



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
EXTENSION



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TO: Grady Co. 4-H Market Hog Show Participants  
FR: Deron Rehberg, Grady County CEC/4-H & Ag  
RE: Show Pig Buying Tips



August 26, 2021

Dear Parents and 4-H'ers:

I'm writing to let you know that it is time to start looking for pigs for the **2022 Grady County 4-H/FFA Market Hog Show**. The show is scheduled for **Monday, January 17, 2022**.

**\*\*4-H Age Guidelines - students in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade may show a hog.** They still have to be in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade to exhibit cattle, and 1<sup>st</sup> grade and up to show sheep and goats.

The Livestock Show Committee approved the official **ownership, possession, weigh, & tag-in deadline** for the 2022 show is **Wednesday, November 3, 2021**. What this means is that by November 3<sup>rd</sup> you must have ownership/possession of your pig(s) and either myself, Mrs. Robbie, Mr. Alan, or Mrs. Tracy must have tagged your pig(s) at your home or where ever you are keeping your animals.

The situation with getting the pigs sold after the show hasn't changed; as a matter of fact it is becoming more difficult. Our options are limited and buyers only want to pay #1 price for pigs weighing 230 – 280 pounds.

One step to help ensure your pig(s) will be heavy enough on January 17<sup>th</sup> is to make sure your pigs are heavy enough when you purchase them. I've included a chart listing a few weight guidelines to go by when purchasing your pigs, assuming you are shooting for a 230+ pound or heavier pig. (The official show weight range this year is 220–280 lbs.)

<u>Date of Purchase</u>	<u>Days till ShowADG</u>	<u>Minimum Wt. to Buy</u>	
September 1	137	1.5 lbs/day	24 lbs.
		1.75 lbs/day	- lbs.
September 15	122	1.5 lbs/day	47 lbs.
		1.75 lbs/day	16 lbs.
October 1	107	1.5 lbs/day	69 lbs.
		1.75 lbs/day	43 lbs.
October 15	92	1.5 lbs/day	92 lbs.
		1.75 lbs/day	69 lbs.
November 1	76	1.5 lbs/day	116 lbs.
		1.75 lbs/day	97 lbs.
November 4	72	1.5 lbs/day	122 lbs.
		1.75 lbs/day	104 lbs.

What this chart is telling you is that by **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** your pigs need to weigh a minimum of 122 pounds (at 1.5 lbs./day ADG) in order to make the minimum "suggested" show weight of 230 pounds on January 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Pig's Birthdate:** A pig's birthdate can also be a deciding factor if it will make show weight. Today, judges want pigs that have that "mature, blown-out" look. To get that "mature" look judges are wanting, you may want to consider purchasing pigs that are a little older than what you may be used to purchasing; pigs possibly born the 1<sup>st</sup> week to 10 days in July. But be aware if you purchase pigs this old, you will have to monitor their weight closely and probably have to hold them towards the end of the growing season.

**Other factors to consider:**

- Keep your pigs healthy – listen for coughing, watch for signs of your pig limping, de-worm your pig monthly during the growing season
- Keep your pigs warm and dry during the cold winter months
- Keep plenty of fresh water in front of your pig at all times
- Make sure your pig has access to the correct amount of fresh, high quality show pig feed. According to your pig's body type, this feed could range in protein levels from 16% to 18%.
- Call me to check your pig's weight a couple of times during the growing season. We can use the scales to track your pig's progress.

If you need assistance locating your pigs, please let me know ASAP. I will be glad to help in any way I can. If you are locating your own pigs, local breeders you can contact are:

<u>Producer</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Website</u>
Garry Childs	229-378-0749	Cairo	
Southern Select Show Pigs	386-688-3741	Omega	<a href="http://www.southernselect.com/">http://www.southernselect.com/</a>
Frank Morgan	229-938-5334	Vienna	<a href="http://central.showpig.com/Int/breeders/Morgan/">http://central.showpig.com/Int/breeders/Morgan/</a>
Bryant Oliver	334-534-6690	Reidsville	
Southern Pride Show Pigs	912-539-0299	Alamo	
Bruce Herndon	912-293-4088	Swainsboro	
K and H Show Pigs	229-424-5649	Ocilla	Check them out on Facebook
Lyons Show Pigs	386-647-7696	Mayo, FL	lyonsshowpigs.com
Matt Barnes	229-319-1100	Sale City	

<u>County Grown Eligible Pigs</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Location</u>
Heath Jones	229-977-2009	Whigham
Blake Stanaland	229-221-0359	Cairo

**County Grown Eligibility:** The Livestock Show Committee voted to transition the "Homegrown" division into a "County Grown" division. That means any litter of pigs that were conceived and born in Grady County are eligible for the County Grown class. It simply means more opportunities for pigs bred & born within the county. If your pig was bred and born in Grady County, please make your 4-H Agent or FFA Advisor aware of this at tag-in.

**Double-entering pigs for County & State Show:** This year, you will again be able to double-enter a pig for our County Show and the State Show. You will be allowed to take your double-entered pig home after the County show, have it blood tested, and then take the same pig to the State Show in Perry the February 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. This way you can participate in the State Show without technically having to purchase a second set of pigs. It is suggested that pigs weigh below 250 pounds at the County show in order to make weight a month later at the State Show without having to severely hold them off feed.

If you know of someone new who wants to show this year, please pass this information on to them or give me a call and let me know who they are so I can do so. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 377-1312 or my cell phone number is 221-8286.