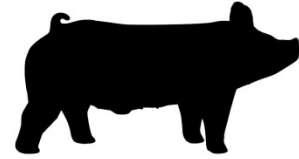




Meadowlark District 4-H Market Swine Project



Purpose

1. To help you learn selection, feeding, management, fitting & showing and showmanship of your livestock project.
2. Two or more pigs are recommended, as they keep each other company and will feed better.

Guidelines

- a. Market pig(s) need to be born after Jan. 1 of the current 4-H year.
- b. Pigs will be tagged with official KS 4-H EID tag and identified with photos by May 1st with your local extension office.
- c. Market swine can be either gilts or barrows. Gilts cannot be shown in a breeding gilt class if shown in a market class.
- d. The skill of feeding your pig is dependent upon knowing the weight of the pig, how it is gaining and making adjustments to your feeding program. The rate of gain for a pig on full feed should be 1.5 - 2 lbs/day. Pigs typically weigh 80-120 lbs at ID/tagging time (1st of May).
- e. It is a good idea to weigh your pig periodically, if possible, to see how it is gaining.
- f. The market likes pigs to be weighing 260 to 300 lbs at fair time.

Care & Management

- a. Pigs should have a barn or shed where they can retreat from heat, cold, wet conditions and outside exposure if need too.
- b. Water, protein, carbohydrates, fats, minerals & vitamins are the 6 basic nutrients required by all livestock.
- c. Pigs should not have any contagious disease, lice or other parasites. If you suspect them on your pigs please contact your local veterinarian on proper treatment.
- d. Set up a deworming schedule that works best for your pigs. Be sure to watch your dates as you get closer to fair and withdrawal times.
- e. KSU has researched the girth size of a pig in relation to its weight. You measure the girth of the pig with its head down.

Heart girth vs. pig weight

| Heart Girth, inches (1st #) | | Pig Weight, lb (2nd #) | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|----|-----|
| (Example: 25 inches 49 lbs) | | | | | |
| 25 | 49 | 33 | 130 | 41 | 211 |
| 26 | 59 | 34 | 140 | 42 | 221 |
| 27 | 69 | 35 | 150 | 43 | 232 |
| 28 | 79 | 36 | 160 | 44 | 242 |
| 29 | 89 | 37 | 171 | 45 | 252 |
| 30 | 99 | 38 | 181 | 46 | 262 |
| 31 | 110 | 39 | 191 | 47 | 272 |
| 32 | 120 | 40 | 201 | 48 | 282 |

Local Fair Requirements – MED-Holton (Jackson)

- a. Swine must be tagged and breed identified by May 1st. Ear tags will need to be paid for and picked up at a MED office.

- b. Youth are responsible for their own bedding and care of the animal. *Only woodchips are allowed for bedding during the fair.*
- c. No cleaning of pens during the Livestock Premium sale Thursday night.
- d. Youth must sign & abide by the **MED Code Ring of Ethics** (signed once in a 4-H career) and have it on file with the Extension Office by July 1st.
- e. Youth must sign and abide by the **MED Fair Code of Conduct** due July 1st each year.
- f. All youth must complete the YQCA annual training.
- g. Swine must weigh at least 220 lbs and not more than 325 lbs to show for breed champion and sell in premium livestock auction.
- h. Market Swine will be split by breed & weights. Classes are posted as soon as possible after weigh-in at the fair.
- i. If a youth has two pigs in one weight class, another 4-Her can show one of the pigs.
- j. Youth are expected to help with fair set-up and clean-up.
- k. Swine must be pre-entered by July 1st of the current 4-H year.
- l. All swine must have a minimum hair length of ½ inch.

Local 4-H Livestock Sale Rules & Requirements

- a. The sale is held for 4-H exhibitors and all animals sold must have been exhibited in this year's fair.
- b. Youth must fill out the **MED 4-H/FFA Sale Requirements** form. This must be on file at the Extension office by July 1st.
- c. Sale order will be listed in the fairbook. Grand and Reserve Grand Champions will sell last.
- d. The premium sale is a terminal sale, meaning all animals sold must go to slaughter. Animals sold through sale are not eligible to be shown at the Kansas State Fair or the Kansas Jr Livestock Show.
- e. Market swine must weigh at least 220 lbs and not over 325 lbs to sell. Ones not making weight at fair weigh in may be floored if floor buyer is willing to take them. Otherwise they must be taken home. Breeding gilts may be floored.
- f. Only one pig may be sold through the sale. If two pigs are shown, the other one may be floored. A \$10.00 selling fee will be collected for sale fees.

Important Dates & Information for Market Swine Project

Jackson County Spring Show – May 23

Meadowlark District Web Page

<https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/4-h/>

Kansas 4-H Market Swine Project Page

<https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animals/swine.html>