



One of your market project goals should be to have a market ready animal. Knowing what your animal weighs now and the estimated weight will help you be successful in achieving your market ready goal.

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION: (fill out one sheet per animal)

Youth Name: _____ Animal Breed: _____

Vaccinations/wormers given (list amount): _____

Date(s) Administered: _____

Weigh-in Date: _____ Official 4-H/FFA Tag #: _____

Official 4-H/FFA Weight (lbs): _____ Hip Height (inches): _____

Estimated Final Weight (lbs): _____ Utilize Beef Frame Score Chart on the Market Beef Growth Chart

Estimated Average Daily Gain (ADG) for your steer:

Estimated finished weight (lbs) _____

(a)

Beginning weight (lbs) _____

(b)

Total required gain (lbs) _____

(a)-(b) = (c)

Days in feeding period _____

(d)

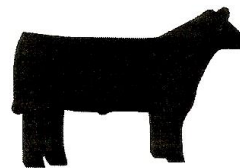
Estimated Average Daily Gain _____

Required daily gain _____

(c)/(d)

Think about this:

- What does a market ready steer mean?
- Is your estimated final weight an ideal market weight for the beef industry?
- The national average for ADG is 2.5 lbs/day.
- Is your required ADG achievable?



Feeding your market beef:

Steers will consume approximately 3% of their body weight per day. A fattening ration is 2% grain and 1% in hay. Make every effort to keep feed waste to a minimum. Grain waste can be 5-10% of the amount fed and hay waste 10-20% depending on facilities and care in feeding.

List your concentrates (types of grain): _____

List your roughages: _____ List any other: _____

Describe your feeding method (free choice, feed truck or by hand, number of times you feed per day, fed in a bunk or feed pan, etc): _____

How much do you feed at the beginning of your project?

Grain: (formula: $\text{steer weight} * 2\% = \text{pounds of grain per day} / 2 \text{ feedings per day} = \text{lbs of grain per feeding}$)

Steer weight _____ x 2% = _____ lbs of grain per day / 2 feedings = _____ lbs per feeding.

Hay: (formula: $\text{steer weight} * 1\% = \text{pounds of roughage per day} / 2 \text{ feedings per day} = \text{lbs of roughage per feeding}$)

Steer weight _____ x 1% = _____ lbs of roughage per day / 2 feedings = _____ lbs per feeding.

Ask yourself these questions:

1. How much does one scoop/bucket weigh? Is one scoop/bucket of grain enough pounds of grain per feeding?
2. How many scoops/buckets should you feed?
3. Calculate how much grain and hay per feeding you will need to feed by Fair time (end of project):

Weight & Feed Estimate Record

Tracking animal weight can tell you where your animal is compared to your goal. Weigh and record your animals' weight. Determine the estimate of feed you should be feeding. The feed amounts are just minimum estimates. You should be feeding more due to waste factor. If your animal is eating all the grain, increase it (slowly). It is better to push your calf, in the beginning, to get him market ready then run out of time in the feeding period. You must have an entry for each month between Weigh-in and Weigh-out. *Example:* If you weighed your steer in February, you would have entries for February, March, April, May, June, and July (weigh-out).

Weigh Date	March 1	April 1						
Days since weigh day	xxxxxxx	30						
Current Weight	700	800						
A.D.G. (lbs/day)	xxxxxxx	$800-700/30 = 3.3$						
Grain required per day	$700 * 2\% = 14 \text{ lbs}$	$800 * 2\% = 16 \text{ lbs}$						
How much grain are you feeding per day? Need to feed more (+), less (-), or just right (ok).	10 lbs +	15 lbs +						
Roughage required per day	$700 * 1\% = 7 \text{ lbs}$	$800 * 1\% = 8 \text{ lbs}$						
How much roughage are you feeding per day? Need to feed more (+), less (-), or just right (ok).	5 +	8 ok						

Answer these questions:

1. Typical influences in ADG can be feed, water, weather, and illness. Is the ADG more or less than predicted?

MORE

LESS

a. What caused any problems?

2. After each weigh day, do you need to feed more grain or hay?

GRAIN

HAY

3. What happens if your animal does not have the ADG you predicted?

4. If your animal is not market ready by Fair time, what happens?

5. How is carcass quality affected by your feeding?