



Fattening pigs for sale

Pig fattening is a profitable business for small-scale farmers and landless people. Pigs provide a good return within a short time. Buy 45–60 day-old pigs, feed them with store-bought rations, plants growing around the village, farm wastes, and kitchen scraps. It takes about 8 months before the pigs are ready for sale.

Which breed?

Crossbred pigs of exotic and local breeds are best. You can tell crossbred pigs by their erect ears and straight face. Crossbred pigs are well-adapted to the local climate and like eating locally available feed.

Buying your pigs

1. Select weaner pigs of 45 to 60 days of age.
2. Select healthy-looking pigs, free from deformities. They should have a straight, broad back and well-developed loins.

Make sure the animals are vaccinated against hog cholera and swine plague

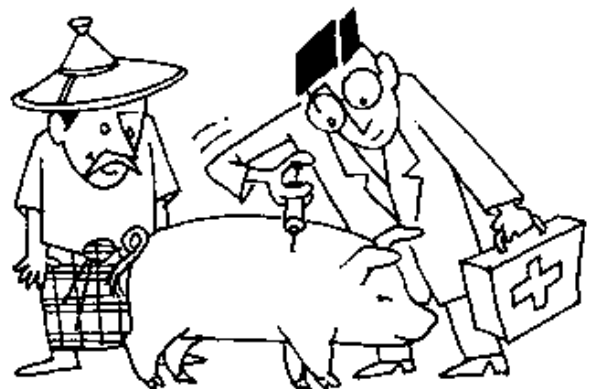


Castration

3. If possible, select pigs that have been castrated. If not, castrate them as soon as possible (within one week). Ask a livestock extension worker, a veterinarian or a specialist in your village to help.
4. Keep castrated pigs in a clean, dry place for 1 week. The castration wound may become infected with tetanus if the pig is kept in dirty surroundings.

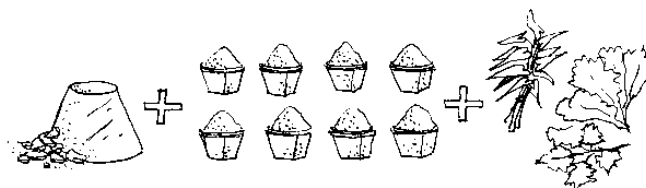
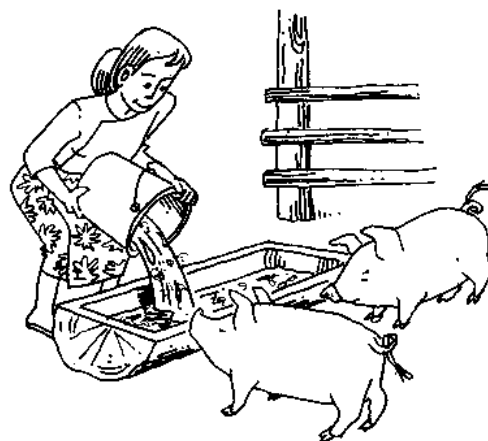
Deworming and vaccination

5. Deworm pigs using traditional medicine (such as papaya seeds or betel nuts), or with modern medicine. Dewormed pigs are healthier and grow faster.
6. If the pigs have not already been vaccinated, have them vaccinated against hog cholera and swine plague. Only one vaccination is needed before the pigs are sold.



Feeding and watering

7. Feed the pigs twice a day with fresh, clean feed. Make sure it is not mouldy.

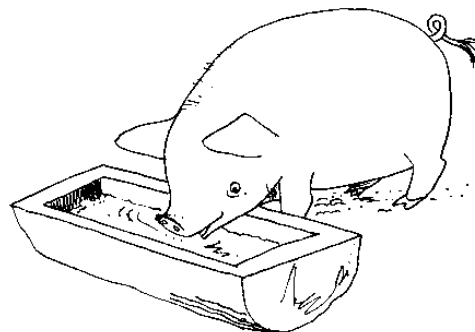


8. The feed mixture should be high in protein. Examples of feed high in protein:

- Oilcake.
- Fish meal.
- Purchased concentrates (buy 18% protein formulation).

Mix these protein-rich feeds with rice bran, vegetables and kitchen scraps for a rich, balanced feed.

9. Keep the feed trough clean. Remove dirt and old feed before giving new feed.



Marketing

10. Sell the pigs when they reach the market weight (about 60 kg). With good feeding, this will be about 8 months after purchase, or when the pigs are about 10 months old.
11. Ask about the market price beforehand. It may be worth waiting a week or so for a better price.

