Tips for Feeding Market Lamb

MINIMUM & MAXIMUM WEIGHTS FOR 4-H MARKET LAMBS FOR THE 2011 FERRY COUNTY FAIR 4-H MARKET ANIMAL SALE ARE
MINIMUM: 100 MAXIMUM: 160

_These weights reflect the standards in today’s market. Any lamb weighing over 160 pounds will sell at 160 pounds._

4-H’ers must own or manage their lamb at least 60 days prior to our County Fair. Lambs should weigh somewhere around 65 - 70 pounds by June 1, in order to reach the minimum weight of 100 pounds by fair. If the lamb is wormed, proper genetics have been followed and good feed has been given they should gain at least .6 pounds a day. Be sure to get your Scrapie tag from your breeder.

Keep lambs in a _dog proof_ pen. _Chlostridium perfringens_ types C & D, overeating disease shots, may be given; two shots approximately three weeks apart is the usual dosage. Treat for worms at least twice and check for ticks and lice. If present, treat, best done when sheared. You should expect 3/4 pound of gain per day if the lamb has good genetics, wormed regularly, and is well fed, plan for the sheep to be heavier than the 100-pound minimum weight by fair, shear about 30 - 70 days before the fair, depending on lamb.

**Tips for Feeding Market Lambs** (see 4-H Project materials and ask your Leader for further information)

- Lambs are ruminant animals and have a stomach that is compartmentalized into four distinct regions. The regions are the reticulum, rumen, omasum and abomasums. Associated with the rumen and reticulum are a large microbial population that helps the animal digest feed stuff. When feeding sheep, one is also actually feeding the rumen micro flora. This is why it is so important to change feeds and rations for sheep slowly. It takes from 10 - 14 days for the rumen microbial population to adjust to a new diet. Especially, do not drastically increase grain to sheep. Lambs also need at least 10% - 15% fiber in their diet for normal rumen function.

- Many types of diets can be successfully fed to lambs. What is important is that lambs get enough of the basic nutrients necessary to grow at the desired rate. The basic nutrients are Water, Energy, Protein, Vitamins and Minerals. A weakness in a feeding program for any of these nutrients will result in poor lamb growth potential.

- Water is the most essential nutrient and should be available free choice. It should be clean, of normal temperature and accessible. Lack of water will result in decreased feed intake and reduced growth. When hauling lambs to shows and other areas unfamiliar to them, water intake can be a problem.

- The amount of crude protein required by lambs will vary throughout their growth cycle. In addition, the breed, growth potential, and projected finishing weight will influence growth potential and crude protein needs. Lambs at the creep-feeding phase need 18% - 20% crude protein, during the growing phase 50 to 90 pounds they need 16% - 18% crude protein and 80 pounds to finish them need 14% - 16% crude protein.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Common Causes of Lambs Not Eating</strong></th>
<th><strong>Suggested Solutions</strong></th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **Too Rapid Change or Increase In Grains** | a) change or increase feed slowly  
  b) include baking soda in feed  
  c) always increase grain slowly to allow rumen to adapt or else lamb will bloat |
| **Spoiled Feed** | change your feed |
| **Fine Feed** | feed whole grains |
| **Salt Starved** | provide salt |
| **Lack of Water** | provide fresh, clean water |
| **Too Much Hay** | always limit hay on finishing lambs or else the stomach will be large and gains will be low |
4-H’ers must own or manage their hog at least 60 days prior to our County Fair. The pig should weigh about 40 pounds in early May. It must weigh between 225 and 300 pounds at fair, **any hog in the sale over 300 lbs. will sell at 300**. No vaccinations needed unless there is a history of disease on the member’s farm. Worm immediately if breeder did not, and worm again midway through feeding period, and again three to four weeks before the fair, unless the label says longer. Inspect the hog for lice, look like ticks, behind the ears and in areas between front and rear legs. Treat for hog lice with louse dust if necessary.

**TIPS FOR FEEDING MARKET HOGS** (read 4-H Project materials and ask your Leader for further information)

- If you do not have facilities to process and mix feed, the use of a commercially mixed complete swine feed is probably advisable. Be sure you use a high protein starter for young pigs. Keep the pigs on a growing ration even when the feed salesperson tells you to change to a finishing ration. The growing ration contains more protein and produces a firmer, heavier muscled animal.

- If you would like to feed a balanced ration of your own grains, contact the Extension office for assistance.

- If a complete feed mix is used, there is no need to be concerned about minerals and vitamins.

- Don’t feed extra cattle feed. It may be toxic.

- Do not fill pigs up on kitchen garbage, garden produce or grass. These things fill the digestive tract with very little energy output and leaves limited room for necessary ingredients.

- **Keep clean, fresh water available at all times.** Self-watering nipples work great.

- Have a shelter available with clean bedding to keep them warm while they are still small. Do not have a large area for the pig to run in as they will run off weight.

- Start training with a cane, stick or elastic PVC pipe at least a month or more before the fair, the earlier the better.

- Never hit your pig as it can produce a bruise & scarring which wrecks the meat in that area.

- Never give a shot anywhere but in the neck as it damages meat near the injection site.

   Good luck and we will see you at the Fair!
Market Steers must be under the 4-H’ers ownership and management 120 days prior to our county fair. Weight limits for market steers is 1,000 lbs. minimum and must be 24 months or younger. Older, under finished, very large, and non-market looking animals can be given a white ribbon and will not be allowed to sell in the 4-H Market Sale during the Ferry County Fair.

Remember beef cattle are ruminants. That means changing feeds too rapidly, say from high hay or grass to a high grain diet in just a few days can cause rumen problems that can lead to sickness or death. Change feed rations gradually over weeks not days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight of Calf (Pounds)</th>
<th>Pounds Hay to Feed</th>
<th>Pounds Grain to Feed</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**General Feeding Rules**

- Increase feed gradually
- Change rations gradually
- Feed only the amount of grain that your calf will eat in about one hour
- Keep the feed box clean
- Keep salt & minerals available at all times

**During Final Finishing**

- An animal will eat approximately 3% of its body weight in feed each day.
- 10% of the total feed should be high quality roughage like alfalfa or alfalfa-grass hay. More than this will retard finishing.
- When alfalfa fed, additional protein supplement not needed. Compare costs. Use the cheapest grain. Cracked or course, ground or rolled grain is usually about 10% more digestible than whole grain.
- Include at least three ingredients in the ration.
- Be regular. Feed at the same time morning and night.
- Do not leave old feed in the feed box. Clean out before putting fresh feed in. Cut back by the amount left over.

**KEEP CLEAN FRESH WATER AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES.**

- Halter-break your animal when young to prevent stress and the risk of going off feed late in the feeding period.
- More experienced feeders will find variations of these suggestions that work well for them.
REQUIREMENTS FOR FAIR

Weights for Market Hog
Minimum – 225 lbs.
Maximum – 300 lbs.

Weights for Market Lamb
Minimum – 100 lbs.
Maximum – 160 lbs.

Scrapie Tag Required for Ewe
get them from your breeder

Weights for Market Steer
Minimum – 1,000 lbs.
Must be 24 months or younger

Certification for non-use of animal by-product based feeds for Market Steers & Lambs
Found on your Market Animal Health Certificate

Ferry County 4-H Market Animal Project Members
Believe it or not Fair is just around the corner.
The sooner you start taming your market animal the better.
Here are some tips for when the time comes.

➢ Hang plastic bags around the pen (where they cannot reach them)
➢ Play the Radio (this helps your animal to acclimate to various & sudden noises)
➢ Have strangers go near them

All of these things will help your animal to prepare for the noise of Fair.

Included in this packet is information useful to you for feeding & finishing your market animal.
Please take note of the requirements listed above.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at (509) 775-5225 X1116.

For ALL Market Animals

Feeding or administering any antibiotic feed or any wormer, medication or tranquilizers are all subject to withdrawal times (a period they cannot be given) before slaughter which happens on the Monday immediately after Fair on Labor Day Weekend. Failure to follow the withdrawal period could cause sickness or even death, is a Federal Offense, and will be traced back to you with substantial fines and penalties along with your Market check being withheld. So please follow all label withdrawal times.

Good Luck appearing at Fair and be sure to give us a call if you have any questions!