



## **Market Hog Basics**

Choosing to take a livestock project in 4-H should involve sound decision-making. This fact sheet provides basic information to help you make a good decision.

### SPACE NEEDED

- 12 square feet per animal in confinement

### COMFORT ZONE

- 60-75° F for optimal performance

### WATER REQUIREMENTS

- Access to clean, fresh, cool water is critical
- 3 - 4 gallons per day

### FEED CONSIDERATIONS

- Will eat 3 - 8 pounds of feed per day (amount increases as animal grows)
- Will gain from 1.5 – 2.3 pounds per day (Average Daily Gain or ADG)
- Needs approximately 3.2 pounds of feed per pound of gain (Feed Efficiency)

### MARKET CONSIDERATIONS

- Should weigh 220 - 290 pounds when finished
- Should reach this weight at approximately 5 - 6 months of age

### BUDGETING

- Approximate purchase cost is \$1.50/lb. for 40 lb. pig (more for show pigs)
- Projected market price is \$ 0.64 per pound
- Projected feed cost is around \$ 120 and includes:
  - Grower Feed (complete feed with vitamins & minerals) Read feed tag for weight recommendations
  - Finisher Feed (complete feed with vitamins & minerals) Read feed tag for weight recommendations...normally use after the animal weighs over 150 pounds
  - Salt & Minerals

Information originally developed in 3/2015 by Bonnie Malone, Extension Educator 4-H, Huron County, Ohio and Vicki Schwartz, Associate State Leader, Ohio 4-H. "Should I Take Rabbit".

Revised for Maryland 4-H 11/15

"University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression."