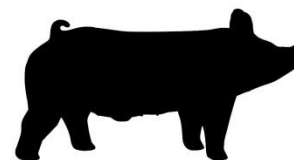




Meadowlark District 4-H Market Swine Project



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 – SEE YOUR LOCAL WEBPAGE FOR SPECIFICS!!!

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

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

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

- a. Animals must be owned at least 80 days prior to the fair. 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 will be allowed to enter and show any animal that was tagged with Family Nomination. 4-H members may switch ownership of animals within the Family Nomination, but final ownership by 4-Her, must be declared at fair pre-entry time. A Family Nomination is defined as: youth legally residing in the same household and sharing the same legal address. Youth must materially participate in the care of the project for the majority of the time.
- c. Youth are responsible for their own bedding and care of the animal.
- 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. If intending to participate in the Premium Auction, youth must fill out the **MED 4-H/FFA Sale Requirements** form. This must be on file at the Extension office by July 1st.

Important Dates & Information for Market Swine Project

All Swine must be tagged and ID papers returned to the office (with pictures) by **May 1**

Jackson County Spring Show – May

Kansas Junior Swine Producer Day – February of even numbered years

<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/ks-jr-producer/index.html>

Kansas State Fair & Kansas Junior Livestock Show Nominations due - June 15

<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/>

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/animal-science/swine.html>

Youth Livestock Education Resources

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