

with other locally available agro-industrial by-products, tuber crops like sweet potato, tapioca, colocasia, vegetables and kitchen waste etc.

Table 2: Feed formula for different categories of pigs

Ingredients	Weaner (18-20%) protein	Growers (15-17%) protein			Gilt/Sow/boar (14-16%) protein
		12th weeks to market age	9-12 months		
Maize	55	58	60	15	
Groundnut Cake	17	15	8	30	
Wheat Bran	20	20	25	20	
Rice Polish	-	-	-	10	
Fish meal / Soyabean	6	5	5	5	
Mineral Mixture	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	
Wheat Bran	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	
Wheat Bran	100	100	100	100	

A good feed ration should contain the required nutrient in right proportion as per the need of body weight along with ad lib drinking water (Table 3).

Table 3: Feed requirement in pig

Particular	Below 10	10 - 20	20 - 30	30 - 60	Above 60
Growth stage	Creep	Grower	Grower	Developer	Finisher
Required protein level %	20	18	16	16	13
Conc. Feed required per day (kg)	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5

Health Care

Health care measure to be followed in a pig farm is one of the most important factors and if not followed properly, farmer may incur a heavy loss. The pigs can be infected with a number of internal parasites, skin infections and other bacterial and viral diseases, which in turn will result in poor growth and even death of pig.

In general, illness in pig is characterized by dullness, loss of appetite, declination to move or sluggish movement, rough

body coat, constipation or diarrhea, dull eyes, dull skin and hair, separates itself from the rest etc.

The piglet should be dewormed once in three months. Worms from pigs may infect human being also. Most commonly found parasitic disease in NEH region are Ascaries, Strongyl infection, Coccidiosis and mange mite infection. Drugs like Piperazine @250-300mg/kg b.wt in feed and water, Fenbendazole @5mg/kg b.wt in feed (Single dose) or Ivermectin @0.3mg/kg b.wt (s/c) are useful against parasitic infection in pig. The pregnant sow should be treated before farrowing.

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WHY DO PIG FARMING?

The challenges faced by our country in securing the food as well as nutritional security to fast growing population need an integrated approach for livestock farming. Among the various livestock species, piggery is most potential source of meat production and more efficient feed converters after the broiler. Apart from providing meat, it is also a source of bristles and manure. Pig farming will provide employment opportunities to seasonally employed rural farmers and supplementary income to improve their living standards. The advantages of the pig farming are:

- Pigs convert inedible feeds, forages, certain grain by products obtained from mills, meat by products, damaged feeds and garbage into valuable nutritious meat.
- Most of these feeds are either not edible or not very palatable to human beings
- Pig grows fast and is a prolific breeder, farrowing 10 to 12 piglets at a time. It is capable of producing two litters per year under optimal management conditions
- The carcass return is quite high i.e., 60-80 percent of live body weight
- With a small investment on building and equipment, proper feeding and sound disease control programme the farmer can profitably utilize his time and labour in this subsidiary occupation
- The faeces of pigs is used as a manure to maintain soil fertility

Pig farming- for whom?

- Small and landless farmers, Farm Women, unemployed youth, school dropout
- Part time earning for educated youth having agriculture as occupation

Breeds

The indigenous pig has been the basis used for pig production for a long period of time. It is small in size. Improved breeds are now being used for grading up the

form the basis for pig production in the rural areas. However, ICAR Research complex for NEH region have developed upgraded pig having 50%, 75% and 87.5% Hampshire blood and were found to be very much suitable for the region due to faster growth rate, high meat quality and disease resistance capacity.

Site Selection

- Construct shed on dry and properly raised ground.
- Avoid water-logging, marshy and heavy rainfall areas.
- The side walls of the sheds should be 4-5 ft. high and remaining height should be fitted with GI pipes or wooden poles.
- The walls should be plastered to make them damp proof.
- The roof should be at least 8-10 ft. high.
- The pigsty should be well ventilated.
- The floor should be pakka/hard, even, non-slippery, impervious, well sloped (3 cm per meter) and properly drained to remain dry and clean.
- A feed trough space of 6-12 inches per pig should be provided. The corners of feed troughs, drains and walls should be rounded for easy cleaning.
- Provide adequate open space for each animal which should be double of covered area
- Provide proper shade and cool drinking water during summer season.

Housing

Pigs are generally reared in open air system and indoor system. Different types of houses for different category of animals in indoor system of housing are (a) Boar Pen (b) Farrowing House (c) Sows pen (d) Weaners house and (e) Growers house. Adequate housing and equipment for raising pigs are necessary to provide shelter against inclement weather, prevent diseases, control parasites and save labour. The normal requirement of floor area, water and air space in pens for various classes of pigs is given below Class of animals (Table 1)

Sl. No.	Type of Animal	Covered floor Area (sq.m)	Open Yard (sq.m)	Water requirement
1.	Boar	6.27 - 7.5	8.8 - 12	4.5
2.	Farrowing sow	7.5 - 9.0	8.8 - 12	18 - 22
3.	Weaner	0.96 - 1.8	8.8 - 12	3.5 - 4
4.	Dry sow/gilt	1.8 - 2.7	1.4 - 1.8	4.5 - 5

Deep litter housing

Deep litter housing is a type of pig housing where the floor is filled with sawdust 2-3 feet in the both open and covered area, which is well suited for high rainfall and high altitude area. The floor of the pen remains clean and dry due to the sawdust. The pig house also provides better micro-environment in summer and winter as well as better physiological adaptation. This model provides 2-3 times higher manure than that conventional concrete floor pigpen.

- Advantages of deep litter housing
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- The floor of the pen remains clean and dry due to the sawdust.
- The pig house also provides better micro-environment both summer and winter, better physiological adaptation.
- This model provide 2-3 times higher manure than that conventional concrete floor pig pen.

Feeding management

The growth and mortality of pigs largely depend on their feeding regime. Pig is the most efficient animal in converting feed to meat. About 70-75% of the total production cost of the pig farm is due to the feed cost. Generally farmers want to rear pigs with zero inputs like kitchen waste as well as vegetable waste mixed with rice polish/ wheat bran only. It is therefore, very much important to feed the animals with economical but balanced feed which will contain all the nutrient requirements for growth and to support the life. They are (a) Concentrated feed computed with different feed ingredients (Table 2); (b) Concentrated feed mixed