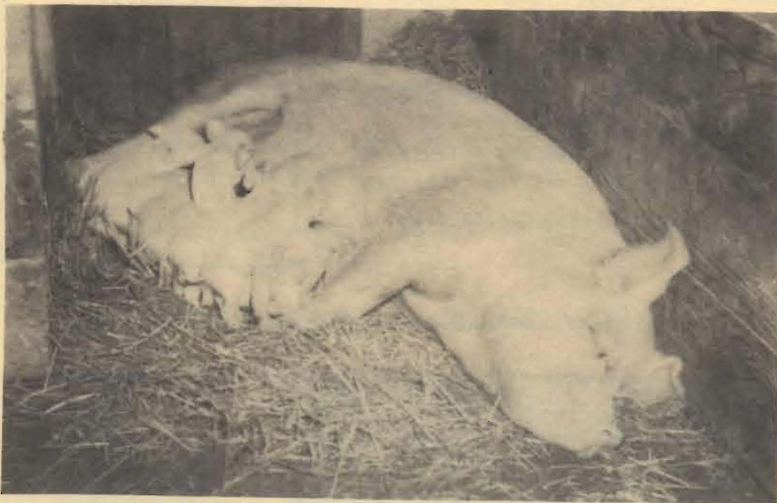


PIG PROFITS



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PIG PROFITS

Your future in the hog business depends on the number of pigs you save per litter. The first five pigs in the litter get you to the break-even point. The sixth pig is profit and the seventh pig doubles your profit.

About 25 percent of the pigs farrowed, die before they are two weeks old. Your profit, therefore, depends on a good start.

THE CREEP IS MADE FROM TWO PANELS 30 INCHES HIGH AND 40 INCHES LONG, HINGED TOGETHER AND ATTACHED TO THE WALLS OF THE PEN. AN OPENING 9 INCHES WIDE AND 12 INCHES HIGH ALLOWS THE PIGS TO ENTER. THE ELECTRIC BROODER FITS IN THE CORNER. A PAN OF PIG STARTER IS PLACED IN THE CREEP WHEN THE PIGS ARE ABOUT 5 DAYS OLD.

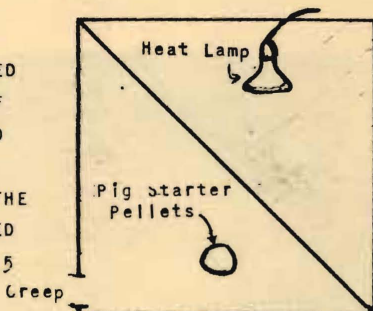


Figure 1. Top view of combination pig brooder and creep



Figure 2. Farrowing pen at NDAC hog barn

1. COMBINATION ELECTRIC BROODER AND PIG CREEP.
2. IODINE SOLUTION, IRON SOLUTION, TOOTH NIPPER AND EAR NOTCHER ON SHELF BETWEEN FARROWING STALLS.
3. ADEQUATE SPACE FOR SOWS AND PIGS.
4. PEN WITH SMOOTH SURFACES AND CONCRETE FLOOR THAT CAN BE PROPERLY CLEANED

STARTING

The first few days in a pig's life are critical. When the pigs are born:

1. Dry pigs as soon as they arrive, especially if the weather is cold.
2. Dip broken navel cord in iodine solution, one-half iodine and one-half glycerine.

3. Allow pigs to suckle as soon as possible.
4. Provide heat.
 - (a) Hang heat lamp over boarded off corner, or
 - (b) Use pig brooder with heat lamp. Get plans for brooder--Circular AE-29.
5. Feed sow only water with chill taken off for first 24 hours after farrowing.
6. Increase feed gradually. Too much feed may bring too much milk, causing caked udder in the sow and scours in the pigs.

SOW MILK REPLACER

Artificial milk may be most useful for raising orphan pigs, runt pigs and extra pigs in large litters. Commercial pig milk replacers can be furnished by most feed dealers. Follow manufacturers instructions. Use the milk replacers in dry or pelleted form whenever possible.

Whole cow's milk can be fed to orphan pigs. Feed every 2 or 3 hours during the day. Put the pig's nose into the milk in a shallow pan to teach it to drink. Furnish clean, fresh water. Sanitation is most important. Prevent anemia as described in the next paragraph.

PREVENT ANEMIA

Anemic pigs lack sufficient red blood. Anemia can not be prevented or cured by special feeding of the mother before or after farrowing. Once a pig becomes anemic, it never fully recovers.

Prevent anemia by one of the following methods:

1. feed iron solution---
 - 3 quarts water
 - 1 pound sugar
 - 1 pound copperas
(Ferrous sulfate)
 - 1 oz. copper sulfate

Feed 1/2 teaspoon every other day during the first week of the baby pig's life and 1 teaspoon twice per week for the next three weeks. An eyedropper or oilcan makes feeding easier.

2. Fortified

Soil -- Place worm-free sod in pen for pigs. Fortify 50 pounds of soil with 10 grams of ferrous sulfate, 1.5 grams copper sulfate in a pint of water mixed into the soil.

3. Feed reduced iron tablet every 3 days.
4. Pigs born on pasture need no treatment.

CLIP NEEDLE TEETH

Clip needle teeth, 4 on each jaw, if pigs fight or cause sow's udder to become tender. Better yet, clip the needle teeth shortly after the pigs are born. Use a diagonal cutting pliers or regular pig tooth nipper. Keep nipper clean.

CREEP FEED

Early gains are cheapest gains, insure health and promote growth. Board off a corner of the pen as a creep. This corner may also have the heat lamp used in warming the pigs. If outdoors, make board fence creep which allows only pigs to enter. Feed pig starter in a shallow pan where the pigs can easily find it. Keep it clean and fresh..

PRE-STARTER

As the name indicates, the pre-starter is to be used early in the pig's life. Pre-starters are high in milk products, often 80 to 90 percent. The main advantage is early weaning of the pigs. However, the average producer will probably do as well by letting the pigs suckle the sow and get the pigs to eat a good starter early.



OH BOY!
JUST LIKE CANDY!



IT'S PELLETED !
GIVE ME MORE!

PIG STARTER

- New pig starters are high in energy and low in fiber. They also contain the essential vitamins, minerals and antibiotics.
- Pig starters are made tasty by adding sugar. Sugar or molasses does the trick. Pigs like it.
- Trials also show pigs prefer pelleted or crumbled starter 5 to 1 over a mash pig starter.
- Pigs should eat from 20 to 40 pounds of pig starter before they are weaned.
- Wean pigs at 25 to 30 pounds which should be their weight at 6 or 7 weeks of age.

HERE IS YOUR GUIDE TO A GOOD PIG STARTER:

A good pig starter contains about:

Hulled oats	50% or more	Vitamin A	3,000	IU/lb.
Ground corn	20 to 30%	Vitamin D ₂	400	IU/lb.
Meat scraps	1 to 2%	Riboflavin	3	mg/lb.
Soybean meal	2 to 3%	Niacin	25	mg/lb.
Dry skim or buttermilk	6 to 7%	Pantothenic Acid	7	mg/lb.
Fish meal	1 to 2%	Choline	450	mg/lb.
Sugar, molasses or both	5 to 10%	Vitamin B ₁₂	10	mcg/lb.
Limestone	1/3 to 1/2%	Antibiotics	20	mg/lb.
Steamed bone- meal	1/3 to 1/2%			
Trace minerals	1/10 to 2/10%			

Check your commercial pig starter with the above recommendations.

EAR NOTCH

If you are a commercial swine producer, earmotch each

litter the same. This will prevent litters from getting mixed and will give you a record of productivity of each sow. Keep the rapid gainers for breeding stock.

VACCINATE

Vaccinate for hog cholera unless you are in an isolated area. This should be done after weaning for greater immunity to the pig. Check with your local veterinarian.

CASTRATE

Pigs do best if castrated at 4 to 5 weeks of age. This allows them plenty of time to heal before weaning.

WEAN

The average weaning age is about 8 weeks. There are advantages in weaning earlier as:

1. Sow loses less weight.
2. Less feed is used by sow for milk production.
3. A pound of feed to the pig will give greater gains than a pound of feed to the sow.
4. Sow can be marketed or bred earlier.

Disadvantages in weaning earlier are:

1. Greater chance for pigs to become stunted.
2. More time and care of the pigs are required.
3. Problems of sanitation and health are increased.

PIG GROWER

Switch to a grower ration after the pigs are weaned to avoid a double setback. Make the change from a starter to a grower ration gradually.