

Guide to Determine What Weight Show Pig to Purchase

Traditionally, the swine show at the Dixie National Junior Round-Up is scheduled for a Saturday near February 1 each year. In 2026, the Dixie National Junior Round-Up Swine Market Hog Show is scheduled for Saturday, February 7.

Each year, many swine exhibitors purchase the pigs they intend to show at the Dixie National Junior Round-Up in Jackson. Some exhibitors purchase pigs at show pig sales, on-farm sales, or from individual producers usually in late September and October. Sometimes they purchase in early November, since the ownership deadline for pigs is December 1, 2025. Don't wait until November to purchase a pig, because there may not be many left.

To be successful showing pigs, plan before purchasing the show pig.

It is a good idea to understand the show requirements.

- Become familiar with the rules and regulations of the specific show in which you will show the animal.
- Each show may have different requirements, and the requirements may change from one year to the next.
- Mississippi Bred Contest: If you want to be eligible for additional premiums provided by the Mississippi Pork Producers Association for Mississippi-bred tagged pigs, ask the seller if the pig will be tagged Mississippi-bred before you purchase the pig. All Mississippi-bred tagged pigs should be tagged before change of ownership.

Here are more things to consider before purchasing the show pig:

- Animal care—Who will provide daily care for the pig?
- Housing—Do you have a shelter and pen to keep the pig comfortable?
- Transport of the pig—Do you have a truck or trailer to haul the pig(s) you purchase?
- Equipment—Do you have a self-feeder and water supply for the pig?
- Feed—What will you feed your pig, and will you have the feed when the pig arrives?
- Health program—Ask the seller what vaccinations or dewormers the pig has received and when the treatments were given.

- Market situation—What do you plan to do with your pig after the show?
- Sources of show pigs—Where will you go to purchase a show pig?

How to Use the Tables

The following tables will help you determine what weight pig to purchase at various times. Each table is for a different purchase date (September through November). The purchase date is listed at the top left side. Also, the number of days to the show date (February 7) is listed on the top row after the pig purchase weight. Be sure you use the table that matches your pig purchase date.

Table 1 – Purchase date, September 1

Table 2 – Purchase date, September 15

Table 3 – Purchase date, October 1

Table 4 – Purchase date, October 15

Table 5 – Purchase date, November 1

Table 6 – Purchase date, November 15

The shaded areas in each table represent pig weights that are outside the desirable weight ranges for the Dixie National Junior Round-Up. Pigs must weigh 200 pounds or more at the show. There is no maximum weight for the market pigs, but weights above 285 pounds are shaded in the tables. Barrows entered in the MS Bred Barrow Show must weigh between 200 and 290 pounds at the time of show check-in.

There are different ways to use these tables. One way, if you know the weight of the pig you want to buy, is to locate that weight on the top row of the table, then locate the expected average daily gain (ADG) in the column on the left side of the table. The number at the intersection of the row and column is the projected weight of the pig on February 7, 2026.

Example: **Table 2. Purchase Date: September 15**—You found a pig you want to purchase. The pig weighs 60 pounds, and you think the pig will gain 1.5 pounds per day. The projected weight of the pig on February 7 is 278 pounds.

Another method, if you know what weight you would like your pig to weigh at the show, is to locate that weight in the unshaded area of the table along the same row you think the pig will gain (ADG), then go up the column from the desired show weight to find what weight pig you need to purchase (pig purchase weight).

Example: **Table 3. Purchase Date: October 1**—You want your pig to weigh about 276 pounds at the show, and you estimate the pig will gain 1.75 pounds per day. From the 276 value located in the 1.75 row, go up the column to the top row (pig purchase weight), and determine a 50-pound pig is what you need to purchase on October 1.

In this same table with the same show weight of about 276 pounds, there are other pigs with a similar weight. For instance, if you purchase an 80-pound pig October 1, you have to make sure the pig gains no more than 1.5 pounds per day to weigh 274 pounds on the show date. And a 110-pound pig purchased October 1 needs to gain only 1.25 pounds per day to weigh 271 pounds on February 7, 2026.

Approximate Show Pig Weight Tables

Table 1. Purchase date: September 1, 2025

Average Daily Gain, lb/day	Pig Purchase Weight, lb (159 days to show)												
	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150
1.00	189	199	209	219	229	239	249	259	269	279	289	299	309
1.25	229	239	249	259	269	279	289	299	309	319	329	339	349
1.50	269	279	289	299	309	319	329	339	349	359	369	379	389
1.75	308	318	328	338	348	358	368	378	388	398	408	418	428
2.00	348	358	368	378	388	398	408	418	428	438	448	458	468

For a September 1, 2025, purchase date of a pig weighing 30–150 pounds that gains between 1 and 2 lb/day, the expected weight range is 209–279.

Table 2. Purchase date: September 15, 2025

Average Daily Gain, lb/day	Pig Purchase Weight, lb (145 days to show)												
	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150
1.00	175	185	195	205	215	225	235	245	255	265	275	285	295
1.25	211	221	231	241	251	261	271	281	291	301	311	321	331
1.50	248	258	268	278	288	298	308	318	328	338	348	358	368
1.75	284	294	304	314	324	334	344	354	364	374	384	394	404
2.00	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440

For a September 15, 2025, purchase date of a pig weighing 30–150 pounds that gains between 1 and 2 lb/day, the expected weight range is 211–284.

Table 3. Purchase date: October 1, 2025

Average Daily Gain, lb/day	Pig Purchase Weight, lb (129 days to show)												
	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150
1.00	159	169	179	189	199	209	219	229	239	249	259	269	279
1.25	191	201	211	221	231	241	251	261	271	281	291	301	311
1.50	224	234	244	254	264	274	284	294	304	314	324	334	344
1.75	256	266	276	286	296	306	316	326	336	346	356	366	376
2.00	288	298	308	318	328	338	348	358	368	378	388	398	408

For an October 1, 2025, purchase date of a pig weighing 30–150 pounds that gains between 1 and 2 lb/day, the expected weight range is 209–284.

Table 4. Purchase date: October 15, 2025

Average Daily Gain, lb/day	Pig Purchase Weight, lb (115 days to show)												
	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150
1.00	145	155	165	175	185	195	205	215	225	235	245	255	265
1.25	174	184	194	204	214	224	234	244	254	264	274	284	294
1.50	203	213	223	233	243	253	263	273	283	293	303	313	323
1.75	231	241	251	261	271	281	291	301	311	321	331	341	351
2.00	260	270	280	290	300	310	320	330	340	350	360	370	380

For an October 15, 2025, purchase date of a pig weighing 30–150 pounds that gains between 1 and 2 lb/day, the expected weight range is 203–284.

Table 5. Purchase date: November 1, 2025

Average Daily Gain, lb/day	Pig Purchase Weight, lb (98 days to show)												
	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150
1.00	128	138	148	158	168	178	188	198	208	218	228	238	248
1.25	153	163	173	183	193	203	213	223	233	243	253	263	273
1.50	177	187	197	207	217	227	237	247	257	267	277	287	297
1.75	202	212	222	232	242	252	262	272	282	292	302	312	322
2.00	226	236	246	256	266	276	286	296	306	316	326	336	346

For a November 1, 2025, purchase date of a pig weighing 30–150 pounds that gains between 1 and 2 lb/day, the expected weight range is 202–282.

Table 6. Purchase date: November 15, 2025

Average Daily Gain, lb/day	Pig Purchase Weight, lb (84 days to show)												
	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150
1.00	114	124	134	144	154	164	174	184	194	204	214	224	234
1.25	135	145	155	165	175	185	195	205	215	225	235	245	255
1.50	156	166	176	186	196	206	216	226	236	246	256	266	276
1.75	177	187	197	207	217	227	237	247	257	267	277	287	297
2.00	198	208	218	228	238	248	258	268	278	288	298	308	318

For a November 15, 2025, purchase date of a pig weighing 30–150 pounds that gains between 1 and 2 lb/day, the expected weight range is 204–278.

Example: How to calculate a projected pig weight for the show date

If you want to calculate the projected pig weight for a specific date not listed in the above tables, the following example should be helpful.

Item 1. First, determine how many days it will be from the date of purchase to the show date.

From October 10 to February 7, there are **120** days (see Table 7).

Item 2. Next, find out the weight of the pig you plan to purchase.

The seller may provide this information, or you can estimate the weight or weigh the pig on a scale.

Example: Starting pig weight is **59 pounds**.

Item 3. Next, determine how many pounds of gain per day (ADG) the pig will average until the show.

This will vary depending on the genetic potential of the pig, health status, type and quality of feed, amount of feed provided to the pig each day, housing conditions, weather factors, and so forth. Pigs will grow better if they are not alone. Normally, a pig should gain within a range of 1.4 to 2 pounds per day. Example **1.75 pounds**.

Generally, from 60 to 110 pounds, a pig will eat about 5 pounds of feed per day and should gain about 1.5 pounds per day. As the pig approaches 200 pounds, it will eat about 8 pounds of feed per day and should gain about 2 pounds per day.

Item 4. Last, calculate the estimated weight of your pig on the show date.

Multiply Item 1 by Item 3, then add the answer to Item 2; this value is the estimated pig weight on the show date.

Example calculation:

Item 1 = 120 days until show

Item 2 = 59 pounds, initial pig weight

Item 3 = 1.75 average daily gain

Item 4 = 269 pounds of weight on show date

$(\text{Item 1} \times \text{Item 3}) + \text{Item 2} = \text{Item 4}$

$(120 \text{ days} \times 1.75 \text{ lb ADG}) + 59\text{-lb pig} = \textbf{269-lb pig at the show}$

A show weight calculator to help with the purchase and growth management of your show pig is available in an excel spreadsheet. Go to <http://extension.msstate.edu/agriculture/livestock/swine>, and scroll down the page to Other Information/Show Weight Calculator (Excel file).

Table 7. Determine the number of days from purchase to show. Ownership deadline is December 1, 2025.

Example

Purchase date: October 10, 2025

Show Date: February 7, 2026

Number of days to show: 120

Pig purchase date	Number of days to show	Pig purchase date	Number of days to show	Pig purchase date	Number of days to show	Passed ownership deadline	Number of days to show	Passed ownership deadline	Number of days to show
1-Sep	159	4-Oct	126	6-Nov	93	2-Dec	67	5-Jan	33
2-Sep	158	5-Oct	125	7-Nov	92	3-Dec	66	6-Jan	32
3-Sep	157	6-Oct	124	8-Nov	91	4-Dec	65	7-Jan	31
4-Sep	156	7-Oct	123	9-Nov	90	5-Dec	64	8-Jan	30
5-Sep	155	8-Oct	122	10-Nov	89	6-Dec	63	9-Jan	29
6-Sep	154	9-Oct	121	11-Nov	88	7-Dec	62	10-Jan	28
7-Sep	153	10-Oct	120	12-Nov	87	8-Dec	61	11-Jan	27
8-Sep	152	11-Oct	119	13-Nov	86	9-Dec	60	12-Jan	26
9-Sep	151	12-Oct	118	14-Nov	85	10-Dec	59	13-Jan	25
10-Sep	150	13-Oct	117	15-Nov	84	11-Dec	58	14-Jan	24
11-Sep	149	14-Oct	116	16-Nov	83	12-Dec	57	15-Jan	23
12-Sep	148	15-Oct	115	17-Nov	82	13-Dec	56	16-Jan	22
13-Sep	147	16-Oct	114	18-Nov	81	14-Dec	55	17-Jan	21
14-Sep	146	17-Oct	113	19-Nov	80	15-Dec	54	18-Jan	20
15-Sep	145	18-Oct	112	20-Nov	79	16-Dec	53	19-Jan	19
16-Sep	144	19-Oct	111	21-Nov	78	17-Dec	52	20-Jan	18
17-Sep	143	20-Oct	110	22-Nov	77	18-Dec	51	21-Jan	17
18-Sep	142	21-Oct	109	23-Nov	76	19-Dec	50	22-Jan	16
19-Sep	141	22-Oct	108	24-Nov	75	20-Dec	49	23-Jan	15
20-Sep	140	23-Oct	107	25-Nov	74	21-Dec	48	24-Jan	14
21-Sep	139	24-Oct	106	26-Nov	73	22-Dec	47	25-Jan	13
22-Sep	138	25-Oct	105	27-Nov	72	23-Dec	46	26-Jan	12
23-Sep	137	26-Oct	104	28-Nov	71	24-Dec	45	27-Jan	11
24-Sep	136	27-Oct	103	29-Nov	70	25-Dec	44	28-Jan	10
25-Sep	135	28-Oct	102	30-Nov	69	26-Dec	43	29-Jan	9
26-Sep	134	29-Oct	101	1-Dec	68	27-Dec	42	30-Jan	8
27-Sep	133	30-Oct	100			28-Dec	41	31-Jan	7
28-Sep	132	31-Oct	99			29-Dec	40	1-Feb	6
29-Sep	131	1-Nov	98			30-Dec	39	2-Feb	5
30-Sep	130	2-Nov	97			31-Dec	38	3-Feb	4
1-Oct	129	3-Nov	96			1-Jan	37	4-Feb	3
2-Oct	128	4-Nov	95			2-Jan	36	5-Feb	2
3-Oct	127	5-Nov	94			3-Jan	35	6-Feb	1
						4-Jan	34	7-Feb	0

Summary

Careful attention to the pig's growth rate can identify other management practices that may need attention. If the rate of growth is less than you expect, consider other influences you may need to address, such as health status, animal comfort (housing conditions), and dietary concerns. The information in this publication can help you monitor and adjust the growth of the pig throughout the feeding period before the show. Purchasing a show pig that is the correct weight for the intended show gives you a good beginning to your swine project.

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