



## **1.800.540.FEED** ASSOCIATEDFEED.COM F3 FACEBOOK.COM/ASSOCIATED.FEED

Selection + Evaluation

Common Sense & good management are keys to getting your hog project off to a successful start.

## WHERE TO PURCHASE YOUR PIG

- <sup>+</sup> Select farms and breeders that have a history of producing high quality show pigs, have high herd health standards, stand behind their livestock and can provide services following your purchase.
- <sup>+</sup> Try to make yourself as knowledgeable as possible with the animals sire and dam. Many animals produce the same positive and negative attributes litter after litter. This may help you throughout your project as far as managing weight, proper fat to muscle ratio and achieving that desired look.

## **PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

## MUSCLE

- <sup>+</sup> Muscular shape down its top from its shoulder blade to its hip.
- \* Thick muscular ham.

Stay away from round, extreme muscled hogs. They will be hard to finish and get the proper cover on. Just because a little is good doesn't mean a lot is better.

## LEANNESS

- <sup>+</sup> Free of excess fat as a small show pig.
- + Clean neck and jowl.
- + Free of fat through the lower 1/3 of its body.

## STRUCTURAL CORRECTNESS

- <sup>+</sup> Sound when on the move taking long, fluid and effortless strides off both ends of their skeleton.
- <sup>+</sup> Heavy boned and clean jointed.
- <sup>+</sup> Big foot and large, evenly sized toes.
- <sup>+</sup> Rule of thumb, bad structured animals never get better.

## BALANCE, DESIGN AND EYE APPEAL

- <sup>+</sup> Long and clean fronted yet stout skulled.
- \* Tall at the point of shoulders.
- <sup>+</sup> Correct length of body. Longest is not ideal and neither is shortest.
- <sup>+</sup> Level designed from shoulder blade to hip.
- \* Long and level hip.
- \* High tail placement.
- $^{\rm +}$  Wide chested when viewed from the front, not necessarily wide or big should ered.
- <sup>+</sup> Big bodied, deep and round rib cage.
- <sup>+</sup> Wide traveling both front and rear.

# Weight Management Weight management should star! Weight tranagement should star! Before your Show

show.

## FEED CONVERSION

Proper weight manipulation will only be achieved by weighing your hog every week and knowing where your project is at all times as far as weight & development. A good rule of thumb is to know the feed conversion factors for pigs. The following table is a guideline for feed conversion.

Weight in pounds	Estimated feed conversion in pounds
50-100	1.6-2.0
100–150	2.0-2.3
150-200	2.3-2.6
200-250	2.6-3.0

<sup>+</sup> By knowing these conversion factors, you can estimate average daily gain by simply knowing the amount of feed your hog is eating daily and dividing it by the estimated feed conversion to predict average daily gain. NOTHING replaces actually knowing exactly what your pig weighs at all times.

#### WEIGHT & GROWTH

Days to Fair	Weight	Avg. Daily Gain	Lbs. Feed/ Gain	Lbs. Feed/ Day	Total Feed
120	50-65	1.35	2.2	3-4	24.5
113	59-74	1.4	2.3	3.2-4.2	49.7
106	69-84	1.5	2.35	3.5-4.5	77.7
99	79-94	1.5	2.45	3.7-4.7	109.2
92	90-105	1.6	2.5	4-5	142.1
85	101-116	1.65	2.6	4.25-5.25	177.1
78	113-128	1.75	2.65	4.5-5.5	213.8
71	125-140	1.75	2.7	4.75-5.75	252.3
64	138-153	1.85	2.75	5-6	292.2
57	151-166	1.85	2.8	5.2-6.2	335.9
50	164-179	2	2.85	5.7-6.7	381.4
43	178-193	2	2.95	6-7	426.9
36	192-207	1.85	3	6-7	468.9
29	205-220	1.85	3	5-7	510.9
22	218-233	1.8	3	5-7	552.9
15	229-245	1.8	3	4-7	594.9
8	240-258	1.8	3	4-7	636.9
1	251-270	1.8	3	4-7	671.9



## **BRINGING YOUR PIG HOME**

- <sup>+</sup> Make sure that your pen is set up and has a dry, warm and draft free area for the hog to escape from the weather prior to the pig coming home with you.
- <sup>+</sup> Provide limitless fresh, clean and cool water at all times. Buckets and pans simply don't work properly to water your hog, you must use an automatic watering system.
- <sup>+</sup> Full feeders are a nice way to provide feed to a hog at all times but we recommend hand feeding for the first 10 days to make sure the pig is feeling good and it will give you an idea how much it is consuming.
- $^+$  A good rule of thumb is that a hog will consume 2.5%-3.0% of its body weight on a daily basis

#### === DAILY ROUTINE FOR THE FIRST FEW WEEKS ===

- \* Eyes on your pig.
- <sup>+</sup> Check your hog two or three times per day.
- <sup>+</sup> Watch the stool condition, coughing & runny noses.

#### ---- DAILY ROUTINE AFTER THE FIRST FEW WEEKS ----

- <sup>+</sup> You may now put your hog on a self feeder if you wish.
- <sup>+</sup> You still need to check the hog two or three times per day and make sure there is always clean and dry feed and cool, clean and fresh water available at all times.
- <sup>+</sup> While you continue checking your pig you are also allowing your hog to get comfortable with you, your voice and your actions.

If something doesn't look right with your animal, there is probably something wrong.



Feeding + Vlutrition Keep your pig on an excellent diet that is correctly balanced in amino acids, proteins & fat to assure that your animal can reach its genetic

## potential.

## FEEDING ROUTINE

The single most important thing you can do to ensure success with your pig.

- <sup>+</sup> Feed your pig at the same time every morning and every night.
- <sup>+</sup> Their body learns to expect to get fed at a certain time and they will get hungry and have a better appetite when they are on a routine.
- <sup>+</sup> Once they are adjusted and on feed good, give them 20 minutes to eat, and then pull their pan.
- <sup>+</sup> Feed pigs separately so you can monitor feed intake for each hog.

## MANIPULATING MUSCLE DESIGN & FAT COVER

Every pig looks different in terms of muscle design & fat cover.

- <sup>+</sup> Muscle design & fat cover are the two main things that you can change and manipulate with feed and supplementation.
- <sup>+</sup> The amount of protein that you feed your pig depends on the sex of the hog, stage of their life they are in, muscle design or type, and how much muscle your hog has and needs.
- + Lowering or increasing protein DOES NOT necessarily affect how much weight your animal will gain.
- + Protein mainly affects how much and what type of muscle your animal will develop as well as helping you burn or regulate fat cover.
- <sup>+</sup> Fat cover is another main area that you can change with feed or supplements. Some pigs get fatter easier than others and some pigs have to be fed a lot more energy to look the part.

## KEEPING TRACK OF WEIGHT

Beyond what your pig looks like, what they weigh and the number of days left until the show can affect what type of feed ration your pig needs to be eating.

- Weigh your pig once per week, or if that is not possible at least once every other week, so that you can calculate how much they are gaining on a daily basis.
- <sup>+</sup> Accurate records of your hog's weight, average daily gain, days till fair, and the amount of feed and supplements fed are extremely crucial.
- <sup>+</sup> Knowing the exact weight will better enable you to feed to the desired type and look that is desired.
- <sup>+</sup> Also, you need to weigh your hog at the same time every week.
- <sup>+</sup> We recommend that you weigh your hog before you feed. Feed, along with the water consumed after feeding, can have a drastic effect on your weights and average daily gain.

<sup>+</sup> De-worm once per month but not within the last 30 days prior to your show date. An easy way to remember worming dates is the first Saturday of every month.



## **ENDURANCE & SHOWMANSHIP**

Endurance is one of the most important factors when selecting your champion showman and even your champion market hog at most fairs.

- <sup>+</sup> When exercising your hog, make sure that the temperature is not going to harm the hog, but don't completely shy away from working your pig in the heat because you have no control over what the temperature on show day will be.
- + Start your pig on a short walk in the beginning, 150 yards.
- + Gradually increase the distance you drive your hog as it builds endurance.
- <sup>+</sup> The easiest way to learn swine showmanship is watching and mimicking the moves and mannerisms of winners in the show ring.
- <sup>+</sup> Practice and repetition are extremely important when trying to improve on your showmanship skills.

Don't get beat because you didn't spend enough time exercising your hog & practicing showmanship.

## **WASHING AND RINSING YOUR HOG**

- <sup>+</sup> The amount you wash your hog will depend heavily on what type of facility your hogs are raised on. Sand and dirt pen raised hogs will need significantly more washing and daily care than those raised on concrete with shavings or chips.
- <sup>+</sup> Depending on weather conditions and temperature, you should start washing and rinsing your hog the last 30-45 days before your show.
- <sup>+</sup> Over washing without using skin conditioning products will do more harm than good and cause the skin and hair to dry out.
- <sup>+</sup> You need to wash your pig enough to keep the stains off the feet & legs.

If your goal is to be a champion, then you have to look like a champion.

## **SKIN AND HAIR CARE**

The most important thing to remember is routine and consistency.

## BEDDING

- <sup>+</sup> Be sure your pen is bedded properly. Shavings (flakes or pellets) are the best for show pigs. Straw is warmer and can be useful in the winter months, however, it can cause skin irritation and hair to dis-color so discontinue in spring and summer.
- + Change bedding regularly so it stays clean and dry.

#### BRUSHING

- <sup>+</sup> When you first get your pig start by using a soft brush.
- <sup>+</sup> As the pig gets bigger and older you can begin to increase the brush stiffness, working up to a rice root style brush.
- <sup>+</sup> Brushing the pig daily is one of the most important things you can do for skin and hair care!

#### WASHING VS. RINSING

- + It is best to only wash your pig with shampoo 2-3 times a week.
- <sup>+</sup> On the off days it is recommended to rinse the pig with cool water. This will stimulate healthy hair growth as well as increase appetite and overall health of the pig.
- <sup>+</sup> Be sure to brush the hair in the correct direction after washing or rinsing.

## CONDITIONING OF SKIN AND HAIR

- <sup>+</sup> Using a conditioner daily will promote soft, healthy hair and new hair growth.
- <sup>+</sup> Brush the conditioner over the body, legs, and head.
- <sup>+</sup> Ideally, let the conditioner sit for 5 to 10 minutes and then rinse off.
- <sup>+</sup> There are many conditioning products on the market. Be sure to find one that is readily available and fits your budget. Use as directed on the bottle.

#### SUN EXPOSURE

- <sup>+</sup> Preventing sunburn is crucial!
- <sup>+</sup> It is very important to apply sunscreen anytime the pig will be in direct sun.
- <sup>+</sup> If using an oil-based sunscreen, always rinse your pig after sun exposure.
- <sup>+</sup> Dark colored pigs can benefit from time in the sun to darken the pigment; however, be sure to still use sunscreen no matter the color of the pig.

#### CLIPPING

- <sup>+</sup> When done correctly, clipping can enhance the appearance of your pig, but if done incorrectly, can make your pig look extremely unattractive.
- <sup>+</sup> We are no longer clipping the entire body of the hog as we are aiming for a more natural look in the ring.
- $^{+}$  Clip the hog's head, ears, neck through the chest floor and blend the neck back to the shoulder.
- <sup>+</sup> Clipping and blending the top of your market hog will help accentuate a pigs top shape by removing longer hairs that hide the natural muscling expression.
- <sup>+</sup> To restrain your hog to clip the head, face, neck and any fine tuning that may need to be done use a soft cotton rope with a loop on the end.
- <sup>+</sup> When you're finished clipping your pig, brush off hair, rinse and brush on a light coat of oil or a swine conditioner.

## PACKING THE TACK BOX & TRAILER

#### WASHING

+ Short hose, sprayer, shampoo, waterless shampoo, large & small towels

#### SKIN & HAIR

<sup>+</sup> Skin conditioner you've been using at home, 2 brushes (no oil brush and one used for oil), oil, spray bottle

#### SHOWING

<sup>+</sup> Show whip that you have been using on the pig at home, safety pins or belt clip

#### FEEDING

<sup>+</sup> Feed & supplements you were using at home, measuring cup, tube water, oat groats or Stretch (even if not being fed at home), water bucket

#### PAPERWORK

<sup>+</sup> Entry verification from ag teacher, copy of completed entry form, original registration papers (for breeding gilts), health papers (if required), copy of premium book

## MISCELLANEOUS

<sup>+</sup> Wire, pliers, sliding pen divider if you have to share pens, probiotic paste, electrolytes, heat lamp (if allowed for cold fairs), fans (for warm fairs), extension cords, plenty of shavings or straw depending on what you fair requires you use.

8	Power Start Non-Medicated	High quality ingredients make this an ideal non-medicated pre starter.
Ë	ShowMaker Swine Complete	Modern, high protein, high fat feed for growing competitive show pigs.
Ĕ	ShowMaker Show 100 Gro-Fin	Complete feed higher in protein and fat to help build muscle and mass.
SHOW PIG FEED	Show-Rite Show Pig Starter Non-Medicated	Non-medicated starter for young pigs, great sale prep to add bloom, body $\&$ shape.
Ś	Show-Rite Show Pig Starter	Complete starter for young pigs, great sale prep that will add bloom, body $\&$ shape.
1	Show-Rite Kick Off	Gets pigs off to the right start. Increases digestibility of Phytin-Bound Phosphorus. Designed for pigs 7 days and older.
1	Show-Rite Prep 21	The ideal feed to prep pigs for pig sales after using starter, can also be used for preparing pigs for jackpots and the final push into your target show.
1	Show-Rite 17.5%	Complete feed for optimal growth & performance that will help add softness.
1	Show-Rite 1310	High-fiber, low-protein feed for feeders that push the limits of muscularity & maturity during the selection process while keeping on track and ready to go to the ring.
1	Show-Rite 1610	Reliable feed with multiple fiber sources allows you to lower protein without sacrificing body & belly, relax muscle expression, or maintain growth & keep in show shape.
1	Show-Rite 1910	Ideal for bringing projects home & transitioning off pig starter. Great consumption levels without sacrificing belly & softness. Keep for times when added shape is needed.
	Lindner 632 Starter/Grower BMD/SG	Lindner's most popular feed, containing dewormer. Can be fed any time during the year.
	Lindner 672 Half & Half BMD	Combines 632 and 685 with a little more fat for convenience.
	Lindner 685 Show BMD	Feeding for today's show ring! Can be fed anytime to soften and keep shape.
	Lindner 686 Shape & Guts MH	Soften, freshen look of heavy muscle pigs. Feed continually for more rib $\&$ flank.
	Lindner 611 Scud Missile BMD	Great to start or final push or anytime for fat $\&$ mass. Nothing else like "Scud Missiles"!
Σ	3 Hrs Out	Makes sugar cells explode in muscle fibers, giving muscle extra "pop" for the show ring.
E.	Attitude Adjustment	Relieve stress & make livestock more manageable in the show ring.
Ē	Gold Dust	Adds muscle "pop," show day freshness, helps swine reach their potential.
UPPL	Rule-BARK	Increase muscle shape, dimension and bulk. Utilize BARK as needed throughout the feeding phase and specifically the last 30 days.
SHOW SUPPLEMENTS	Rule-The Formula	Maximize feed intake & digestive health. In addition to healthy gut, contains Zinpro zinc & manganese to maximize skin, hair & hoof quality.
R	Rule-Shredded P	Signals the body to mobilize fat and build muscle. This will signal the liver to mobilize fat and kick their metabolism into higher gear.
	Rule-THICC	High energy top dress designed to add cover & bloom. Very palatable fat source!
	Rule-Race Day	Extra energy, longer term. Helps manage fill, keeping them fresh while maintaining cover and handle. Ideal for the last 14 days
1	Show-Rite Muscle-In-Motion	High in omega-3, builds optimal muscle & fleshiness, maintaining soundness.
1	Show-Rite Fat-N-Fluffy	Fat blend in dairy proteins increases palatability for optimal intake, bloom & sheen.
1	Show-Rite Depth N' Dimension	High levels of lysine, fiber, oils, $\&$ fats for fresh hold while adding desired depth of body.
1	Show-Rite Pig Milk Replacer	Milk replacer, top dress, or slop with dry feed. Contains Bio-Mos to improve gut health.
	Show-Rite Rite Factor Multi- Species	All natural, alfalfa based, drug free supplement helps highlight traits important in the show ring.
1	Show-Rite Rite Flex	Promotes healthy mobility, supports motion, flexibility, healthy bones, joints, cartilage, synovial fluid, skin, and immune system.
1	Show-Rite Sculpt	Formulated for all species, designed to trim off unwanted fat while toning and firming muscle shape. Keeps them fresh!
	Show-Rite Stamina	Wheat germ oil with Vitamins A&D and linoleic acid for healthy skin & coat.
	Show-Rite Star Shine	Highly palatable pellet improves performance & body condition in all life stages.
1	Show-Rite Stretch	Increases expansion of body. Can be used to add fill day of show or as holding ration.
1	Show-Rite Swell	Provides show day fill, bulk, and expansion to set animals apart from the rest.
1	Show-Rite TransRite Sow Ultra	Provides proper cation-anion balance. One 5 lb. package supplies more than 20 sows!
	Sure Champ Extreme with Climate Control 25lb.	Amaferm for appetite $\&$ gut health, Climate Control for extreme temps, and insect repelling garlic
	Vita Charge Liquid Boost	Amaferm, Mos, and Niacin help increase gut health and ability to fight off stress.
	Lindner F-1108 Full Figure	Coconut oil based product as a source of added fat (80% fat). Quick acceptance, palatable, fast results!
	Lindner Beast	Adds more shape, bulk and mass to your barrow or gilt. Perfect to freshen top shape.
	Lindner Linc'ed Up	Treats & controls dysentery and porcine proliferative enteropathies (ileitis) caused by Lawsonia intracellularis. Reduces effects of respiratory disease.