



Pork Prose

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By-Products for Hogs

Folks in the swine business know that hogs will eat just about anything. Sometimes we can use that to our advantage, especially when cheap by-products are available. But you decide that by-products will solve all your feed-bill headaches, think about the feedstuff you plan to use.

Will the hogs eat the by-product? Even if the stuff is free it won't do you much good if the pigs leave it in the feeder.

What nutrients are in the by-product? Does the nutrient content vary? How much water does it contain?

Is the by-product practical to handle? You need a plan for getting the material to the farm and to the pigs. If it's easily trucked and augered, you'll have a lot less aggravation.

What does the by-product cost? It ought to be pretty cheap, since even free ingredients can get expensive when transportation costs are figured in. That's especially true with wet ingredients.

What will the by-product save you? After you've figured all the costs, you should have a good idea of the total expense to finish a hog. The by-product might save you so little money that the juice is hardly worth the squeezing.

Is there any danger of bacterial contamination? If it's an animal by-product, bacterial contamination is a potential problem. Daily feeding may be necessary to prevent spoilage.

Why is the by-product being discarded? Be sure there are no toxins or components that could cause problems. For example, milk products may contain antibiotics.

What's the effect on the carcass? Some by-products, like waste french fryer oil, can produce an oily carcass if you're not careful. Fish products may create an odor in the carcass.

What are the effects on performance? Many times you can substitute by-products up to a point — then performance drops. Keep your eyes open and your scales operating so you can recognize the problem if it appears.

What are the effects on your image and the image of the industry? Often there is a fine line between by-products and garbage. If your by-product resembles garbage and your set-up is visible to the public, you may not be doing yourself or the industry any favors.

What are your state's regulations? Pennsylvania requires an inspection and a permit to feed any type of by-

product. So our state is even more important than the USDA.

FEEDING SUGGESTIONS

Bakery by-products — crackers, cookies, pretzels and potato chips are probably the most practical by-product you can use. They're palatable. You can handle them like a conventional ingredient. And you can treat these by-products like corn in the ration — by making pound-for-pound substitutions for the grain. Watch performance and salt levels when you use more than 800 pounds per ton.

Liquid whey is available from many dairy processors because of its high drying cost. You can offer whey through the water system instead of water, and feed a corn ration fortified only with vitamins and minerals. Research shows that pigs from 40 pounds to market weight using this scheme perform similar to those on a normal corn soy diet. That could save you \$8 per head on feed costs.

Keep your eye on spoilage. And even at 48 per head saved, be sure you can justify the added transportation and handling.

Waste milk can be fed at the rate of 1 gallon per head per day. Offer a normal ration in the feeder. As pigs grow older they'll adjust their own diet by increasing their intake from the feeder.

Waste fat is an excellent energy source since it contains two and a quarter times the calories of either proteins or carbohydrates. You'll see maximum benefit at about 10 percent added fat. More than six or seven percent added fat will increase carcass fat and if the fat is unsaturated (oil) the carcass will become oily.

Meat by-products, unless they're cooked and dried, always bring with them the possibility of bacterial contamination — especially Salmonella. But they're high in protein and any bone present, provided it's finely ground, will be a good source of calcium and phosphorous.

Cracked eggs can be fed to hogs but it's important to cook them first to destroy a biotin inhibitor. For hogs weighing 100 to 220 pounds, offer eight eggs per head per day and a ration containing 1850 pounds corn, 100 pounds soybean meal, and 50 pounds of vitamins and minerals.

Food industry by-products can be a significant part of your feeding program. But before you get into them in a big way, make sure you know all you can about the material that's available. Have it analyzed. Be sure it's practical for your operation. And use a little at first — on a limited number of hogs.

Poultrymen advised not to keep pet birds

HARRISBURG — The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has reminded commercial poultrymen to refrain from buying caged birds in view of a case of Exotic Newcastle Disease in New Jersey.

Dr. Max A. VanBuskirk, director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, said the disease was diagnosed in a parrot sold by a New Jersey pet wholesaler who also does business

in Pennsylvania.

Exotic Newcastle Disease is a highly-contagious avian respiratory disease, which necessitated the destruction of 12 million birds in California in 1972.

"Poultry owners should understand that buying imported pet birds is not in their best interests or those of the industry," said VanBuskirk.

Such caution is warranted given

the difficulty of determining the origin and health of these birds, according to VanBuskirk.

The wholesaler sold birds to several distributors in Pennsylvania, and those birds are being checked for the disease by avian health experts from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services. Results so far have been negative.

3 farms team for York pig, lamb sale

YORK — The Rodger Bankert Family of Hanover teamed with Newville's Pine Haven Farm and Clearview Acres of York to host the Supreme Club Pig and Lamb Sale at the York Fairgrounds on April 11.

Project pigs were a popular item, with Bankert's 65 head averaging \$88 each. Shawn Fairman, a 4-H'er from DuBois, paid the day's top feeder pig price of \$260 for a Duroc-Poland cross out of the day's second top selling

litter. The high selling litter contained seven Duroc-Berkshire crossbreeds that averaged \$127.

Bankert also sold seven Duroc and Chester White service boars that averaged \$288. The sale's six registered Duroc weanling gilts averaged \$85, and seven bred gilts averaged \$230.

Total sale volume for all the swine was \$11,700.

Pine Haven Farm consigned a group of Suffolk wethers sired by

their embryo transplant ram, The Right Move. The top selling wether went to Gene Turner of Woodbine, Maryland for \$240. The sale's only Suffolk ewe lamb brought a top bid of \$170. The first five lambs in this group averaged \$204.

Clear View Acres sold the top Dorset wether to the McCrumb family of Mars, Pa., for \$85.

A total of 11 lambs went under auctioneer Harry Bachman's gavel averaging \$135 each.

Alfred judging team wins in Canada



Members of Alfred State College's livestock judging team pose here with their coach after earning several awards in the recent Canadian International Intercollegiate Judging competition in Guelph, Ontario. From left are Rick Kralj of Meadville, Pa., holding his ribbon for reserve champion in swine judging; Lee Kroening of Akron; Dale Covert of Farmersville Station, holding his trophy and ribbons for being crowned Canadian national champion in crops judging and reserve champion in forage; Dan Porter of Randolph; and coach Lee LaRochelle. The college is located in Alfred, New York.

'85 wool payments estimated \$103 million

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sheep producers will receive about \$103 million in federal incentive payments on wool and lambs they sold in 1985, according to Milton Hertz, acting administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

The 1985 support price for shorn wool is \$1.65 per pound, determined in accordance with the National Wool Act of 1954, as amended, and the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act. The 1985 national average price for shorn wool was 63.3 cents a pound, 101.7 cents less than the support price, Hertz said. Dividing the support price by the average market price results in a 1985 payment rate of 160.7 percent. The payment rate is the amount required to bring the average price received by producers up to the support price. The payment rate for 1984 was 107.5 percent.

For mohair, the 1985 average market price was \$3.45 and support price \$4.43, making the payment rate 28.4 percent, compared to 20.2

percent in 1984, Hertz said.

Individual producers' payments are determined by multiplying the payment rates by the net dollar returns from wool and mohair sales.

Producers will receive \$4.07 per hundredweight in federal payments as compensation for

unshorn lambs they sold or slaughtered in 1985. The payment is based on the shorn wool payment rate, the average weight of wool

per hundredweight of lambs and the price of lamb's wool relative to the national average price for shorn wool, Hertz said.

Commercial ewes to dominate Vermont Sheep Sale

NEW HAVEN, Vt. — As many as 200 commercial ewe lambs will cross the auction block at the sixth Vermont Sheep Sale scheduled for July 12, at the Addison County Field Days grounds in New Haven, Vermont.

While purebred and wool breed sheep will also be available, sale auctioneer Ken Brubaker of Westtown, Pa., reports that quality commercial ewes are expected to dominate the event.

Brubaker cited Rocco Enterprises' current sheep venture, as well as more aggressive

marketing by the industry as a whole, as reasons for the increased popularity of commercial lamb production.

The deadline for consignment is June 14. Owners of registered and wool ewe consignments who wish to be included in a pre-sale catalog available after June 1, must register by May 1. Fees are \$10 per head in registered and wool classes, and \$10 per pen of three or fewer commercial ewes.

For registration forms contact Michael Claudon, RD 2, Box 3550, Middlebury, Vt., 05753, phone: 802-545-2249.

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