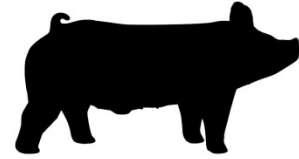




## Meadowlark District 4-H Market Swine Project



### 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-Seneca (Nemaha)

- a. Swine must be tagged and 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.
- c. 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.
- d. Youth must sign and abide by the **MED Fair Code of Conduct** due July 1st each year.
- e. All youth must complete the YQCA annual training.
- f. Market Swine will be split by weights. Classes are posted as soon as possible after weigh-in at the fair.
- g. If a youth has two pigs in one weight class, another 4-Her can show one of the pigs.
- h. Youth are expected to help with fair set-up and clean-up.
- i. Swine must be pre-entered by July 1st of the current 4-H year.

### **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 first.
- d. The premium sale is a premium only sale. You are responsible for marketing your own animal. 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 180 lbs and not over 350 lbs to sell.
- f. Only one animal may be sold through the sale. A 5% selling fee will be collected.

### **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>

#### **Youth Livestock Education Resources**

<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/educational-materials.html>