

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 your 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 for 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 Primary Care begins 5/6/2024
- Market Swine ID due by 4:00 pm, 5/6/2024 to the Extension Office
- Breeding Swine ID due by 4:00 pm, 5/1/2024 to the Extension Office
- Meat Quality Assurance 5/13/2024 or 5/14/2024 , 4:30-6:30 pm, MCFG
- Fair entries and record books due, 7/10/2024, by 4 pm, Extension Office

