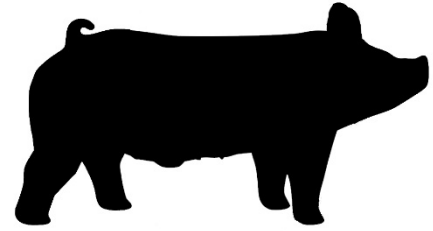


## Selection

- Select hogs that:
  - Have a straight top line (back)
  - Show muscle expression in the lower back leg
  - Are wide based (stand wide with back legs)
  - Wide top- especially where the loin is
  - Structurally correct- walk easily
  - Deep sided with some fill in the center
- Hogs (barrows or gilts) should have been born late February to April



## Weight

- Ideal market weight is 270 lbs- Delaware County Fair has a range limit of 220-290 lbs
- A normal rate of gain is 1.75 lbs of gain per day- average daily gain=1.75 lbs/day
- Hogs should weigh around 90 lbs the first week of June to reach ideal weight

## Nutrition

- Hogs can eat 4 pound- 8pounds per day depending on desired level of gain
- Hogs should start on a higher protein feed
- As hogs grow bigger the protein percentage can be brought down
- Top dressing different feeds is normal practice to increase muscle, control cover, or increase fill
- Hogs that are gaining too much fat or cover over the ribs should be fed a higher protein to try to burn off cover
- Hogs that need to add cover should be fed a lower protein diet that has a higher fat content
- Clean/ fresh water access

## Health

- A normal body temperature for hogs is 101.5°F- 103.5°F
- Common health concerns to look for: swollen hocks, pneumonia, and flu
- Hogs that do not feel well will stand by themselves, not eat, not stand and move, as well as other symptoms
  - It's very important to observe your animal's normal behavior every day so you can notice abnormal behavior.

## Facilities and Equipment

- Good ventilation
- Space- 12 square feet per animal is recommended
- Gates should be 3 ft. or more in height
- Spray bottle
- Sorting board/ hurdle
- Brush
- Feed pan
- Waterer (nipple system)
- Show whip
- Washing supplies

## Dates you need to look for

- Quality Assurance (or test out)-July 1
  - Market animal exhibitors by law must attend
- Animal must be in the possession of the exhibitor by June 1
- Picture ID must be turned in by June 7
- Entry deadline is the last Friday in August
- Mandatory project book and interview is the second Saturday in September

## Additional opportunities

- Ohio State Fair- End of July
  - Entries due June 21
  - Must have attended a Quality Assurance by June 1
  - Read their rules at: <https://ohiostatefair.com/livestock/>
- Hartford Independent Fair
  - For eligibility both the following criteria must be met:
    - (1) They are enrolled in a youth organization in the following townships of Delaware Co. (Harlem/Centerburg Village, Trenton, Porter and Berkshire);
    - (2) They attend school in, or have residence within the specified townships
  - Must have attended a Quality Assurance by June 1
  - Read their rules at: <http://hartfordfair.com/premium-book.htm>
- OH-Pigs- April- June
  - Jackpot Series with point accumulations throughout the series
  - Read more information at: <http://www.ohiopork.org/oh-pigs-show-circuit.aspx>