

MARKET PIGS

1. The average amount that your pig will grow per day is between 1.5 and 2.0 pounds.
2. The average amount of feed your pig will consume a day is between 5 and 7 pounds per day.

There are 100 days from May 5th weigh in to Routt County Fair weigh in (August 13). To make the minimum weight of 235lbs., a pig gaining the minimum of 1.5lbs. Per day, would have needed to have weighed 85lbs. at weigh in in May. Below is a simple calculation to see how many pounds your pig needs to grow per day (on average) to meet the minimum weight.

Steps:

1. 235 lbs. (the minimum weight) – Your pigs May weigh in weight = Pounds need to gain to be minimum weight.
2. Pounds need to gain to be minimum weight / 100 days until fair = the absolute minimum amount of pounds per day that your pig needs to gain!!

EXAMPLE: My pig weighed 73 lbs. at May weigh in.

$$235-73= 162$$

$$162/100= 1.62$$

So, my pig needs to gain at least an average of 1.62 pounds in 100 days in order to make the minimum weight at fair.

How much do you feed?

For pigs it takes 3-4 pounds of feed for each pound a pig gains. If you know the number of minimum pounds your pig must gain per day you can estimate the minimum amount of feed you will need per day. Faster gaining animals will require less feed per pounds so you will need to perform the above calculation every time you weigh your pigs!! Also, keep in mind, the more feed your pig wastes, the more total feed required.

****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, they 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.

Feeding:

Required daily gain x 4 lbs. = _____ lbs. of feed needed to eat per day.

*Keep in mind small pigs cannot consume as much as larger pigs. Here is a table to help with that:

PIG WEIGHT (lbs.)	DAILY FEED INTAKE (lbs.)
50-75	2.85
75-125	4.46
125-150	5.58
150-200	6.35
200-225	6.69
225-250	6.8
250-270	7.3

Think about this... How much does one scoop of feed weigh? Is one scoop of feed enough pounds to feed per feeding? How many scoops should you feed per feeding?

Protein

Protein is the most important nutrient of a swine ration. Protein is needed to build bone and muscle. If your pig is the lean and heavy muscle type you need to feed a higher protein content in your feed. Pigs need 18% (for a 50lb. pig) to 14% (for 250lb. pig) of protein in order to grow properly.

Read your feed label and find the correct amount of protein.

Don't forget clean fresh water is very important too!!

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. If your pig has a low appetite, adding a liquid fat (any vegetable oil) or dry fat (sold by all show pig feed dealers) 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

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

- If you determine your pig is going to be too big for your show, allow them to stay on full feed until they reach 130-150 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 maintenance requirement (see chart below)
- Feeding at maintenance level will not stunt growth, simply prevent additional growth and maintain body weight
 - In this situation, you would still want to target a slower growth rate, such as 1 pound/day, rather than feeding a strict maintenance level.

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

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, whole oats, 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 holding 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 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.

What if I purchase the right size of pig and determine at a weight over 200 pounds 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 or just above 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.
- Possibly use water electrolytes during these two weeks to help reduce any staleness that may occur. Make sure as you strategize your feeding plan, utilize a nutritionist with the feed company you are using. They may be able to suggest types of products and how to use for optimal results.

Make sure to adhere to all label requirements in terms of use, route, stage of development and all other food animal use requirements.

REFERENCES:

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<https://extension.wsu.edu/animalag/content/monitoring-your-show-pigs-progress/>

Pork-ulator

Swine weight projection table

This table may be used to project an end weight at a specific date or to estimate the purchase weight of a pig to meet a specific show date. All weights and gains are estimates and may vary depending on management, genetics, feed quality and numerous other environmental factors. This chart is to be used only as a guide. See reverse side for examples.

Days	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Weight	40.0	41.1	42.2	43.3	44.5	45.7	46.8	48.0	49.2	50.5	51.7	53.0	54.3	55.5	56.9	58.2	59.5
Daily Consumption	2.66	2.70	2.75	2.79	2.84	2.88	2.93	2.97	3.02	3.07	3.11	3.16	3.21	3.25	3.30	3.35	3.39
Daily Gain	1.10	1.12	1.13	1.15	1.16	1.18	1.20	1.21	1.23	1.24	1.26	1.28	1.29	1.31	1.33	1.34	1.36
Days	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
Weight	60.9	62.2	63.6	65.0	66.5	67.9	69.4	70.8	72.3	73.8	75.3	76.9	78.4	80.0	81.5	83.1	84.7
Daily Consumption	3.44	3.49	3.53	3.58	3.63	3.68	3.72	3.77	3.82	3.86	3.91	3.96	4.00	4.05	4.10	4.14	4.19
Daily Gain	1.37	1.39	1.41	1.42	1.44	1.45	1.47	1.48	1.50	1.52	1.53	1.55	1.56	1.58	1.59	1.61	1.62
Days	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
Weight	86.4	88.0	89.6	91.3	93.0	94.7	96.4	98.1	99.8	101.6	103.3	105.1	106.9	108.7	110.5	112.3	114.2
Daily Consumption	4.24	4.28	4.33	4.37	4.42	4.46	4.51	4.55	4.59	4.64	4.68	4.72	4.77	4.81	4.85	4.89	4.93
Daily Gain	1.64	1.65	1.66	1.68	1.69	1.71	1.72	1.73	1.75	1.76	1.77	1.79	1.80	1.81	1.82	1.84	1.85
Days	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68
Weight	116.0	117.9	119.8	121.6	123.5	125.4	127.4	129.3	131.2	133.2	135.1	137.1	139.1	141.1	143.1	145.1	147.1
Daily Consumption	4.98	5.02	5.06	5.10	5.14	5.17	5.21	5.25	5.29	5.33	5.36	5.40	5.44	5.47	5.51	5.54	5.58
Daily Gain	1.86	1.87	1.88	1.89	1.91	1.92	1.93	1.94	1.95	1.96	1.97	1.98	1.99	2.00	2.01	2.02	2.03
Days	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85
Weight	149.1	151.1	153.2	155.2	157.3	159.4	161.4	163.5	165.6	167.7	169.8	171.9	174.0	176.2	178.3	180.4	182.6
Daily Consumption	5.61	5.65	5.68	5.71	5.75	5.78	5.81	5.84	5.87	5.91	5.94	5.97	6.00	6.03	6.05	6.08	6.11
Daily Gain	2.03	2.04	2.05	2.06	2.07	2.08	2.08	2.09	2.10	2.11	2.11	2.12	2.13	2.13	2.14	2.15	2.15
Days	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102
Weight	184.7	186.9	189.1	191.2	193.4	195.6	197.8	200.0	202.2	204.4	206.6	208.8	211.0	213.2	215.5	217.7	220.0
Daily Consumption	6.14	6.17	6.20	6.22	6.25	6.28	6.31	6.33	6.36	6.39	6.41	6.44	6.46	6.49	6.52	6.54	6.57
Daily Gain	2.16	2.16	2.17	2.18	2.18	2.19	2.19	2.20	2.20	2.21	2.21	2.22	2.23	2.23	2.24	2.24	2.25
Days	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119
Weight	222.2	224.4	226.7	229.0	231.2	233.5	235.8	238.1	240.3	242.6	244.9	247.2	249.5	251.8	254.1	256.5	258.8
Daily Consumption	6.59	6.62	6.64	6.67	6.70	6.72	6.75	6.77	6.80	6.82	6.85	6.88	6.90	6.93	6.96	6.98	7.01
Daily Gain	2.25	2.26	2.26	2.26	2.27	2.27	2.28	2.28	2.29	2.29	2.30	2.30	2.31	2.31	2.32	2.32	2.33
Days	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136
Weight	261.1	263.4	265.9	268.3	270.7	273.1	275.5	278.0	280.4	282.9	285.3	287.8	290.3	292.7	295.2	297.7	300.2
Daily Consumption	7.04	7.07	7.10	7.12	7.15	7.18	7.22	7.25	7.28	7.31	7.34	7.38	7.41	7.44	7.48	7.52	7.55
Daily Gain	2.33	2.41	2.41	2.42	2.43	2.43	2.44	2.44	2.45	2.46	2.46	2.47	2.48	2.49	2.49	2.50	2.51

Example A:

Using desired end weight and days to show to estimate purchase weight

Desired end weight 265	265.0
Days to show	90

Find the weight nearest 265 pounds in the weight row	265.4
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Note the number above the weight. In this example it is 122	122
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Subtract the days to your show. In this example 90 days.

$122 - 90 = 32$	32
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Find 32 in the days row and find the weight in the cell below.

Estimated purchase weight is 81.5 pounds	81.5
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Example B:

Using purchase or beginning weight and days to show to project end or show weight

Beginning weight	64.0
Days to show	105

Find the weight nearest 64 pounds in the weight row	63.6
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Note the number above the weight. In this example it is 20	20
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Add the days to your show to the 20 you looked up. In this example 125 days.

$20 + 105 = 125$	125
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Find 125 in the days row and find the weight in the cell below.

Estimated end or show weight will be 273 pounds	273.1
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Example C:

Estimate days required for pig to reach desired end weight

Beginning weight	54.0
Ending Weight	275

Find the weight nearest 54 pounds in the weight row	54.3
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Note the number above the weight. In this example it is 13	13
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Find the weight nearest 275 pounds in the weight row	275.5
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Note the number above the weight. In this example it is 126	126
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Subtract the Number corresponding to the beginning weight (13) from the number corresponding to the end weight (126).

$126 - 13 = 113$	113
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It should take approximately 113 days for a pig weighing 54 pounds to reach 275 pounds.