



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):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Estimated Final Weight (lbs):** \_\_\_\_\_ *Utilize Hog Frame Score Chart (from Growth Chart)*

**Estimated Average Daily Gain (ADG) for your hog:**

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 hog mean?
- Is your estimated final weight an ideal market weight for the hog industry?
- The national average for ADG is 1.8 lbs/day. Is your required daily gain achievable?



**Feeding your market hog:**

- Consistency is the key to feeding. When feeding animals, make sure they are fed at the same time every day. If you have to change batches or increase feed, make sure you do it slowly over a 2-3 day period.
- There are two ways to feed your pig: 1. Hand Feeding    2. Self Feeding
  - Hand feeding is feeding a known amount to each hog at each feeding (not actually feeding it by your hands!). Hand feeding is recommended when taming your pigs, and getting to know them better. This method is recommended as it helps you watch their growth patterns and weight, which will help your pig achieve its ideal market weight.
  - Self-feeders are used when feeding large groups of hogs. Check the feeder daily to make sure there is feed present, and that the feed is flowing to the bottom correctly.

List your concentrates (types of grain): \_\_\_\_\_

List any other feeds: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your feeding method (self feeder or by hand; number of times you feed per day; fed in a bunk or feed pan, etc):  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

For pigs it takes 3-4 pounds of feed for each pound an animal gains. If you know the number of pounds your pig must gain per day, you can estimate the amount of feed you will need per day. Faster gaining animals will require less feed per pound of gain. More waste also means more total feed required.

**Required Daily Gain** (from previous page): \_\_\_\_\_ \* 4 lbs = \_\_\_\_\_ lbs of feed needed per day.

Keep in mind that smaller pigs cannot consume as much as larger pigs. Refer to this table.

#### Answer the following questions:

1. How much does one scoop/bucket weigh? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Is one scoop/bucket of feed enough pounds of feed per feeding? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many scoops/buckets should you feed? \_\_\_\_\_

Hog Weight (lbs)	Daily Feed Intake (lb)
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

**Protein:** Protein is the most important nutrient in a swine ration. Protein is needed to build bone and muscle. If your pig is the lean and heavy muscled type, you will need to feed a higher protein-content feed. Pigs need 18% (for 50 lb pigs) to 14% (for 250 lb pigs) of protein in order to grow properly. Amino acids make up proteins. The right balance of amino acids is critical. Amino acids that need to be supplemented include lysine, tryptophan, threonine, and methionine. Read your feed label and fill in the information below (feed at beginning of project):

Name of feed: \_\_\_\_\_

Protein content: \_\_\_\_\_

List of ingredients: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is the main protein source (ingredient) in your feed? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your feed providing amino acids? YES NO If yes, list which ones: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If pigs can only eat so much a day (refer to table above), how can they get the required protein? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Water:** Water is important for survival. Explain how your pig receives fresh, clean water each day: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Weight & Feed Estimate Record

Tracking animal weight can tell you where your animal is compared to your goal. Complete the chart below.

1. Enter date you weighed (or estimated weight) of your hog.
2. Calculate days since the last weight was taken (you will enter zero for the first column).
3. Weigh and record your animals' weight.
4. Calculate your Average Daily Gain (ADG).
5. 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.
6. Record how much you are actually feeding.
7. Record if you should be feeding more (+), less (-), or if you feeding the right amount (OK)?

**NOTE:** The first two columns are examples. Complete the blank columns with your estimates or actual numbers. You must have a column filled out for each month of the feed test period (May – August).

<b>Weigh Date</b>	<i>May 1</i>	<i>June 1</i>						
<b>Days since weigh day</b>	xxxx	30						
<b>Current Weight</b>	70	110						
<b>A.D.G. (lbs/day)</b>	xxxx	$70-110/30 = 1.3$						
<b>Feed required per day</b> ( <i>young pigs weighing 40-60 lbs may eat up to 5% of body weight; older market hogs weighing 200 lbs may only eat 3% of body weight</i> ).	$70*4\% = 2.8 \text{ lbs}$	$110*4\%=4.4 \text{ lbs}$						
<b>How much feed are you feeding per day? Need to feed more (+), less (-), or just right (ok).</b>	3 lbs -	4 lbs +						

### Complete the following questions:

1. Typical influences in ADG can be feed, water, weather, and illness. How do you manage these factors?
2. Is the ADG more or less than predicted? What caused any problems?
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?