

CIRCULAR 549



# THE FEEDER PIG ENTERPRISE IN KENTUCKY

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# The Feeder Pig Enterprise In Kentucky

By C. E. Barnhart, Robert W. Rudd and Grady Sellards

Kentucky's hog enterprise accounts for about 15 to 20 percent of the livestock income in Kentucky. Of the approximately 1,200,000 hogs sold from Kentucky farms in 1956, an estimated one-fifth or more of these hogs were sold as feeder pigs. Kentucky is naturally adapted to the production of feeder pigs, owing to (1) its long pasture season and relatively mild weather which are favorable for raising feeder pigs and (2) its location in close proximity to Corn Belt feeding areas for hogs. Production and sale of feeder pigs in Kentucky have been most important in the areas which do not raise enough grain for feeding hogs out to slaughter weights and where pastures are important. Northern and central Kentucky have been the areas from which most Kentucky feeder pigs come. On many Kentucky farms where feeder pigs are produced, the sale of pigs as feeders has been an intermittent operation, with the decision whether to sell them as feeders or feed out being made each year on the basis of the size of the local corn crop and the price of corn relative to that of hogs.

## SELECTION OF BREEDING STOCK

Several points should be considered in selecting the breeding herd for the feeder pig enterprise. Sows should be selected on the basis of both their individual type and production record. They should farrow large litters of big, strong pigs. The litter should meet Production Registry requirements (8 or more pigs that weigh 320 pounds or more when 56 days old). Remember, heavy pigs at weaning indicate their dam is a good milker. Sows and gilts should be growthy, long-bodied, clean about the head and jowl, meaty and well muscled and have 12 or more well spaced teats. Gilts for herd replacements should be from Production Registry litters.

All purebred swine breed associations are now sponsoring a certified meat hog program designed to identify meat-type hogs from Production Registry qualifying litters. Production Registry litters are qualified for certification on the basis of the carcass characteristics of two pigs from the litter that are slaughtered. These two pigs must each weigh 200 pounds or more when 180 days old. Production Registry and meat certification are reliable production records to look for

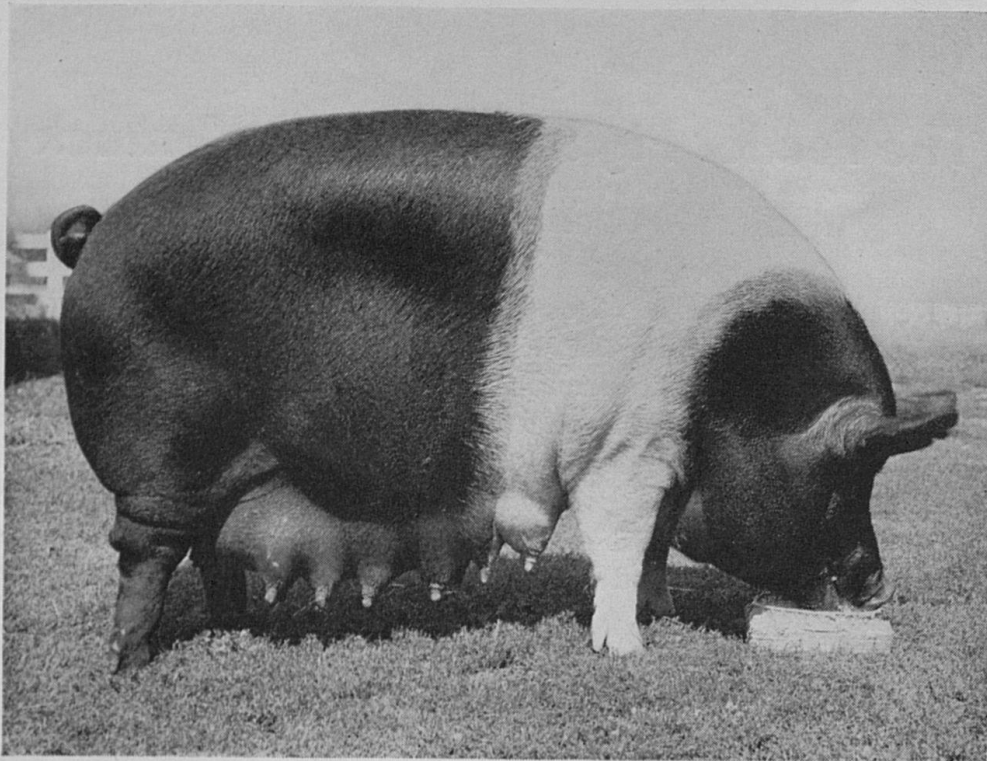


Fig. 1.— An outstanding meat-type brood sow. Note the excellent underline.

when buying the herd boar as well as gilts. Of course, the herd boar should be well-balanced, masculine, growthy, long and trim bodied, uniform in width from front to rear, well-muscled, have a strong top and full ham, and stand on strong feet and legs. A good meat-type boar with production records can be expected to sire high quality meat-type feeder pigs that will be well received by the buyer. It may be advisable for a group of producers to buy a top boar for partnership use. Purebred breeding stock is preferred. There is no one best breed inasmuch as there are good-producing, meaty hogs in all breeds.

### SYSTEMS OF PRODUCTION

Three major production systems are being followed in Kentucky. The **two-litter system** is the most common one. Sows farrow twice a year, in January, February, March or April, and again in August or September. This system lends itself well to the feeder pig enterprise and fits into general farming quite well.

The **one-litter system** is preferred by some producers. Gilts farrow once each year, usually in the late spring. These litters are farrowed by gilts which are sold after weaning their litters. Gilts are saved from one crop to farrow the next year's crop of pigs. This system has

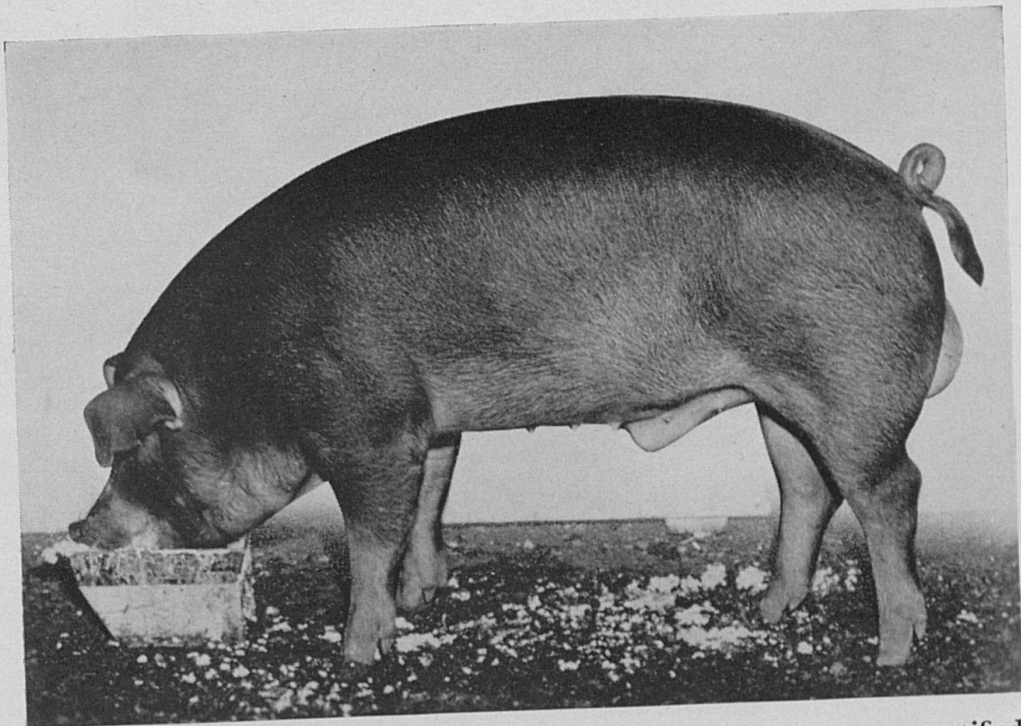


Fig. 2.— A young boar of excellent-meat type. This boar is from a certified meat litter and was sired by a certified meat sire.

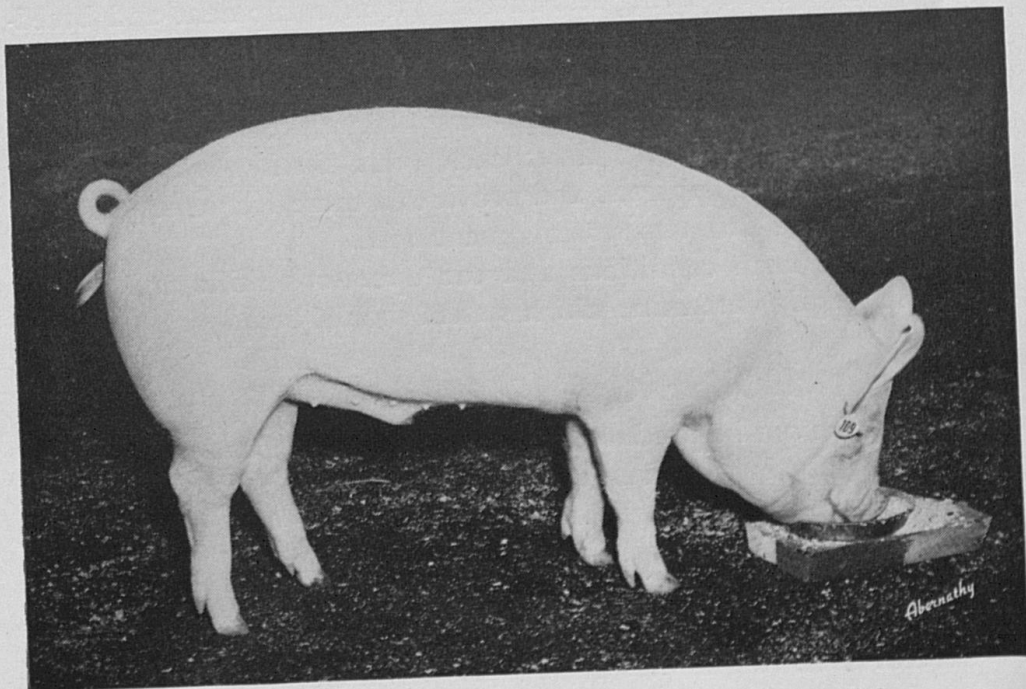


Fig. 3.— An excellent meat-type barrow of market weight.

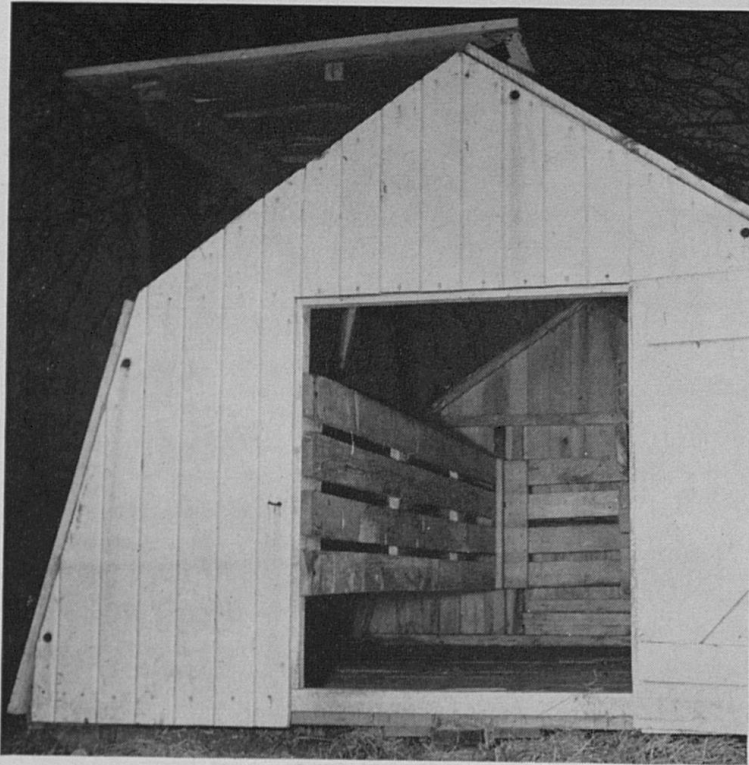


Fig. 4.— An individual hog house equipped with a farrowing crate.

the advantage of requiring less investment in equipment and breeding stock and the most complete use of pasture by the sows.

The third system is that of farrowing sows several times each year. This system is called **multiple farrowing**. Some producers arrange to farrow sows from 6 to 12 times each year. Such a system makes the utmost use of equipment and provides a more frequent source of income than the first two systems mentioned.

Individual farm conditions and the operator's skills and preferences will largely determine which system should be adopted.

### HOUSING AND EQUIPMENT

Feeder pigs can be produced without a large cash outlay for equipment. Individual hog houses are quite satisfactory for farrowing. (Plans are available through county agents or the Agricultural Engineering Department, University of Kentucky.) Pens with farrowing crates are commonly installed in tobacco barns, making a low-cost, workable arrangement.

Central farrowing houses are a great convenience, making it easier to care for sows and litters, and they are not too costly when figured on a long-term basis. If a central farrowing house is to be used, far-

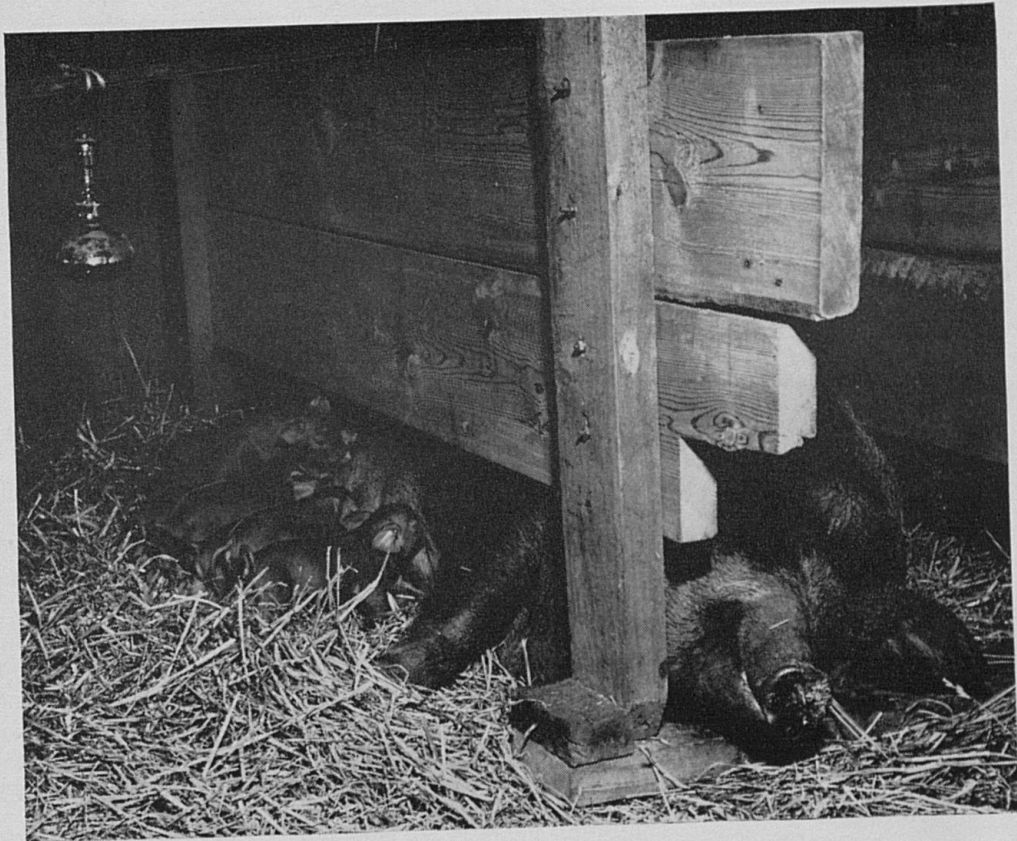


Fig. 5.— The use of a farrowing crate and heat lamp will save pigs.

rowing crates and pens should be arranged in such a manner that they may be removed and the floor space used for the pigs after weaning. It is practical in many cases to keep pigs confined on a concrete feeding floor until time for sale.

Self-feeders and automatic watering devices are necessary for a successful hog operation. There are commercial self-feeders and automatic waterers on the market which meet a variety of needs.

Shade is a must in the summer months. A framework built on runners, and covered by straw or an aluminum roof is preferable. Dust becomes a problem if the shade cannot be moved frequently. Therefore, a movable shade is highly preferable to a permanent shade.

## GENERAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND PROBLEMS

**Breeding**—Breed sows on the second and third days of the heat period to insure good litters and as few repeat breeders as possible. This practice will increase the litter size on the average about 1 pig per litter.

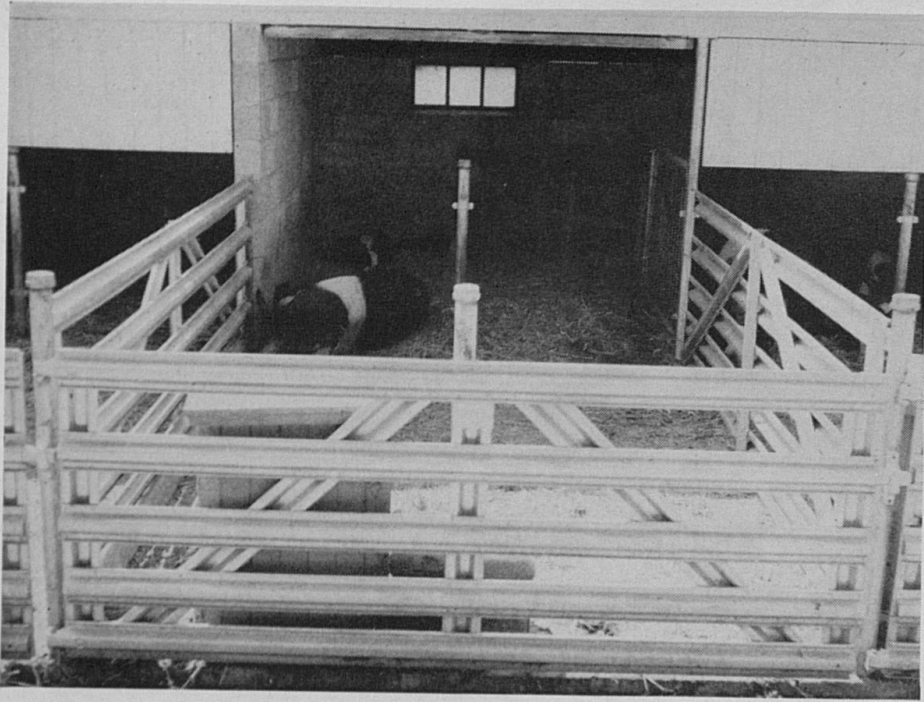


Fig. 6.— A shed and a concrete feeding floor such as this make an ideal place to house sows and pigs. Note the pig creep in back right corner of pen. The dividing gate can be removed and several litters turned together after weaning.

**Farrowing**—Scrub farrowing house with boiling water and lye (20 gallons water to 1 pound lye). The use of a steam cleaner is preferred. It can sometimes be rented from a nearby garage. Wash sows thoroughly with soap and water before placing them in clean farrowing pens.

**Navel Cords**—Dip young pigs' navel cords in iodine, then tie them in a knot close to the body and clip off below the knot.

**Needle Teeth**—Clip pigs' needle teeth with a pair of small side cutting pliers at birth. This will prevent the pigs injuring themselves and their dams' udders.

**Ear Notch**—Notch pigs' ears at birth for identification. Identification is especially helpful in culling sows and picking replacement gilts.

**Weak Pigs**—Inject 2 cc of glucose in each ham or fore flank for 2-3 days.

**Milk Fever**—Good milking sows sometimes have milk fever when pigs are a few days of age. They lie on their bellies and refuse to let the pigs nurse. In such case, the pigs should be removed and fed by hand. Keep cold packs on the sows' udders and in advanced cases consult a veterinarian for calcium gluconate treatment.





Fig. 7.—Scrub and disinfect farrowing quarters before bringing sows in to farrow.



Fig. 8.—Scrub sow with soap and water before placing her in farrowing crate.

**No Milk**—Sometimes sows will not start milking following farrowing. Two cc of diethylstilbestrol on alternate days for 3 days is usually successful in starting the milk flow.

**Mastitis**—Sows frequently have mastitis and can be successfully treated by injecting 5 cc of combiotic into the ham each day for 2-3 days.

**Scours**—Baby pigs very often scour sometime during the first few weeks after farrowing. Two cc of combiotic injected in the ham for 3 successive days is an effective treatment.

**Anemia**—If pigs do not have contact with the ground by the time they are 1 week old they may become anemic. To prevent anemia, either swab sows' udders with a solution of 1 pound of iron sulfate (copperas) dissolved in 1 quart of water or give the pigs a pill containing 3-5 grains of iron once a week until the pigs are eating feed or are on the ground.

**Castrate**—Male pigs should be castrated when 2 to 4 weeks old.

**Hog Cholera**—Vaccinate pigs for hog cholera when they are approximately 6 weeks old. One of the attenuated viruses on the market may be used. If pigs are weaned when 3 weeks old it is advisable to treat them with hog cholera serum for immediate protection.

**Wean**—The conventional age to wean is at 8 weeks. Some producers may wish to wean at 3 to 5 weeks. This can be done successfully if good equipment is available, a pig starter is fed, and careful management practiced.

**Erysipelas**—Vaccinate with one of the bacterins at 7-8 weeks. Follow with a second shot 2-4 weeks later. Give the breeding herd a booster shot every 6 months.

**Worm**—Pigs should be wormed shortly after weaning. The most efficient and widely used wormer is technical grade sodium fluoride. Mix 1 pound of sodium fluoride with each 99 pounds of dry complete mixed feed (a mixture pigs are accustomed to eating) and self-feed for 24 hours. Do not feed this mixture as a slop. Sodium fluoride is highly poisonous; therefore, handle it carefully.

Farrowing on clean ground or hauling pigs from the farrowing quarters to clean ground will help to control round worms.

**External Parasites**—Spray the breeding herd and pigs with a 0.25 percent solution of either chlordane or benzene hexachloride at intervals of every 2 or 3 months to prevent mange and control lice. More frequent treatment may be necessary in some cases.

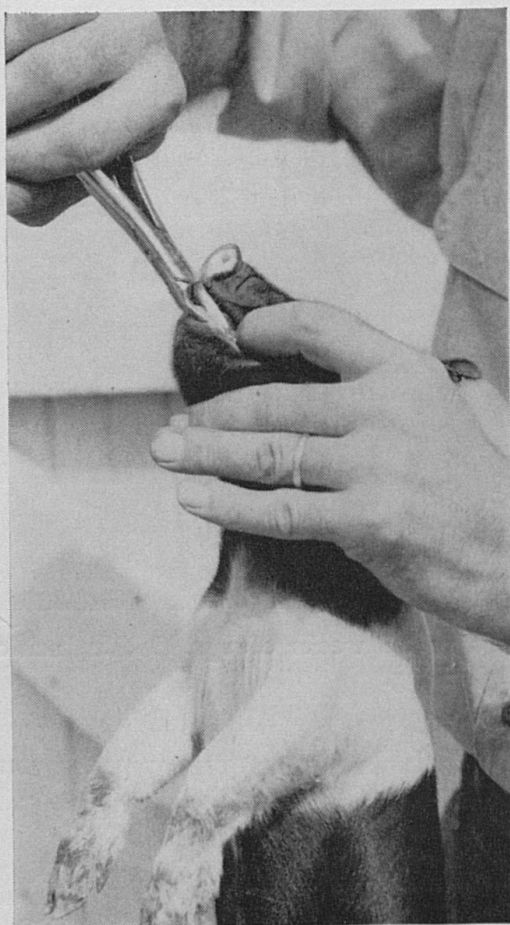


Fig. 9.— Clip needle teeth at birth to prevent injury to sow's udder and other pigs in litter.

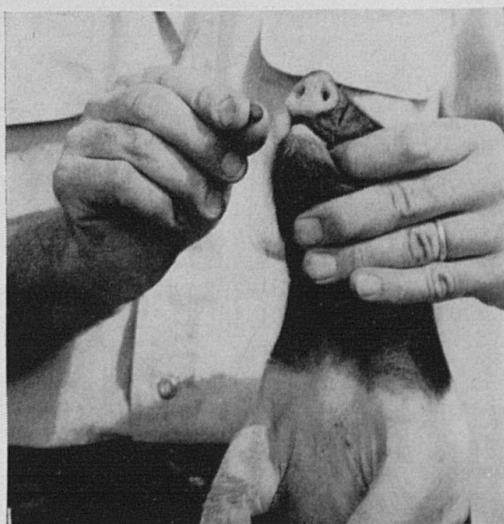


Fig. 10.— To prevent anemia in pigs kept in confinement give each an iron pill once a week.



Fig. 11.—Castrate pigs at 2-4 weeks of age. Make incisions low to insure proper drainage and healing.



Fig. 12.—Spray pigs with either chlordane or benzene hexachloride to prevent mange and lice.

## FEEDING THE BROOD SOW DURING GESTATION

The proper feeding of the brood sow during the pre-gestation and gestation period is one of the most important factors insuring large, strong, healthy pigs at birth. Sows should be "flushed" or fed a little better than usual for about 2 weeks before breeding. Following breeding, the amount of feed can be reduced somewhat for the next month or 6 weeks and then gradually increased during the latter two-thirds of gestation. The exact amount of feed to be fed sows and gilts during the gestation period is largely dependent upon the animals' condition. The average sow should gain 50-75 pounds, and the average gilt should gain 75 pounds during gestation. Early-sown Balbo rye pasture for the fall, winter and spring months and legume pasture during the summer should be provided sows and gilts. Good pasture can reduce the feed required by gestating sows and gilts from 25 to 50 percent.

Hand-feeding brood sows is preferred to self-feeding. Sows having access to good pasture will need to be fed from 2 to 6 pounds of a complete mixed ration per day. Gilts will probably need 1 to 2 pounds more daily, depending upon their size and condition. Two to 3 pounds of additional feed per day will be necessary if good pasture is not available.

Should it be more desirable to self-feed the brood sows, a bulky ration high in fiber should be fed. The condition and gains of the sows should be watched carefully. If the sows become too fat the ration should be made more bulky. Table 1 gives suggested rations for bred sows and gilts.

Table 1.—Gestation Feeding Formula

Ingredients	Pounds Hand-fed	Pounds Self-fed
Ground yellow corn .....	48.5	30.00
Ground oats .....	25.0	30.00
50% Meat and bone scraps .....	5.0	5.00
44% Solvent soybean meal .....	5.0	3.50
17% Dehydrated alfalfa meal .....	15.0	30.00
Steamed bone meal .....	1.0	1.00
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> antibiotic premix* .....	.....	.....
Total Pounds .....	100.0	100.00

\* Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> antibiotic premixes may be purchased from feed mixers and livestock supply stores. Add enough premix so that it provides 500 micrograms of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and 500 milligrams of antibiotic per 100 pounds of feed or follow manufacturers' directions.

## FEEDING THE BROOD SOW DURING LACTATION

Two or 3 days prior to farrowing the sow should be placed in her farrowing quarters and placed on a bulky-laxative type of feed, such as equal parts of bran and ground oats. One to 2 pounds of this ration will be sufficient until the sow farrows. As a general rule, sows do not need any feed the first day following farrowing; however, some sows are restless and uncomfortable, and these should be fed lightly. The same mixture of bran and ground oats may be fed for 2 or 3 days after farrowing. Then, the regular lactation ration may be gradually substituted for the bran and oats so that the sow is eating all she wants by the time her pigs are 10 days of age. Sows nursing 6 or more pigs should be self-fed. It is not profitable to self-feed sows with litters of less than 6 pigs. Heavy-milking sows with large litters commonly become very thin and come down with posterior paralysis. This condition may usually be prevented by feeding adequately balanced rations. In the event a sow does suckle down too thin, the pigs should be weaned. A satisfactory lactation ration that may be either self-fed or hand-fed is given in Table 2.

Table 2.—Lactation Feeding Formula

Ingredients	Pounds	Ingredients	Pounds
Ground yellow corn .....	60.00	Iodized salt .....	0.50
Ground oats .....	20.00	Vitamin A and D <sub>2</sub> premix* .....	.....
17% Dehydrated alfalfa meal .....	5.00	B-complex vitamin premix* .....	.....
44% Solvent oilmeal .....	8.00	Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> antibiotic premix* .....	.....
50% Meat and bone scraps .....	5.00	Total Pounds .....	100.00
Ground limestone .....	1.00		
Steamed bonemeal .....	0.50		

\* These three premixes may be purchased from feed mixers and livestock supply stores. Add enough of the Vitamin A and D<sub>2</sub> premix to provide 200,000 I.U. of Vitamin A and 4000 I.U. of Vitamin D<sub>2</sub> for each 100 pounds of the ration. Add enough of the B complex vitamin premix to provide 100 milligrams of riboflavin, 200 milligrams of calcium pantothenate and 400 milligrams of niacin per 100 pounds of feed. The Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and antibiotic premix (premixes) should be added to provide 1000 micrograms of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and 1000 milligrams of the antibiotic per 100 pounds of feed.

## WEAN EARLY OR AT EIGHT WEEKS

Pigs may be weaned when 3 to 5 weeks old, instead of the conventional 8 weeks, if good equipment is available. Pigs weaned early must be kept in a warm, well-ventilated barn. For best results divide pigs according to size and keep no more than 10-15 pigs in one group.

Allow 6 square feet of floor space per pig. A highly nutritious pig starter and water should be available at all times. A good pig starter formula is given in Table 3.

**Table 3.— Pig Starter Formula**

Ingredients	Pounds	Ingredients	Pounds
Ground yellow corn .....	16.30	Ground limestone .....	1.00
Rolled oats (table grade)..	20.00	Iodized salt .....	0.50
Sugar (cane or beet) .....	15.00	Trace mineral mixture ....	0.20
44% solvent soybean oilmeal .....	20.00	Vitamin A and D <sub>2</sub> premix* .....	.....
Dried skimmilk .....	20.00	Vitamin B-complex premix* .....	.....
60% Fish meal .....	2.50	Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> antibiotic premix* .....	.....
Dried corn distillers solubles .....	2.50	Total Pounds .....	100.00
Steamed bone meal .....	2.00		

\* These three premixes may be purchased from feed mixers and livestock supply houses. Add enough of the Vitamin A and D<sub>2</sub> premix to provide 500,000 I.U. of Vitamin A and 62,500 I.U. of Vitamin D<sub>2</sub> for each 100 pounds of the ration. Add enough of the B complex vitamin premix to provide 500 milligrams of riboflavin, 1000 milligrams of calcium pantothenate, 2400 milligrams of niacin and 2500 milligrams of choline chloride per 100 pounds of the ration. The Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and antibiotic premix (premixes) should be added to provide 1000 micrograms of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and 1000 to 2500 milligrams of antibiotic per 100 pounds of feed.

## FEEDING THE PIGS FROM WEANING UNTIL SELLING

The nutritional requirements of growing pigs are quite important and exacting until the pigs weigh 75-100 pounds. Weanling pigs are capable of making relatively fast and cheap gains. Thus, the dividends for good feeding and management can be pleasingly profitable. A complete mixed ration self-fed or corn and protein supplement self-fed free-choice will give equally satisfactory results. Formulas for a complete mixed feed and for a protein supplement are given in tables 4 and 5.

## MARKET OUTLETS

Feeder pigs are sold through most major types of market outlets in Kentucky, but the auction markets are the most important type of sale outlet for pigs. A considerable number of feeder pigs move in farm-to-farm sales, without use of the regular market channels. The nearest central market maintaining a sufficient volume of sales of feeder pigs for continuous price quotations is Memphis, Tennessee, which draws from the southeastern market area principally.

Table 4.—Complete Growing and Finishing Formula

Ingredients	16%	14%
	Crude protein feed from weaning to 75 lbs.	Crude protein feed from 75 lbs. to 125 lbs.
	Pounds	Pounds
Ground yellow corn .....	76.5	82.5
50% Meat and bone scraps .....	2.5	2.5
44% Solvent soybean oilmeal .....	19.0	13.0
Steamed bone meal .....	0.5	0.5
Ground limestone .....	0.7	0.7
Salt .....	0.5	0.5
Trace minerals .....	0.3	0.3
Vitamin A and D <sub>2</sub> premix* .....	....	....
B-complex vitamin premix* .....	....	....
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> antibiotic premix* .....	....	....
Total Pounds .....	100.0	100.0

\* These three premixes may be purchased from feed mixers and livestock supply stores. Add enough of the Vitamin A and D<sub>2</sub> premix to provide 200,000 I.U. of Vitamin D<sub>2</sub> for each 100 pounds of feed. Add enough of the B-complex vitamin premix to provide 200 milligrams of riboflavin, 500 milligrams of calcium pantothenate, 1500 milligrams of niacin and 4000 milligrams of choline chloride per 100 pounds of feed. The Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and antibiotic premix (premixes) should be added to provide 500 micrograms of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and 500 milligrams of antibiotic per 100 pounds of feed.

Table 5.—Protein Supplement

Ingredients	Pounds	Ingredients	Pounds
44% Solvent soybean oilmeal .....	52.50	Trace minerals .....	0.50
50% Meat and bone scraps .....	25.00	Vitamin A and D <sub>2</sub> premix* .....	....
17% Dehydrated alfalfa meal .....	10.00	B-complex vitamin premix* .....	....
Steamed bone meal .....	5.00	Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> antibiotic premix* .....	....
Ground limestone .....	5.00	Total Pounds .....	100.00
Iodized salt .....	2.00		

\* These three premixes may be purchased from feed mixers and livestock supply stores. Add enough of the Vitamin A and D<sub>2</sub> premix to provide 750,000 I.U. of Vitamin A and 250,000 I.U. of Vitamin D<sub>2</sub> per 100 pounds of supplement. Add enough of the B-complex vitamin premix to provide 1000 milligrams of riboflavin, 2000 milligrams of calcium pantothenate, 4000 milligrams of niacin and 20 grams of choline chloride per 100 pounds of supplement. The Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> antibiotic premix (premixes) should be added to provide 4000 micrograms of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and 4000 milligrams of antibiotic per 100 pounds of supplement.

### BUYERS OF KENTUCKY FEEDER PIGS

The major buyers of Kentucky's feeder pigs may be separated into three groups. While the relative importance of these buyers may vary from market to market the most important generally are the Corn Belt



**Table 6.—Relative Value of Corn Substitutes for Swine**

Feed	Relative Fattening Value	Approximate value when a bushel of corn is worth:				
		\$0.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50
	%	Bu	Bu	Bu	Bu	Bu
Shelled corn .....	100	\$0.50	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50
Ground wheat .....	105	.57	1.13	1.80	2.26	2.83
Ground barley .....	90-95	.39	.79	1.18	1.58	1.97
Ground rye .....	90	.45	.90	1.35	1.80	2.25
Ground oats .....	60-80	.20	.40	.60	.80	1.00

**Table 7.—Suggestions for Use of Various Swine Feed Ingredients**

Percent Protein	Ingredient	Percent of Total Ration					Percent of Supplement
		Gestation	Lactation	Pig Starters	Growing	Fattening	
17	Alfalfa meal .....	10-50	5-10	0	2.5-10	2.5-5	5-25
12	Barley (48lb/bu) .....	25-80	60-80	5-25	60-80	60-90	....
8.5	Corn, yellow (56lb/bu) .....	25-80	60-80	5-35	60-80	75-91	....
7	Corn and cob meal .....	20-40	0	0	0	0	....
42	Corn gluten meal .....	2.5-5	2.5-5	0	2.5-5	2.5-5	Not over 30
41	Cottonseed oilmeal .....	2.5-10	2.5-5	0	2.5-5	2.5-10	5-50
26	Distillers dried solubles..	2.5-6	2.5-6	1-2.5	5-10	5-10	10-30
60	Fish meal .....	2-10	2-10	2.5-5	2-10	2-10	5-30
34	Linseed oilmeal .....	2.5-5	2.5-5	2.5-5	2-8	2-8	5-25
50	Meat and bone scraps ..	2.5-10	2.5-10	1.25-5	1.25-5	1.25-5	5-30
11	Milo (54lb/bu) .....	25-70	50-70	5-35	50-70	60-80	....
12	Oats (32lb/bu) .....	10-40	10-20	0	5-20	5-20	....
16	Oats, rolled .....	....	....	10-50	....	....	....
12	Rye (56lb/bu) .....	0	0	0	10-50	10-70	....
34	Skimmilk, dried .....	0	0	5-20	0	0	....
45	Soybean oil meal .....	10-22	10-22	10-25	10-20	5-16	50-80
10	Wheat (60lb/bu) .....	25-90	25-90	5-35	60-80	70-90	....
14	Wheat bran .....	5-30	5-15	0	....	....	....
16	Wheat Midds .....	5-20	5-20	2.5-5	5-30	5-30	....

hog feeders or trucker buyers and other agents purchasing for resale to such feeders. Prime interest for this type of buyer centers in the assurance of buying thrifty, disease-free pigs. The other types of buyers of lesser importance are the manufacturers of serum and local farmers interested in home meat production. Many serum manufacturers in recent years have substituted rabbits for pigs in the production of serum; consequently, this part of the market has declined greatly.

### FEEDER PIG PRICES AND MARKETINGS

Like the prices and marketings of slaughter weight hogs, feeder pig marketings and prices vary considerably from year to year, both in level and in change through the season. Receipts of feeder pigs at central Kentucky auctions average highest in October and lowest in June. The seasonal movement of prices is roughly a reversal of the pattern of marketings, with the highest prices for feeders being paid

in July and the seasonal trough in prices occurring in December. These seasonal relationships are averages of a period of years, and indicate only general tendencies of seasonal movement. Individual years, therefore, may differ markedly from these averages. Differences in seasonal movement also are to be found, depending on the weight, within the feeder classification.<sup>1</sup>

The level of feeder pig prices bears a close relationship to the price for slaughter weight hogs. The price that hog feeders are willing to pay for feeder pigs is determined largely by the price they expect to receive for slaughter hogs and also the price of corn. When the price of hogs relative to the price of corn (the hog-corn ratio) is favorable for feeding out, feeder pigs will usually sell at a premium above slaughter weights. On the other hand, if the hog-corn price ratio is unfavorable, feeders will be discounted in price relative to slaughter-weight hogs.

### **PROFITABILITY OF SALE OF FEEDERS AT DIFFERENT WEIGHTS VERSUS FEEDING TO SLAUGHTER WEIGHTS**

An important feature of the feeder pig enterprise is its flexibility. The producer of feeder pigs can decide during the production period whether he wants to market at light, medium, or heavy feeder weights, depending on what he views the market prospects to be. In addition, he can choose between selling his pigs as feeders or feeding out to slaughter weights. The use of this flexibility has an important bearing upon the profitability of the feeder pig enterprise. In making a decision at any particular time whether to sell or defer selling, the feeder pig producer will find the following points of major importance:

- (1) The present weight and value of his pigs.
- (2) The cost of the feeding ration for his pigs.
- (3) The rate of gain he can reasonably expect per pound of feed.
- (4) His best judgment, based on available information, as to the future price of pigs or slaughter weight hogs.

To aid the producer in deciding, a set of tables has been prepared, based on actual use of the rations recommended in this circular. These tables give the price per pound the producer will have to get for his pigs after an interval of further feeding to **break even** if he decides to feed to heavier weights. In figuring this **break-even** price, the cost of the feed required for the gain plus 15 percent as an allowance for labor and equipment use has been used.

<sup>1</sup> For details see, "At What Weight Should I Market My Feeder Pigs?" Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station Circular 515.

To explain the use of these tables, which appear in detail in the back of this circular, let's consider an example. Suppose that a producer has feeder pigs averaging 50 pounds in weight now, and he wants to decide whether to (1) feed the pigs to 100 pounds average weight or (2) sell them now. Suppose further that the ration now costs \$3 per hundred pounds and feeder pigs are now selling for \$14 per hundred pounds. The question is: What price will the pigs have to bring after 50 pounds of gain for the producer to **break even** on the added feeding?

Below is a section of one of the tables appearing in the appendix. The horizontal lines of the table are for different levels of the ration cost, while the vertical rows are for different levels of the price at the moment of feeder pigs per hundred pounds. Circled are the present price of the ration and the present price of 50-pound feeders. The figure where the \$3 ration cost line and the \$14 feeder pig price row meet, \$12.69, is the break-even price—the price per hundred pounds the producer would need to get to break even after the added feeding. If the producer felt, in this instance, that prices of feeders when they reach 100 pounds would be higher than \$12.69 per hundred pounds he would decide to feed rather than sell. If, on the other hand, he felt that feeder pig prices were likely to decline below \$12.69 per hundred pounds by the time his feeders would reach 100 pounds, he would sell now rather than feed further.

<b>Prices You Must Have To Break Even</b>				
<b>When You Have 50-Pound Pigs and Are Considering Selling Them When They Weigh 100 Pounds</b>				
<b>And 100 Pounds of Ration Costs:</b>	<b>And Price of 50-Pound Pigs Per Hundred Pounds Now Is:</b>			
	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$15.00
\$2.75	11.13	11.63	12.13	12.63
3.00	11.69	12.19	12.69	13.19
3.25	12.25	12.75	13.25	13.75
3.50	12.81	13.31	13.81	14.31

In the same way, by use of the following tables, other "present" weights can be similarly considered and questions of whether to feed for 50 pounds of gain or whether to feed to slaughter weight can be examined and the break-even prices found.

These tables are based on the average results from feeding the rations recommended in this circular. Individual producers may be more or less successful than the results indicated here. Accordingly, these tables of break-even prices should be interpreted as averages from which individual instances may vary.

**Break-Even Selling Price At 200 Pounds**

And The Ration Cost Per Cwt. is	Price Of Feeders Per Cwt. Now												
	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$17.00	\$18.00	\$19.00	\$20.00	\$21.00	\$22.00
\$2.25	\$ 9.54	\$ 9.69	\$ 9.84	\$ 9.99	\$10.14	\$10.29	\$10.44	\$10.59	\$10.74	\$10.89	\$11.04	\$11.19	\$11.34
2.50	10.43	10.58	10.73	10.88	11.03	11.18	11.33	11.48	11.63	11.78	11.93	12.08	12.23
2.75	11.33	11.48	11.63	11.78	11.93	12.08	12.23	12.38	12.53	12.68	12.83	12.98	13.13
3.00	12.22	12.37	12.52	12.67	12.82	12.97	13.12	13.27	13.42	13.57	13.72	13.87	14.02
3.25	13.11	13.26	13.41	13.56	13.71	13.86	14.01	14.16	14.31	14.46	14.61	14.76	14.91
3.50	14.01	14.16	14.31	14.46	14.61	14.76	14.91	15.06	15.21	15.36	15.51	15.66	15.81
3.75	14.90	15.05	15.20	15.35	15.50	15.65	15.80	15.95	16.10	16.25	16.40	16.55	16.70
4.00	15.79	15.94	16.09	16.24	16.39	16.54	16.69	16.84	16.99	17.14	17.29	17.44	17.59
4.25	16.69	16.84	16.99	17.14	17.29	17.44	17.59	17.74	17.89	18.04	18.19	18.34	18.49
4.50	17.58	17.73	17.88	18.03	18.18	18.33	18.48	18.63	18.78	18.93	19.08	19.23	19.38
\$2.25	\$ 9.85	\$10.10	\$10.35	\$10.60	\$10.85	\$11.10	\$11.35	\$11.60	\$11.85	\$12.10	\$12.35	\$12.60	\$12.85
2.50	10.67	10.92	11.17	11.42	11.67	11.92	12.17	12.42	12.67	12.92	13.17	13.42	13.67
2.75	11.49	11.74	11.99	12.24	12.49	12.74	12.99	13.24	13.49	13.74	13.99	14.24	14.49
3.00	12.31	12.56	12.81	13.06	13.31	13.56	13.81	14.06	14.31	14.56	14.81	15.06	15.31
3.25	13.12	13.37	13.62	13.87	14.12	14.37	14.62	14.87	15.12	15.37	15.62	15.87	16.12
3.50	13.94	14.19	14.44	14.69	14.94	15.19	15.44	15.69	15.94	16.19	16.44	16.69	16.94
3.75	14.76	15.01	15.26	15.51	15.76	16.01	16.26	16.51	16.76	17.01	17.26	17.51	17.76
4.00	15.58	15.83	16.08	16.33	16.58	16.83	17.08	17.33	17.58	17.83	18.08	18.33	18.58
4.25	16.39	16.64	16.89	17.14	17.39	17.64	17.89	18.14	18.39	18.64	18.89	19.14	19.39
4.50	17.21	17.46	17.71	17.96	18.21	18.46	18.71	18.96	19.21	19.46	19.71	19.96	20.21
\$2.25	\$10.14	\$10.52	\$10.89	\$11.27	\$11.64	\$12.02	\$12.39	\$12.77	\$13.14	\$13.52	\$13.89	\$14.27	\$14.64
2.50	10.85	11.23	11.60	11.98	12.35	12.73	13.10	13.48	13.85	14.23	14.60	14.98	15.35
2.75	11.56	11.94	12.31	12.69	13.06	13.44	13.81	14.19	14.56	14.94	15.31	15.69	16.06
3.00	12.27	12.65	13.02	13.40	13.77	14.15	14.52	14.90	15.27	15.65	16.02	16.40	16.77
3.25	12.98	13.36	13.73	14.11	14.48	14.86	15.23	15.61	15.98	16.36	16.73	17.11	17.48
3.50	13.69	14.07	14.44	14.82	15.19	15.57	15.94	16.32	16.69	17.07	17.44	17.82	18.19
3.75	14.40	14.78	15.15	15.53	15.90	16.28	16.65	17.03	17.40	17.78	18.15	18.53	18.90
4.00	15.11	15.49	15.86	16.24	16.61	16.99	17.36	17.74	18.11	18.49	18.86	19.24	19.61
4.25	15.82	16.20	16.57	16.95	17.32	17.70	18.07	18.45	18.82	19.20	19.57	19.95	20.32
4.50	16.53	16.91	17.28	17.66	18.03	18.41	18.78	19.16	19.53	19.91	20.28	20.66	21.03

**Breck-Even Selling Price At 200 Pounds**

And The Ration Cost Per Cwt. is	Price Of Feeders Per Cwt. Now												
	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$17.00	\$18.00	\$19.00	\$20.00	\$21.00	\$22.00
	<b>If Your Pigs Weigh 100 Pounds Now</b>												
\$2.25	\$10.31	\$10.81	\$11.31	\$11.81	\$12.31	\$12.81	\$13.31	\$13.81	\$14.31	\$14.81	\$15.31	\$15.81	\$16.31
2.50	10.90	11.40	11.90	12.40	12.90	13.40	13.90	14.40	14.90	15.40	15.90	16.40	16.90
2.75	11.49	11.99	12.49	12.99	13.49	13.99	14.49	14.99	15.49	15.99	16.49	16.99	17.49
3.00	12.08	12.58	13.08	13.58	14.08	14.58	15.08	15.58	16.08	16.58	17.08	17.58	18.08
3.25	12.67	13.17	13.67	14.17	14.67	15.17	15.67	16.17	16.67	17.17	17.67	18.17	18.67
3.50	13.26	13.76	14.26	14.76	15.26	15.76	16.26	16.76	17.26	17.76	18.26	18.76	19.26
3.75	13.85	14.35	14.85	15.35	15.85	16.35	16.85	17.35	17.85	18.35	18.85	19.35	19.85
4.00	14.44	14.94	15.44	15.94	16.44	16.94	17.44	17.94	18.44	18.94	19.44	19.94	20.44
4.25	15.03	15.53	16.03	16.53	17.03	17.53	18.03	18.53	19.03	19.53	20.03	20.53	21.03
4.50	15.62	16.12	16.62	17.12	17.62	18.12	18.62	19.12	19.62	20.12	20.62	21.12	21.62
	<b>If Your Pigs Weigh 150 Pounds Now</b>												
\$2.25	\$ 9.85	\$10.60	\$11.35	\$12.10	\$12.85	\$13.60	\$14.35	\$15.10	\$15.85	\$16.60	\$17.35	\$18.10	\$18.85
2.50	10.11	10.86	11.61	12.36	13.11	13.86	14.61	15.36	16.11	16.86	17.61	18.36	19.11
2.75	10.37	11.12	11.87	12.62	13.37	14.12	14.87	15.62	16.37	17.12	17.87	18.62	19.37
3.00	10.63	11.38	12.13	12.88	13.63	14.38	15.13	15.88	16.63	17.38	18.13	18.88	19.63
3.25	10.89	11.64	12.39	13.14	13.89	14.64	15.39	16.14	16.89	17.64	18.39	19.14	19.89
3.50	11.16	11.91	12.66	13.41	14.16	14.91	15.66	16.41	17.16	17.91	18.66	19.41	20.16
3.75	11.42	12.17	12.92	13.67	14.42	15.17	15.92	16.67	17.42	18.17	18.92	19.67	20.42
4.00	11.68	12.43	13.18	13.93	14.68	15.43	16.18	16.93	17.68	18.43	19.18	19.93	20.68
4.25	11.94	12.69	13.44	14.19	14.94	15.69	16.44	17.19	17.94	18.69	19.44	20.19	20.94
4.50	12.20	12.95	13.70	14.45	15.20	15.95	16.70	17.45	18.20	18.95	19.70	20.45	21.20

### Break-Even Selling Price After 50 Pounds of Gain

And The Ration Cost Per Cwt. is	Price Of Feeders Per Cwt. Now												
	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$17.00	\$18.00	\$19.00	\$20.00	\$21.00	\$22.00
\$2.25	\$ 8.41	\$ 8.78	\$ 9.16	\$ 9.53	\$ 9.91	\$10.28	\$10.66	\$11.03	\$11.41	\$11.78	\$12.16	\$12.53	\$12.91
2.50	8.92	9.30	9.68	10.05	10.42	10.80	11.18	11.55	11.92	12.30	12.68	13.05	13.42
2.75	9.44	9.82	10.19	10.57	10.94	11.32	11.69	12.07	12.44	12.82	13.19	13.57	13.94
3.00	9.96	10.34	10.71	11.08	11.46	11.84	12.21	12.58	12.96	13.34	13.71	14.08	14.46
3.25	10.48	10.85	11.23	11.60	11.98	12.35	12.73	13.10	13.48	13.85	14.23	14.60	14.98
3.50	11.00	11.37	11.74	12.12	12.50	12.87	13.24	13.62	14.00	14.37	14.74	15.12	15.50
3.75	11.51	11.89	12.26	12.64	13.01	13.39	13.76	14.14	14.51	14.89	15.26	15.64	16.01
4.00	12.03	12.40	12.78	13.16	13.53	13.90	14.28	14.66	15.03	15.40	15.78	16.16	16.53
4.25	12.55	12.92	13.30	13.67	14.04	14.42	14.80	15.17	15.55	15.92	16.30	16.67	17.05
4.50	13.06	13.44	13.82	14.19	14.56	14.94	15.32	15.69	16.06	16.44	16.82	17.19	17.56
\$2.25	\$ 9.01	\$ 9.51	\$10.01	\$10.51	\$11.01	\$11.51	\$12.01	\$12.51	\$13.01	\$13.51	\$14.01	\$14.51	\$15.00
2.50	9.57	10.07	10.57	11.07	11.57	12.07	12.57	13.07	13.57	14.07	14.57	15.07	15.57
2.75	10.13	10.63	11.13	11.63	12.13	12.63	13.13	13.63	14.13	14.63	15.13	15.63	16.13
3.00	10.69	11.19	11.69	12.19	12.69	13.19	13.69	14.19	14.69	15.19	15.69	16.19	16.69
3.25	11.25	11.75	12.25	12.75	13.25	13.75	14.25	14.75	15.25	15.75	16.25	16.75	17.25
3.50	11.81	12.31	12.81	13.31	13.81	14.31	14.81	15.31	15.81	16.31	16.81	17.31	17.81
3.75	12.37	12.87	13.37	13.87	14.37	14.87	15.37	15.87	16.37	16.87	17.37	17.87	18.37
4.00	12.94	13.44	13.94	14.44	14.94	15.44	15.94	16.44	16.94	17.44	17.94	18.44	18.94
4.25	13.50	14.00	14.50	15.00	15.50	16.00	16.50	17.00	17.50	18.00	18.50	19.00	19.50
4.50	14.06	14.56	15.06	15.56	16.06	16.56	17.06	17.56	18.06	18.56	19.06	19.56	20.06

#### If Your Pigs Weigh 30 Pounds Now

#### If Your Pigs Weigh 50 Pounds Now

### Break-Even Selling Price After 50 Pounds of Gain

And The Ration Cost Per Cwt. is	Price Of Feeders Per Cwt. Now												
	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$14.00	\$15.00	\$16.00	\$17.00	\$18.00	\$19.00	\$20.00	\$21.00	\$22.00
\$2.25	9.66	10.26	10.86	11.46	12.06	12.66	13.26	13.86	14.46	15.06	15.66	16.26	16.86
2.50	10.07	10.67	11.27	11.87	12.47	13.07	13.67	14.27	14.87	15.47	16.07	16.67	17.27
2.75	10.48	11.08	11.68	12.28	12.88	13.48	14.08	14.68	15.28	15.88	16.48	17.08	17.68
3.00	10.89	11.49	12.09	12.69	13.29	13.89	14.49	15.09	15.69	16.29	16.89	17.49	18.09
3.25	11.29	11.89	12.49	13.09	13.69	14.29	14.89	15.49	16.09	16.69	17.29	17.89	18.49
3.50	11.70	12.30	12.90	13.50	14.10	14.70	15.30	15.90	16.50	17.10	17.70	18.30	18.90
3.75	12.11	12.71	13.31	13.91	14.51	15.11	15.71	16.31	16.91	17.51	18.11	18.71	19.31
4.00	12.51	13.11	13.71	14.31	14.91	15.51	16.11	16.71	17.31	17.91	18.51	19.11	19.71
4.25	12.92	13.52	14.12	14.72	15.32	15.92	16.52	17.12	17.72	18.32	18.92	19.52	20.12
4.50	13.33	13.93	14.53	15.13	15.73	16.33	16.93	17.53	18.13	18.73	19.33	19.93	20.56
<b>If Your Pigs Weigh 75 Pounds Now</b>													
\$2.25	9.96	10.63	11.29	11.96	12.63	13.29	13.96	14.63	15.29	15.96	16.63	17.29	17.96
2.50	10.33	10.99	11.66	12.33	12.99	13.66	14.33	14.99	15.66	16.33	16.99	17.66	18.33
2.75	10.69	11.36	12.03	12.69	13.36	14.03	14.69	15.36	16.03	16.69	17.36	18.03	18.69
3.00	11.06	11.73	12.39	13.06	13.73	14.39	15.06	15.73	16.39	17.06	17.73	18.39	19.06
3.25	11.43	12.09	12.76	13.43	14.09	14.76	15.43	16.09	16.76	17.43	18.09	18.76	19.43
3.50	11.79	12.46	13.13	13.79	14.46	15.13	15.79	16.46	17.13	17.79	18.46	19.13	19.79
3.75	12.16	12.82	13.49	14.16	14.82	15.49	16.16	16.82	17.49	18.16	18.82	19.49	20.15
4.00	12.52	13.19	13.86	14.52	15.19	15.86	16.52	17.19	17.86	18.52	19.19	19.86	20.52
4.25	12.89	13.56	14.22	14.89	15.56	16.22	16.89	17.56	18.22	18.89	19.56	20.22	20.89
4.50	13.26	13.92	14.59	15.26	15.92	16.59	17.26	17.92	18.59	19.26	19.92	20.59	21.26
<b>If Your Pigs Weigh 100 Pounds Now</b>													

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