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TO: Potential Grady Co. 4-H Market Hog Show Participants
 FR: Lisa Pollock, Grady County CEC/4-H
 John Sodrel, Grady County 4-H PA
 RE: Show Pig Buying Tips



August 29, 2024

Dear Parents and 4-H'ers:

I'm writing to let you know that it is time to start looking for pigs for the show. The show is scheduled for **October 10th** with the boosted sale being held **October 11th** due to the NACAA Football National Championship game being played the evening of January 20th. Weigh-in will still be held on Sunday, January 19th from 2:00 - 3:00pm.

The Livestock Show Committee voted to allow students in grades 1 - 12 to show in the County Hog Show starting in 2025. Students in Kindergarten and below can borrow a pig and participate in a Pee Wee Showmanship class. Students still have to be in the 4th grade to exhibit cattle, and 1st grade and up to show sheep and goats.

The Livestock Show Committee approved the official **4** for the 2025 show is **4**. What this means is that by November 11th you must have ownership/possession of your pig(s) and either myself, Mrs. Robbie, Mr. Alan, Ms. Erin, or Ms. Tara 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 - 290 pounds.

One step to help ensure your pig(s) will be heavy enough on January 20th 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 215-290 pounds.)

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September 1	140		1.5 lbs/day 20 lbs. 1.75 lbs/day - lbs.
September 15	125		1.5 lbs/day

What this chart is telling you is that by **4** your pigs need to weigh a minimum of 128 pounds (at 1.5 lbs./day ADG) in order to make the minimum "suggested" show weight of 230 pounds on January 20th.