

SHOW·RITE®
Show Feeds... Done Rite!



PIG MANAGEMENT GUIDE



Products and Answers that WORK®

Making Your Show Season a Success



The show pig industry is a very competitive game. The management of your swine project will determine the difference between a successful show season and just attending another swine show.

Many hours of hard work and dedication are needed to get your pig in show shape. This hard work and dedication to your project starts the day you get your pig.

The payoff for all of this hard work and time is the gratification of being able to present your pig in a well-fitted manner, knowing that you have done everything to make your pig look its BEST on show day!

This Management Guide is intended to help you learn basic fitting, care and management techniques to make your animal look its absolute best on show day.



Getting Started – Choosing the right size pig for your fair:

Knowing the date of the fair that you will be competing in and matching the frame size conformation and age of the pig to the fair you are targeting is important. Knowing these factors will help with the success of your swine project.

A simple way to figure what size your pig should be is to know the date of your show and the desired show weight for your project. Then take an average daily gain of 1.7 to 2.0 pounds and “back figure” what the correct weight should be at purchase time.

Example:

Sale Date	April 15th
Pig Weight	40 pounds
Show Date	August 20th
Desired Show Weight	265 pounds
Weight Gained until Show	226 pounds
Days until Show	126 days
Average Daily Gain: (Needed to reach desired market weight)	1.8 pounds

Proper weight manipulation will be achieved by weighing hour hog every week and knowing at all times where your project is in terms of weight and 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 (Pounds)	Estimated Feed Conversion (Pounds)
50 to 100	1.6 to 2.0
100 to 150	2.0 to 2.3
150 to 200	2.3 to 2.6
200 to 250	2.6 to 3.0

By knowing these conversion factors, you can estimate average daily gain by simply knowing the amount of feed your project is eating each day and dividing by the estimated feed conversion to predict average daily gain. However, **nothing** replaces actually knowing exactly what your pig is weighing at all times.

Selection of your project

Where to purchase a pig:

Select farms that are known to produce high quality, high health pigs. Don't purchase a pig that appears to have been or is presently sick.

Select a breeder that can provide service following your purchase. These types of breeders will usually be able to provide guidance and assistance if a problem arises.

If possible, evaluate the genetic make-up of the sire and dam. This process can be useful in evaluating the genetic potential of each litter of pigs and can help you evaluate the potential outcome of your selection.

Evaluate offspring of a prior mating of the sire and dam of your proposed pig selection. Full siblings are somewhat more predictable than half siblings; however, this process will allow you to more closely predict the growth and development curve and physical make-up of your pig selection. Having evaluated full siblings or half siblings, you have a better idea of what to expect from your pig.

Physical characteristics to consider when selecting a pig:

Muscle

- Muscular shape to its top line (loin)
- Thick muscular ham

Leanness

- Free of excess fat
- Clean topped
- Free of excess fat through the lower 1/3 of body (jowl and belly)

Structural Correctness

- Sound walking (long fluid strides of all four legs)
- Heavy boned (clean jointed)
- Big evenly sized toes

Balance and Eye-appeal

- Long bodied
- Long fronted (neck and head)
- Tall fronted (length of front legs)
- Level top line
- Long level rump
- High tail setting
- Big shouldered (wide width of chest)
- Spring of rib (bold ribbed)
- Wide walking on both front and rear legs



After you choose your project and get your pig home:

Common sense and good management are the keys to getting your swine project off to the right start.

Make sure you have clean, dry quarters for your hog and plenty of clean, fresh water for your animal to drink. It is suggested that you hand feed your pig for the first week to ten days to gain an idea of how much your pig is eating. This will also give you a good idea of how well your pig is feeling as it becomes accustomed to its new surroundings. A good rule of thumb is to estimate that a pig will eat 2.5 to 3 percent of its body weight during the first two weeks.

Check your pig two to three times per day, watch stool condition and look for coughing and runny noses during the first two weeks. If you plan to purchase your pig from a producer, inquire as to what type of worming program the pig is on. Eliminating parasites will allow your pig to maximize genetic potential for muscle development and daily gain. A good management practice; therefore, would be to worm your pig during the first two weeks of ownership, and once a month from here until show time.

Once you get past the first two weeks of acclimatization, you can start feeding your pig on a self feeder or you may still hand feed. But, basically you need to make sure that your pig has access to clean, dry feed and clean, fresh water at all times.

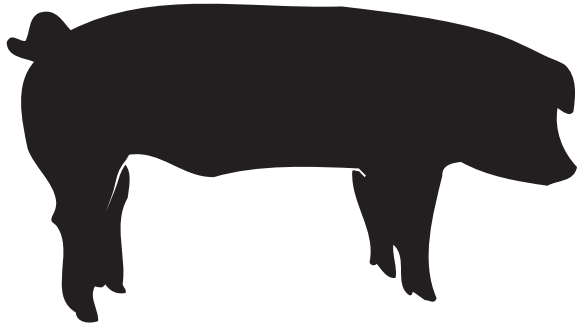
Continue to check your pig two to three times per day to make sure that everything is in good working order. While checking on your animal, you are also allowing it to become accustomed to you, your voice and your actions. This will make the process of preparing for a show that much easier.



Two months before the show:

By weighing your pig every week or every two weeks, you will know how well your pig is doing and, at the same time, your pig will become accustomed to you. This familiarity will make it easier for you to control your pig. Handling your pig in various situations, such as getting it in and out of the scales, will improve your showmanship skills as well. This will make your hog easier to drive at the fair when you must place it in pens at the show ring.

Make sure that your pig is getting plenty of exercise to increase muscle development. One way to assure yourself that your pig is getting the correct amount of exercise is to start out walking a total of about 150 yards. When you start this process make sure that it is cool enough that your pig does not overheat. Early morning or late evening is the best time to do this.



Increase the distance

gradually, up to no more than one quarter of a mile. Doing this, you will be pleasantly surprised with the overall increase in muscle development. By walking your pig, you will also get it accustomed to driving, just as you would in the show ring. This will improve your ability to be competitive in the showmanship contests at you future shows.

Keep you pig on an excellent diet that is correctly balanced in amino acids, proteins and fat to assure that your animal can reach its genetic potential in development.

Show-Rite® Show Pig Weight Calculator

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Today's Date				
2	Show Date				
3	Days until Show <i>(B2 - B1)</i>				
4	Today's Weight				
5	Desired Show Day Weight				
6	Weight Gain Needed <i>(B5 ÷ B3)</i>				
7	Average Daily Gain Needed <i>(B6 ÷ B3)</i>				

***Note:** When holding pigs, substitute 1 to 1.5 lbs of regular feed diet with Show-Rite® Pig Ultimate Power.*

One month before the show:

Check with your veterinarian to make sure that you have all of the necessary health papers in plenty of time before the upcoming shows.

At six weeks to one month prior to the show, you absolutely must know on an on-going basis, the weight of your pig. This will allow you to determine how much weight your pig needs to gain between now and show day. Not all pigs look the best at the same weight, due to differences in frame size and body length. So, make sure you have an ideal weight in mind and target yourself to make the pig weighs within **2 to 3 pounds of that desired market weight** on the day of the show. If you wait until two weeks before the show to determine your pig's weight, you run the risk of ruining them, as too many pigs have been pushed or held too close to the show to look natural on show day.

Washing your pig two to three weeks prior to the fair is a good practice, but be sure to rinse all of the soap out of their hair. Also, avoid getting water in your pig's ears. Water in an ear can cause the pig to walk with its head held sideways. Don't allow your pig to drink soapy water, as it may upset its stomach; therefore, affecting its feed consumption.



The week of the fair:

Clipping your pig

- Clipping is a tool used to help trim the long hairs of a pig to help give it a fresher, more attractive look. Clipping also helps to improve the muscle shape of pigs by removing long hairs that cover up the natural curves on a pig that indicate muscle expression.
- Clipping, when done correctly, can enhance the appearance of your pig, but when done incorrectly, it can make your pig look unattractive.
 - When you are ready to clip, feed your pig by hand.
 - Use a #2 (11/16) or #1 (7/16) guard over the entire body.
 - Start clipping from the rear of the pig – moving your clippers up and forward, which will be against the grain (lay) of the hair.
 - Be sure to clip all long hairs – this includes legs, belly, the entire underneath of the pig, as well as tail, ears and face. NEVER use a smaller guard to clip the top of your pig.
 - When clipping the tail, use your guard to clip the hair on the bottom 2/3 of the tail, and then just trim the long hairs on the end of the tail. You do not want to trim the hair all the way down on the whole tail so when the pig curls its tail, it will look natural.
 - If you have a white or black pig, you can use a size lower guard (OA-5-16) to clip the underline, tail, neck, ears and face of the pig. If you have a red hog, **do not change sizes of guards**, as the hair clipped shorter will be lighter in color.
 - To restrain your hog to clip the head and face, use a soft rope that has a loop on the end. If you use a regular hog snare, place duct tape over the cable wire so as not to scratch your hog's nose.
 - When you are finished, rinse your pig, brush off the loose hair and apply a light coat of oil.

The week of the fair:

When you load your hog for the fair, avoid mixing hogs that haven't previously been together in order to avoid fighting. Also, avoid mixing smaller pigs with larger pigs to avoid injury. During the warm weather season, either load early in the morning or late in the evening to avoid the risk of your hog overheating. If you must load during the day in extremely hot weather, bed your truck or trailer with wood shaving and wet both the shavings and the pig before loading. **However, DO NOT directly apply water down the back of your hog. During hot weather, this will cause the animal to go into shock and die.** Continue to check the pig periodically during the trip and take measures to make sure the pig does not overheat during the ride.

Once you get to the fair, fill the pens with a good amount of wood shavings and allow your animal to rest for an extended period of time. Give your pig a small drink and leave it alone. After your hog has rested and settled in, take it to the wash rack. Once you have washed your hog and returned to its pen, feed your hog the normal amount of feed and give it another drink of water. Let your pig rest the remainder of the evening and check on it periodically to make certain it is not fighting with any hogs that are penned in close proximity.

Keep the area in front of and around your pens neat and clean as to ensure easy and safe maneuvering of your animal into and out of its pen. If your fair allows, take your hog for a walk and let it exercise for a while. This will allow the animal to loosen up become better acclimated to its busy surroundings. When getting your hog ready for show day, avoid as much stress as possible. This will keep your animal calm which will be beneficial during the show.

~ **SUCCESS** ~
**Where preparation,
dedication and hard work
come together!**



It's Show Time...

The day you have been waiting for!

Show day is the culmination of all of your hard work!

If you have done the proper things prior to the fair, show day will be a rewarding experience. Likewise, if you have waited to the last minute to prepare, your show day may not be a successful one.

Show Day Checklist:

- Get up early.
- Take your pig to the wash rack and thoroughly wash the animal, making sure completely rinse all of the soap from your animal. Also, make certain **NOT** to get any water in your pig's ears.
- Clean your animal's pen and re-bed with clean shavings.
- Feed your pig according to the amount of fill that is needed. Taller, narrower pigs look better when shown full – shorter, wider pigs look better when shown while they are less full.
- Water your pig – but be careful not to over water.
- Let your pig rest as much as possible.
- Take your pig back to the wash rack just prior to going into the ring. Rinse it off thoroughly and make sure it is clean.
- Make sure that **YOU** are neat, clean and well presented.
- Before entering the ring, sprinkle a small amount of water on your pig to give it a fresh look. **NEVER** use any type of oil before going into the ring.



It's Show Time...

The day you have been waiting for!

In the Show Ring:

- Once you enter the ring, give the judge a good look and go to the other end of the ring. Do not let your pig get close to the entrance gate where it will be in the way of the other exhibitors entering the ring.
- Once all pigs are in the ring, drive your pig to the judge, keeping a distance of 8 to 15 feet away. Keep your pig between you and the judge. **NEVER** get between the judge and your pig.
- Always know where your pig and the judge are at all times. Always have a free hand (your brush should be carried in a pocket).
- Use your whip/stick sparingly – only when needed. Light taps on the sides of the shoulder, forearm and neck will help maneuver your pig. This is when all the practicing at home will pay off.
- Avoid large groups of pigs moving together. Break free from the pack and get into the open space. You should be thinking about where the judge is, where he/she is going, and how to drive your pig into a position to give the judge a clear view for evaluation.
- When asked to pen your pig, focus only on that and do not worry anymore about the judge. First, start driving your pig to the pen you were instructed to go to. Get to the pen or very close to it, open the gate, return to your pig and drive your pig into the pen. Never take someone else's pen.
- After you are in the pen, brush your pig and squat down in the back of the pen, keeping your pig in the front of the pen with its head directed to the side of the gate that opens. This will make it easier to drive your pig back into the ring when asked.
- When you are instructed, open the gate, drive your pig out of the pen and return the gate to the closed position. Give the judge a good look at your hog (remembering to keep it between yourself and the judge) and then move to an open area in the ring – avoiding the pen area as to allow the other exhibitors to re-enter the ring.
- If your pig becomes irritated and begins to run, avoid chasing it – this will only scare it more. Calmly approach your hog and guide it to a spot along the outside of the ring. This will allow you more control of your animal.
- **REMEMBER - BE COURTEOUS AT ALL TIMES.**
Win without bragging! ~ Lose without complaining! ~ HAVE FUN!

Show Pig Development Product Guide:

Show Pig Starter (50MG) – Complete feed that includes select ingredients and special fortifications for pigs 20-50 days of age.

Show Pig 40-90 + Cell-rate – Pelleted complete feed for pigs weighing 40 to 90 lbs. (Crude Protein - 19%, Lysine - 1.3%, Fat - 7.0%).

Show Pig Team 18 – Complete meal feed designed for pigs weighing 90 to 200 lbs. (Crude Protein -18.0%, Lysine - 1.0%, Fat - 6.0%).

Show Pig 17.5% Finisher + Cell-rate – Complete finisher meal feed designed to help increase rib shape and fleshiness in show pigs. Formulated to be fed to pigs weighing 90-270 lbs.
(Crude Protein - 17.5%, Lysine - 1.15%, Fat- 5.0%).

Show Pig Rite Tone T100 – Pelleted 18% feed designed to add rib shape and depth to show pigs weighing 100 to 275 lbs.
(Crude Protein - 18%, Lysine -1.09%, Fat - 7.6%).

Show Pig EZ Tone T100 – Pelleted 16% feed designed to soften and add cover to heavier muscled show pigs weighing 100 to 275 lbs.
(Crude Protein - 16%, Lysine - 1.0%, Fat - 7.0%).

Show Pig 17.5% with Paylean – The same complete meal feed as 17.5% Finisher, just with the added benefits of Paylean to get added muscle volume and shape.

Show Pig Game Changer – Pelleted complete finishing feed formulated to be fed to show pigs to maximize muscle mass and growth.
(Crude Protein - 17%, Lysine - 1.15%, Fat - 4.0%).

Show Pig Ultimate Power – Designed to help add rib shape and overall body depth to show pigs. Great for holding show pigs, or just adding extra depth, not to be fed more than 2 lbs. per head per day.

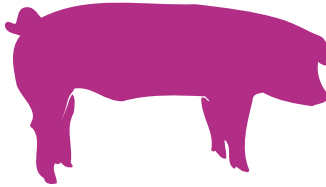
M-n-M Top-dress – Pelleted top dress formulated to be fed with other Show Rite products to add muscle expression and shape.

Show Blast – A highly fortified pelleted top dress. Designed to help harden and shape pigs prior to a show.

Show Pig 10.0 Premix – A carefully balanced unique premix designed to be mixed with corn and soybean meal.

SHOW•RITE®

Show Feeds... Done Rite!



**CHAMPIONS KNOW...
SHOW•RITE® IS THE FEED FOR THEM!**

QUALITY IN EVERY BAG! THE NAME SAYS IT ALL!

SHOW•RITE® Pig Feeds are available at the following location:



424 North Riverfront Drive • Mankato, MN • www.hubbardfeeds.com



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