

PIG FEEDING RATION



GROWING PIGS: FEEDING FOR PERFORMANCE

The optimal fat-to-meat ratio is important to any pig farmer as it determines the quality of meat and hence profitability. All our rations are scientifically formulated to give pigs perfectly balanced feed, to achieve the optimal lean meat percentage. The optimal fat-to-meat ratio – it's the perfect balance.

OUR FOCUS

- Supplementation of sow's milk in the first week.
- Fertility.
- Optimal muscle and bone development.
- Optimal fat-to-meat ratio.
- Feed efficiency.
- Nutritionally balanced feed for the different classes of pigs.
- Consistent quality.

KEY FEEDING TIPS

- Always provide ample fresh, cool water. Poor water supply can slow the growth rate of pigs, and lower feed intake in lactating sows, leading to a loss in condition and a drop in milk production.
- Feed creep from 10 days old until a week after weaning.
- Ensure the creep feed is inaccessible to the sow.
- Pay attention to the condition of the sow; feed according to body condition during the first 30 days of gestation to minimise embryo mortality.
- It is recommended that sows be full-fed during lactation to obtain maximum milk production. Low feed intake will decrease litter weight gain and subsequent reproductive performance.
- Feed dry sow according to recommendation so that she farrows at the correct weight.
- Feed boars and sows, the sow and boar diet. The daily feeding rate should change according to differences in season, condition and workload of the boar.



THE SUCKLING PIGLET

The pregnant sow should be dewormed 2-3 weeks prior to farrowing to reduce the possibility of the sow passing worms to the newborn piglets. Management is especially critical during the first 72 hours after birth, since most piglet losses occur during this time.

The first eight hours after birth are most critical and can decide which piglets reach the optimum weight at weaning or die. Many losses of newborn piglets are caused by stress due to being too cold, hence extra heating must be provided. The creep area should be kept at 28 °C and the room temperature at 21-23 °C. Piglets should also be encouraged to suckle colostrum within 45 minutes after birth. The behaviour of the piglets will indicate whether they are comfortable. Within 24 hours of birth, individual piglets should be marked for identification and record purposes, as well as teeth clipped and tails docked.

Pigs that survive the initial few days after birth, double their body weight during each subsequent week for approximately the first three weeks. Sow milk does not contain an adequate supply of nutrients to sustain rapid growth of a young pig beyond 21 days; hence the need to provide creep feed to the litter before weaning. Piglets will normally be interested in creep feed at around 10 days of age. Proper feed changes are essential for minimising aggression and tail-biting, as well as to ensure optimum growth.



GROWING PIGS

Theoretical comparison of weight for age, feed intake per day, cumulative feed consumed and feed conversion ratio data for growing pigs.

Age (days)	Live weight (kg)	Feed per day (kg)	Cumulative feed intake (kg)	FCR (kg)	
56	18				Weaner
63	22	1.0	7.0	1.75	
70	26	1.2	15.4	1.92	
77	30	1.4	25.2	2.10	Porker
84	35	1.6	36.4	2.14	
91	40	1.8	49.0	2.23	
98	45	2.0	63.0	2.33	
105	50	2.2	78.4	2.45	
112	55	2.4	95.2	2.57	
119	61	2.6	113.4	2.64	Baconer We recommend using the Porker ration continuously if only growing pigs to 90 kg live weight. If one is growing pigs to >90 kg, use the Baconer as indicated.
126	67	2.8	133.0	2.71	
133	73	3.0	154.0	2.80	
140	79	3.2	176.4	2.89	
147	85	3.4	200.2	2.99	
154	91	3.6	225.4	3.09	
161	97	3.8	252.0	3.19	
168	103	4.0	280.0	3.29	

SOW AND BOAR

Feed costs and sow productivity are the two most important variables in the swine business. Although gestation and lactation diets represent approximately 16% of the feed usage on a farrow-to-finish operation, it is vital that these diets be correctly formulated to the productivity level of the herd and fed at the correct amounts.

The dry period is the time interval from weaning to farrowing where the sow is unproductive.

Careful management of sows during pregnancy and lactation, and from weaning to mating, contributes to sows being mated as soon as possible after weaning.

Proper boar feeding and management are necessary before and during the breeding season. This includes feeding, housing, health and service capacity. When good management practices are not followed, the performance that you obtain from the boar is often disappointing.



FEEDING TABLE

FORMAT	PRODUCT	Act 36/1947 Reg. No.	ANIMAL TYPE	FEEDING GUIDE
Full Feeds	Sow and Boar 140	V8857	Sow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed dry sows 2 kg/day in summer and 2.5 kg/day in winter. • This should only be used as a guide as some sows might need to be fed a little more if they lost weight during lactation.
			Boar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed boars 2 kg/day in summer and 2.5 kg/day in winter. • Hard working boar's feed allocation may need to be adjusted higher depending on the work rate and body condition. • Ensure not to overfeed the boar as it will become lazy.
	Econo Lactating Sow	V17930	Sow	<p>Into farrowing house</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed 2 kg/sow/day until 2 days after farrowing. • Thereafter gradually increase allocation over the next 7 days. • The sow should be eating 2.5 kg/day plus 0.5 kg/piglet/day by the end of the 7 days. • Feed sows twice a day (half in the morning and half in the afternoon). • Use this as a guide only – judge condition of sow; with thin sows increase the allocation, and overweight sows reduce the allocation.
	Econo Pig Creep 190	V4964	Sucklers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start feeding piglets pig creep from 10 days of age to 1 week post weaning. • The average intake will be 1kg/piglet over this period. • Make sure feed troughs are cleaned daily and that fresh creep feed is supplied. • Ensure clean fresh water is available at all times.
	Econo Pig Weaner 180	V4963	Weaner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed the pig weaner from weaning to either 30 kg live weight or 10 weeks of age. • The average intake over this period should be 15 kg. • Make sure feed troughs are cleaned daily and that fresh creep feed is supplied. • Ensure clean fresh water is available at all times.
	Econo Pig Porker 155	V5587	Porker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed porker from 10 weeks of age until 70 kg live weight, this should take approximately 65 days. • The average intake over this period should be 137 kg. • Make sure feed troughs are cleaned daily and that fresh creep feed is supplied. • Ensure clean fresh water is available at all times.
	Econo Pig Finisher 156	V8844	Baconer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed the finisher ration from 70 kg live weight until slaughter. • Make sure feed troughs are cleaned daily and that fresh creep feed is supplied. • Ensure clean fresh water is available at all times.
Concentrates	Farmix Pig Weaner 310	V7670	Weaner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See bag for mixing instructions. • Feed as per Econo Pig Weaner 180 above.
	Farmix Porker 340	V22904	Porker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See bag for mixing instructions. • Feed as per Econo Pig Porker 155 above.
	Farmix Sow and Boar 230	V22902	Sow & Boar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See bag for mixing instructions. • Feed as per Sow and Boar 140 above.



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