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## Boys' and Girls' Club Work: Sow-Litter Club

South Dakota State University Cooperative Extension

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## BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK

## Sow-Litter Club



## **EXTENSION DIVISION**

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND MECHANIC ARTS AND U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATING C. LARSEN, DIRECTOR

## JUNIOR EXTENSION WORK

Paul J. Scarbro ......State Club Leader Irene Dunne ....Assistant State Club Leader A. L. Haynes, Assistant State Club Leader

#### THE PROJECT

The demand for more and a better grade of hogs is heard thruout the entire agricultural sections of our country. This can be accomplished thru careful selection and breeding, followed by the proper methods of feeding and care.

Club boys and girls can do much toward bringing this about by entering the sow-litter club. Not only will they find the work profitable but they will become interested in animal life and the production of quality in pork as well as quantity.

Some of the objects of the work:

- To stimulate interest in swine production and to teach the members how to raise better and cheaper hogs by the use of improved methods.
- 2. To increase the number of hogs raised on the farm.
- 3. To teach the members how to judge hogs and to select them for breeding or market purposes.
- 4. To encourage the growing of forage crops and reduce the use of high priced feeds.
- 5. To instruct the members in a practical way in the management, feeding, sanitation, and prevention of diseases of swine, all of which information proves valuable with respect to other forms of live stock work.
- 6. To afford the members a means of earning some money for themselves while at home.
- 7. To instill in the members while young, a love of animals which will result in their taking more interest in farm life. To furnish them at the same time some work which will in a practical way, give an insight into the business side of farm life, and inspire in them a desire to work for and attain success.

#### REGULATIONS

- 1. Any junior between the ages of 10 to 18 years inclusive may enter.
- 2. Each club shall have at least five members.
- 3. Enrollments close November 1st.
- 4. Each member will purchase a pure-bred brood-sow of his own selection, breed and care for her and her litter according to instructions.
- 5. Each member will receive instructions each month from the state leaders and extension specialists relative to the care and feeding of the sow and litter.
- 6. Each member does his work, follows instructions, keeps a record, and makes reports. At the close of the project he makes his final report and writes a story.
- An exhibit shall consist of two pigs from the litter, same sex, accompanied by record, reports, and written story.
- 8. With the same exhibit, a member is entitled to compete for community, county, and state honors.
- 9. Community or county sales will be held on or before December 1st to dispose of surplus stock.

## BASIS OF AWARD

Best brood-sow type, weight, quality, condition30%
Largest and best litter, type, size, uniformity condition for age30%
Best kept records, reports and written story40%

## POINTS IN SELECTING THE BROOD-SOW

- 1. Select a gilt that comes from a strong, uniform litter of from 6 to 8 pigs and one that is not undersize.
- The gilt should have a quiet disposition. She should be strong, deep, and roomy and show motherly instincts.
- 3. She should have straight, strong legs, a well arched back and plenty of breadth thru the shoulders.
- 4. She should be of the proper color for the breed selected and conform to the type for that breed.