

### Generally Asked Swine Questions

Q: What is a show pig? A: A show pig is where a student selects a genetically superior pig, as compared to a commercial pig. You feed a higher than quality feed. The project definitely cost more than a commercial animal and the rewards if you place are most definitely more than that of a commercial animal.

Q: What is the difference between a barrow and a gilt? A: A barrow is a castrated male pig and a gilt is a female pig. Typically when shown head to head a gilt will beat the barrow.

Q: What is the difference between the Bexar County show and a Major Show? A: Bexar County is just for Bexar County students only and the major shows are open to anyone in Texas. The competition is much easier at Bexar County and you can show either a barrow or a gilt at Bexar county. You can show barrows at San Antonio. Thus it is better to have a gilt at county.

Q: What is a terminal show or a premium show? A: A terminal show is a show that if the pig goes to it they do not come home from the show. A premium show all animals come home from the show even if you place and go through the auction.

Q: What age should my pig be? A: If you are showing at Bexar county only then your pig should be between Mid June and the first two weeks of August. However, be aware that the younger pig is the more chance you have of not making the minimum weight. If you are showing at San Antonio you need a pig born between the last week of July and the first of September.

Q: Will I make money? A: About 40% of the feeders will break even or make money. The rest will not. This is due to the fact the shows have a limited sale.

Q: What do I do with the project when I am done? A: It is important to understand that these animals are simply a tool to experience the real world. All of the animals will go to market.

Q: Can I do more than one pig project? A: Yes if you have the advisors approval. I do not recommend it to first time feeders. A lot of it is due to pen space.

Q: How do I get a pig? A: Most people leave the buying to the Ag teacher, since he is a specialist in this area. However, you can get your pig on your own, or get the Ag teacher to assist you.

Q: When do I get my supplies? A: I recommend you start getting your supplies once you have decided to get a pig.

Q: When do I get my feed? A: The Ag Teacher will supply the feed and it will be in the tack room.

Q: What do I feed my pig? A: Once the pig has arrived in the barn. You should get with your Ag Teacher and review the feeding procedures.

Q: Where do I get my supplies? A: There are several feed and tack stores in the area, ask your Ag Teacher for help.

Q: How do I stay informed? A: You will stay informed in many ways. Such the board at the barn, our web page [www.judsonisd.org](http://www.judsonisd.org)