

# Morgan County Market Swine Project

## Selecting your Market Swine

Whether you are brand new to the Swine project, or a veteran with many years under you belt, here are some tips on the animal you are looking for.

- Make sure you pick a reputable breeder if you are purchasing your animal.
- Know the genetic makeup of the animal you are going to purchase.
- Consider the following factors: frame size, muscle, structural correctness, balance, eye appeal, and disposition.
- Keep in mind the average daily gain for a Swine is 1.50 - 1.75 pounds.
- Swine typically need to eat 3 lbs. of grain for every 1 lb. of gain. Your Swine will need to eat 5 lbs. of grain to ensure a gain of 1.65 lb. per day.
- Keeping with current industry standards, your Swine should weight 240-290 pounds at county fair.
- The feeding period for a market Swine is 90-120 days.
- Your Swine should be 6-7 months in age at county fair.
- Good nutrition is critical for the success of the project.
- Feed should contain 16-18% protein.
- Fresh and clean water should be available at all times.
- Use the chart to the right to determine how big your Swine should be at purchase to ensure he is properly finished by county fair.



## How Much Should My Swine Weight?

\*Assuming a 1.65 ADG

Days to Swine Show	Desired Beginning Weight	Desired Market Weight at Show
120 days	42-82 pounds	240-290 pounds
107 days	80-120 pounds	240-290 pounds
91 days	104-144 pounds	240-290 pounds

## Additional Information

- Swine require 8-12 square feet per animal.
- They need a barn or shelter from the weather.
- Exercise every day, starting approximately 4 - 6 weeks before show.
- The average cost per Swine is \$600-\$800. This includes the purchase of the animal, feed for 4 months and show supplies.
- Deworming every 30 days is necessary to promote swine growth and health.
- When treatment or injections are necessary fro animal health read the label, administer properly, adhere to withdrawal times, and keep accurate records.
- Ask For Help: 4-H Agent, Leaders or other members in the 4-H Swine Project.

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## Upcoming Events:

- Market Swine ID Day, 5/3/21, by 4 pm, Extension Office
- Meat Quality Assurance 5/17/21 or 5/18/21 , 4:30-6:30 pm, MCFG
- Fair entries and record books due, 7/14/21, by 4 pm, Extension Office

