

Surefed Swine Feed Recommendations and Showmanship Guidelines

Purchase Tips

- Select pigs from established swine breeders that have a consistent reputation for standing behind their product and share a full herd health program with your family.
- Communicate with the seller which vaccines have been used and which vaccines or health protocol remains to be done with your new purchase.
- Fully understand the targeted show date for your project, expected ADG and calculate the weight range that can be achieved with your new project animal.

Feeding Recommendations

- Animals weighing between 30 -60 pounds should be started on Surefed Starter [#5506](#)
- Animals weighing between 60-100 pounds should be fed Surefed Grower [# 5507](#)
- Show pigs from 100 pounds until show weight need to be fed according to their muscle maturity, degree of leanness and frame size of the project.
- If your pigs needs additional muscle feed Surefed Grower [# 5507](#)
- If your pig has the correct frame, condition (fat) and frame then use Surefed Developer [# 5508](#) until the last twenty days prior to show day. Then consider Surefed Developer with PAYLEAN product [# 5509](#) for the last twenty days prior to show day.
- If your pig has a high degree of lean muscle and needs additional condition (fat) then use the Surefed Finisher [# 5510](#) for the balance of your feeding period.

Pig Health

- Consult your swine breeder with an understanding of the vaccines that have been given to all incoming show pigs. They should include circovirus vaccine, flu vaccine, erysipelas, mycoplasma, SIV, PRRS, Pasturella and Ileitis.
- Be sure that your pig is wormed on a 30 day rotational basis using Atgard or Safeguard.
- Use an external parasite (mange, lice and ticks) control product such as Ivomec or Dectomax every 30 days.
- Use only necessary feed additives in targeted show projects

Daily Maintenance



- Approximately sixty (60) days prior to show day, begin exercising your project to become better trained in the show ring.
- Showmanship practice should begin with 15-20 minutes per day and work to exercise time levels of 30-40 minutes within two weeks of the show date.
- Always walk at the hip of your project and move at a slow steady pace.
- Practice as if you were in the finals of showmanship. Be serious !
- Wash your project at least every other day 60 days prior to the show date.
- Brush your pig daily and administer a simple skin conditioner. Dark colored show pigs need routine amounts of sunlight and small amounts of oil to keep the skin from cracking or getting dry.
- Building stamina and endurance for larger shows is necessary for the pig to accomplish an athletic conditioning. This is needed at many stock shows, because classes have time commitments of 30+ minutes and your project needs to be able to effectively handle that much endurance without any structural or respiratory problems.
- Walk your show pigs in a small group of two or three animals can provide multiple benefits.
- Practice ! Practice ! Practice !

Clipping and Grooming

- Decide where you want to exhibit ? County Fair, District Show, Jackpot/ Preview Shows or Major Stock Shows.
- Try to clip your project within 12 -36 hours prior to show time. The fresher your hair appearance the better it will be to manage both skin and hair.
- Use a # 1 Guard on the entire body of the animal and use# OA Guard to clip the head, jowl line and underline of your show pig.
- Attempt to clip without using a snare if possible.

Pre Show and Show Day Recommendations

- The last few days prior to show day can become the most critical to your success.
- Continue to feed the same diet levels while traveling, staging and prior to the show day.
- Keep water readily available.
- Understand all weight declarations and weigh back rules.
- Read and abide by the Wholesome Food Act requirements, following all withdrawal levels.
- Use moderate levels of electrolytes to re-hydrate your pig with fluids.

Contact Information

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