

South Dakota State University

## Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange

---

SDSU Extension Leaflets

SDSU Extension

---

11-1-1942

### More Pork from Your Feed

Cooperative Extension South Dakota State University

Follow this and additional works at: [https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension\\_leaflets](https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_leaflets)

---

#### Recommended Citation

South Dakota State University, Cooperative Extension, "More Pork from Your Feed" (1942). *SDSU Extension Leaflets*. 68.

[https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension\\_leaflets/68](https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_leaflets/68)

This Pamphlet is brought to you for free and open access by the SDSU Extension at Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in SDSU Extension Leaflets by an authorized administrator of Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. For more information, please contact [michael.biondo@sdstate.edu](mailto:michael.biondo@sdstate.edu).

# **MORE** *Pork* *from* **Your Feed**

---

Sows from Large Litters  
will have Large Litters

A Good Boar's pigs will  
Gain Faster & Cheaper

A Properly Fed Brood  
Sow has Healthier Pigs

Save MORE Pigs have  
MORE Hogs to SELL

Balanced Ration in the  
feed lot—MORE Pork!

---

**November 1942      Extension Leaflet 70**  
**EXTENSION      SERVICE**  
**South Dakota State College      Brookings**  
**United States Department of Agriculture**  
**630.732**

So 87

No. 70

c.2



# Making More Pork

Hogs are among the most efficient animals in converting feed into meat. The amount of pork you will have to sell next summer and fall depends on the number and size of litters, the care the brood sow receives, the number of pigs saved next spring and how efficiently you feed for fattening.

A good boar selected this fall will sire pigs which will gain faster and more efficiently. Size of litters can be increased by "flushing" the sow, having her gaining at breeding time, and by selecting sows which came from large litters themselves. Care should be exercised when buying breeding stock to avoid diseased animals. Blood tests should be made to avoid buying animals infected with contagious abortion.

A brood sow fed a balanced ration with a variety of proteins will farrow a healthier litter. Strict sanitation before and at farrowing time and raising on clean ground will help save more of the pigs. Creep feeding when the pigs are small and proper feeding when they get in the feed lot will push them to marketing weight of 300 pounds in the shortest possible time. Three hundred pound hogs are in demand nowadays.

## *Sow Care Stops Pig Loss*

Proper feeding and management of the pregnant sow or gilt will reduce pig losses and mean more efficient gains in the growing pigs. The sow should be fed to gain 75 to 100 pounds during the gestation period, but should not become overly fat. Ample exercise should be provided. Gilts will need 2 to 2¼ pounds of grain per 100 pounds of weight per day. Older sows will require less; 1½ to 1½ pounds will suffice.

The following grain mixtures are suggested:

1. ⅔ Corn (shelled or ear) or grain sorghum. ⅓ whole oats.
2. ⅓ Corn (shelled or ear). ⅓ ground barley. ⅓ ground oats.

The body of a new born pig on a dry matter basis consists of 70 percent protein, 20 percent mineral matter and 10 percent fat. It is highly essential therefore, that the pregnant sow's ration contain adequate amounts of these important nutrients. Animal and plant proteins should be provided. If tankage is difficult to secure, linseed or soybean meal may be used. The following mixtures are recommended:

1. Equal parts by weight of tankage and either linseed oil meal or soybean oil meal.
2. 25 parts tankage, 25 parts linseed oil meal and 25 parts soybean oil meal.

The protein supplement should be provided during the entire gestation period of the gilt and at least the last six or eight weeks for the mature sow. If alfalfa is available, it should be fed by all means as it is especially rich in Vitamin D as well as minerals and protein. The alfalfa should be fed in racks conveniently



located. If alfalfa is fed, only about  $\frac{1}{3}$  pound of tankage or the protein mixture per day will be required. If the alfalfa is not available, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound of protein is needed. One gallon of skim milk per day will replace other protein supplements.

## *How to Raise Healthy Pigs*

1. Before placing in farrowing pen, clean sow by washing with warm soap and water. This removes dirt, thousands of worm eggs, and other types of disease germs.

2. Place sow in a clean farrowing pen that has been scrubbed with boiling lye water. Use one can of lye to 30 gallons of water. Disinfect farrowing pen with a standard 4 percent disinfectant such as coal tar, dip, or creosote.

3. Provide guard rails around farrowing pen about eight inches from the floor and 10 inches from the wall. Don't use too much straw as bedding.

4. Provide the pigs in the farrowing pen with clean soil to prevent anemia. An electric pig brooder will save pigs.

5. Haul, don't drive, the sow and litter to a clean pasture. "Clean" means land that has been cultivated since last used as a hog pasture.

6. Keep the pigs on pasture for about five months. Provide plenty of clean water but no mud wallows. The pigs should have access to cheaply constructed shelter and shade during the hot weather. Portable individual farrowing houses are convenient and comparatively inexpensive.

7. Vaccinate for cholera about weaning time.

8. If growing pigs are mangy dip three or four times at intervals of from 10 to 12 days in a solution of 25 parts water to one part of liquid lime sulphur. One pint of kerosene mixed in a gallon of crank case oil will serve as a good preventive.

## *Feeding the Sow and Litter*

After farrowing the sow will need no feed for 24 hours, although plenty of water should be provided. On the second day a light feed of bran or shorts is excellent, followed with a light ration of 50-50 corn and oats and gradually increasing the feed until in 10 days the sow is on full feed. The amount of milk produced is influenced by the amount of feed fed. The object is to increase milk-flow as the pigs become older. Normally sows will consume about 10 to 12 pounds of feed per day.

Home grown feeds should be utilized to the best advantage. However, these feeds must be balanced with proteins, minerals, and quality pasture for the most economical gains on the growing pigs. The following combination of feeds represent mixtures for the sow and litter containing all the essential food constituents:

### **MIXTURE 1**

Ground corn 60%  
Ground oats 30%  
Protein feed (equal parts tankage, linseed and soybean oil meal 10%)

### **MIXTURE 2**

Ground corn 30%  
Ground barley 30%  
Ground oats 30%  
Tankage 7%  
Linseed or soybean oil meal 3%

In these rations sorghum grain or wheat could be substituted for corn. In case tankage is not available, feed 50 percent each of linseed and soybean oil meal.



Self-feeding the sow and litter after the pigs are about three weeks old will produce faster gains on less feed as compared to hand feeding. In self-feeding the sow litter, shelled corn self-fed and a protein supplement self-fed will give excellent results, save labor and expense of grinding.

### *Creep Feeding Pigs*

Pigs will eat from a creep when about two weeks old. This method is highly desirable especially when self-feeders are not available for sow and litter. The creep is a small pen containing feed into which the pigs can go but not the sows. Vertical slats are generally used about 10-12 inches apart. Rolled oats or shelled corn are good to start the pigs to eat. The following are proven mixtures for creep feeding pigs:

#### **MIXTURE 1**

2 parts cracked corn  
2 parts wheat middlings  
1 part tankage  
1 part soybean oil meal

#### **MIXTURE 2**

6 parts ground grain sorghum  
2 parts ground oats  
1 part tankage  
1 part soybean oil meal

One-half pint to 1 pint of skimmilk or buttermilk daily to pigs as soon as they will drink will improve the above rations.

### *Wean Pigs at 8 to 10 Weeks*

Most pigs are generally weaned at 8 to 10 weeks of age. The pigs should weigh 35 to 40 pounds. It is generally advisable to reduce the sow's ration in order to reduce her milk flow. The South Dakota Experiment Station finds it a good practice to put the sow on straight corn. If the sow has been on a self feeder, panels may be used to exclude the sows but admit the pigs. It is generally better to remove the sows than the pigs. Some hogmen recommend returning the sows to the pigs after a day, especially with heavy milking sows.

### *Pastures Provide Cheapest Gains*

Experiments indicate that pigs raised on good pasture put on 26 percent more gain with 12 to 15 percent less grain. This is because such pigs are healthy and receive more variety of protein and mineral. A good pasture rotation throughout the year might consist of rye for early spring, spring sown grain for early summer, alfalfa for late summer or fall. Sudan grass land that did not have hogs on it the previous year should be used. In the eastern part of the state rape may be used for early summer and fall pasture.

### *Mineral Mixture Needed*

A simple mineral mixture consisting of 40 parts steamed bone meal, 40 parts finely ground limestone and 20 parts stock salt should be easily accessible to the sows, growing fattening pigs, and breeding stock at all times. This may be mixed and fed in a box or self-feeder. Salt should be fed in addition.

### *Feeding Growing Fattening Pigs on Pasture*

After weaning, the hog grower continues feeding similar rations; and makes changes gradually, yet balances corn and farm grown grains with essential proteins and minerals. Basic grains will be corn, oats, wheat, barley, sorghum grain, and



rye. Rye, however, should not constitute more than one-fourth of the grain mixture. Growing pigs will eat about 4 percent of their live weight in feed daily. Following are suggested mixtures:

### 30 TO 100 POUND PIGS

#### MIXTURE 1

Shelled corn, 85 to 95 pounds  
Tankage, 10 to 15 pounds, or Soy-  
bean oil meal

#### MIXTURE 2

Ground barley self-fed  
Skim milk, 3-4 pounds per head  
daily, or Tankage, 6 to 8 pounds  
per 100 pounds of grain

### 100 TO 175 POUND PIGS

#### MIXTURE 3

Shelled corn, self-fed  
Protein supplement, self-fed  
Mineral, self-fed

#### MIXTURE 4

Ground shelled corn, 50 pounds  
Ground barley, 42 pounds  
Tankage, 8 pounds

In these rations grain sorghum and wheat may be substituted for corn. All grains should be coarsely ground. All rations should be supplemented with pasture—preferably a good legume—and should be self-fed, **free choice**. A greater use of the self-feeder will result in less labor and will actually increase the gains.

The above rations may be improved by feeding a protein supplement consisting of 50 parts tankage, 25 parts linseed oil meal and 25 parts soybean oil meal instead of tankage or soybean oil meal as the only protein feed. A variety of protein will generally increase the gain with a lower total feed consumption. Skim-milk may be used to improve the above mixture. If skim milk is fed, however, it should not be used excessively. The following guide will be helpful in determining the amount to use per day:

	Skim milk—gal.	Corn—lbs.
50 to 100 pound pig	1.5 to 2	5
100 to 150 pound pig	1.4 to 1.8	6
150 to 200 pound pig	1.2 to 1.6	7
200 pounds and over	1 to 1.4	8

### *Need Protein for Dry Lot*

The same general rations as suggested for pasture feeding above may be fed to pigs in dry lot. Alfalfa should be available in racks. If alfalfa is not available a more complete protein supplement mixture may be used as follows:

50 parts tankage	20 parts soybean oil meal
20 parts linseed oil meal	10 parts fish or alfalfa meal

### *Common Hog Diseases*

**Necrotic Enteritis** is a common disease of pigs weighing 40 to 50 pounds. It is characterized by cough, profuse diarrhea and unthriftiness. Sanitary measures are important in control of this disease. Specific treatment consists of feeding one-half to 1½ grains of nicotinic acid per pig daily dissolved in water and poured on the feed. The feeding of a protein feed consisting of 10 percent liver meal with 90 percent tankage or soybean oil meal has given consistently good results. One-half ounce (tablespoonful) of a 1 percent solution of copper sulphate given in the drinking water to each pig once a day as an internal antiseptic is helpful.

**Common Round Worm** infests pigs when they weigh about 50 pounds. Pigs which are infested commonly show unthriftiness and “pot bellies” and frequently some necrotic enteritis. Worms may be prevented by having clean ground for pasture and clean surroundings at farrowing time. The best treatment for worms is a dose consisting of one ounce of castor oil and 15 drops oil of chenopodium for each pig. This dose is best given by the use of a dose syringe. Pigs should be kept off feed 12 hours before treatment.

**Hog Cholera**—All pigs should be vaccinated against hog cholera when eight to ten weeks of age.

# World Needs MORE PORK

The United States Government is asking American farmers to increase hog production 15 percent and to make every animal 10 pounds heavier. Meat shortage is a growing war problem.

South Dakota with large feed supplies, is in a good position to make an even greater increase—a 30 percent increase is entirely possible.

There is small danger of producing too many hogs. The Government believes strong demand for meat will last for the duration and possibly for a time thereafter because of slow restocking in foreign countries.

This leaflet sent you by your County Extension Agent of the South Dakota Agricultural Extension Service tells of ways to farrow and save more pigs and how to make heavier hogs faster.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
EXTENSION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

---

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Penalty for Private Use  
to Avoid Payment of  
Postage, \$300