

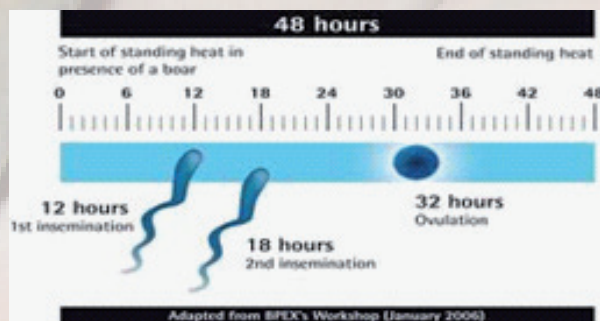
Signs of heat include:

- restlessness, loss of appetite), puffy/swollen, pinkish and moist vulva.



- At standing heat - sow will stand still to back pressure test and will be ready to accept male/boar.
- First breeding is best done at or after the third heat.

- A gilt of 6 months and over will have better chance of carrying her litter.
- A sow in good condition should come on heat within 5-10 days after her piglets have been weaned.
- A sow will be on heat for 8-36 hours.
- Best to take the sow/gilt to the boar when mating.
- Mate three times after noticing signs of heat—early morning, late afternoon then early next



morning or (pm,-am,- pm) for best results of more eggs getting fertilized.

Pregnancy and Farrowing

- A well fed sow will have at least 10 piglets/farrowing and 2 litters/year .
- The pregnancy will last 3months 3weeks and 3days.

Signs of Farrowing (giving birth)

- Strip first two set of teats - presence of milk indicates sow/gilt will give birth within the next 24 hours (give little or no feed at all during this time).
- restlessness, teat will produce milk when squeezed, blood stained fluid passing from vagina 1-2 hours before birth process begins.
- Provide clean dry environment for new born piglets
- Farrowing should be completed in 2-3 hours
- After birth should be expelled by the sow soon after (consumed by sow/gilt). Do not interfere with birth process unless; sow is still straining after 3 hours or if after birth is not expelled by the sow - Report immediately to nearest Veterinary Officer.
- Wipe navel cord of newly born piglet with antiseptic.
- Provide a warm area for piglets and ensure the sow is giving milk. Report non-lactating sow to Veterinary Officer.
- Avoid sows overlaying, and carry out all recommended management practices.



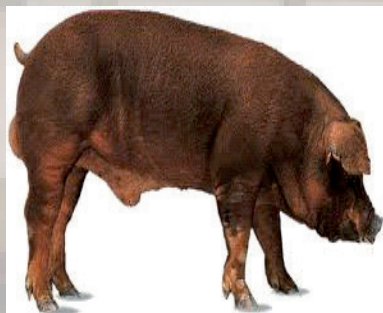
Ministry of Agriculture

Basic Information on Pig farming

BREEDS

CHARACTERISTICS:

DUROC BREED



- Large robust muscular frame,
- Medium body length,
- Drooped ears with slightly dished face
- Excellent meat producer
- Fast growth rate
- Late-maturity

LARGE WHITE BREED



- Large frame with white skin
- Erect ears with dished face,
- Late maturity but large litter size
- Excellent mothering ability
- Can withstand adverse climate & environment conditions.

- Lean and active, with long sound feet and legs.

LANDRACE BREED



- Long body with white skin
- Floppy ears
- Slightly dished face,
- Produce large litters,
- Excellent mothering ability
- Good milk production,
- Fast growth rate

with lean carcass production.

FEEDS AND FEEDING

FEEDS

- Pig Weaner Pellet (from 4 – 8 weeks @ 250 – 950 grams/ piglets/day) Ad lib is best at this stage.
- Pig Grower Pellet (From 9 weeks old – 6 months @1.0 – 1.5 kg/pig/day).
- Pig Breeder Pellet (for Sows & Boars @1.5 – 2kg/ pig/day); Lactating Sows: give an extra 100g per piglet suckling.

FEEDING

- Pigs are omnivores (eats both plants and animals)
- Needs balanced diet to grow faster
- Can feed on ready mixed feed (commercial) or prepare own feed
- Nutrient requirement of pigs vary through the different stages of its life.
- Young grower pigs (6-8wks) need feed with high protein (19% dcp)
- 3 months after weaning (5months old) grower pigs need less protein (17% dcp)
- Adult pigs (Dry stock) over 80 kg require less protein (12% dcp)
- Need to provide enough feed to meet daily nutrient requirements. Twice a day feeding is best.
- Foraging pigs can be offered 1 meal /day
- Feed intake depends live weight, stage of production health of pigs and feed composition. Pigs will only eat to stomach's satisfaction.
- Must always have access to fresh, clean water.
- Pigs will drink more on hot days.

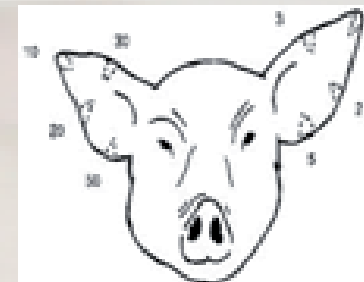
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

1) Iron Injection

Piglets raised outdoors will get iron from eating soil. Piglets raised indoors require iron (sows milk does not have enough iron). Give iron injection to newly born piglet at 3-4 days after birth to avoid anaemia. Smear sow's teat with clean wet soil on first 4 days for piglets to eat if there is no iron to inject.

2) **Teeth clipping** - needle teeth to be clipped on same day that Iron injection is done. This is to avoid piglets damaging the sow's teat and injure one another.

3) **Castrating piglets**- done on males that is not required for breeding. Castrated pigs are quieter and easier to handle, become fatter than boars and meat does not have boar taint.



4) **Identification** - ear notching may be required for identification where there is a need to do so especially for breeding and selection purposes

5) **Internal parasites** - worms causes diahorrea, weight loss and lung problems can be treated with – anthelmintic

- Pregnant Sows - treat a week before to avoid passing to her litter.
- Prevent worms by keeping pen dry and clean - disinfected floors and walls
- Do not allow pigs to wonder around freely, cook meat and swirl before feeding

6) **External Parasites** - Causes skin infection due to lice, ticks, and mange. Hidden cause of slow growth rate in pigs. Treatment: Scrub-clean the area and spray with malathion.

If not sure of any disease- contact nearest Agriculture Office for advice

REPRODUCTION AND GROWTH

Mating and Farrowing Management of Gilts & Sows

- A gilt (young female) reaches puberty at about 5months
- At this age it will start to show signs of heat (some might take longer due to nutritional problems). Do not allow gilt to breed at first heat or 5 months.
- The sow will come on heat every 3weeks if she is not pregnant.