rather walk fast to catch up and control your animal.

Keep your animal off of the fence and/or rail at all times and wait for the rest of the hogs and exhibitors to get into the ring before you cross the path of the entrance gate and the judge. This prevents your pig from running out of the show ring and allows other exhibitors to bring their pigs into the show ring without your pig interfering. Once all animals and exhibitors are in the ring, now is the proper time to slowly walk your animal toward the judge for a proper view (front, rear and side view).

It is important to keep eye contact with the judge and know where they are in the ring at all times. Do not crowd the judge; instead, leave approximately 10 feet in between your animal and the judge.

Try to keep your animal in the center of the ring and if your animal gets in a corner or on the fence use your hand around its face to move it from the corner. Never hit your animal hard with your driving tool, this is unprofessional and looked down upon in showmanship.



Penning Your Animal

If the judge asks you to pen your animal, direct your hog toward the pens and drive him there. Do not open a pen until your animal is near the gate. If your animal moves away from the pen close the gate so that other exhibitor's animals do not accidentally go into the pen. Once you get your animal in the pen, do not stop showing. Often, judges watch the exhibitors in the penning area. It is good practice to brush your animal once in the pen to get off any excess dirt that may have gotten on the animal while walking in the ring. Do not let your animal lay down in the pen if at all possible. Once the judge asks you to come out of the pen make sure to close the gate behind you.

Questions

A large portion of showmanship to some judges is how much the exhibitor knows about their project. During showmanship a judge may choose to ask each exhibitor a question. It is important to know about the daily care of your project as well as talk to your parents and/or extension agents about possible questions. Some of these may include:

- What is the breed of your animal? Do you know where that breed originated?
- What are positive and negative traits of your animal?
- What is the weight of your animal?
- How much do you feed your animal?
- What ingredients are in a pig feed?
- How much does the feed cost?
- What is the current market price for a market pig?
- What is the gestation length of a breeding gilt?
- What is the ear notch of your pig (or they may ask what is the ear notch of the pig in the next pen!)?



Above all, showmanship is enjoying your youth swine project and having pride for all your hard work showcased while in the ring. While it is important to be serious when showing your pig, but do not forget to have a good time. Judges can see when this is something the exhibitor wants and enjoys doing. Use these tips to work on your showmanship skills with your swine project!



Notes

