



Feeding Showpigs During High Feed Prices

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When feed prices are high, it's time to conserve feed. Reducing feed wastage and over consumption can save dollars and off set the high cost of Showpig feed.

HONOR Show Chow Showpig feeds are formulated to be limit or “hand” fed. That means you can decide how much the pig receives each day and still meet the pig's nutrient requirements.

And by hand feed, feed wastage can be reduced by 5 to 7%. That means over a 90 day feeding period, you could possibly save almost 1 bag of feed. Pigs usually eat about 12-13 times each day. And, pigs are well, pigs. They take a few mouthfuls of feed, chew and swallow. But, they also walk away from the feeder chewing a mouthful of feed falling out of each side of their mouths. If a pig has access to dirt, water and or mud, feed can stick to the pig's nose, chin and jowls; all this results in feed wastage.

Pigs also eat to meet their energy requirements, which sometimes results in excess intake of amino acids. Below is a chart that outlines the modern showpig's daily lysine requirements by weight, how much of each HONOR Show Chow grow finish Showpig feed it takes to meet that requirement, and the predicted feed intake on a self feeder.

Pig Wt. (lbs)	Lysine Req. (grams/day)	Showpig Grower (lbs/d)		Showpig Finisher (lbs/d)		Showpig 16 (lbs/d)	
		Needed	Predicted Self Feed	Needed	Predicted Self Feed	Needed	Predicted Self Feed
50 to 100	15	3	3.75	3.15	3.75	4.25	3.75
100 to 150	17	3.5	5.00	3.60	5.0	4.75	4.88
150 to 200	20	4	6.65	4.25	6.50	5.50	6.40
200 to 250	23	4.50	7.88	5.00	7.75	6.50	7.50
250 to show	25	4.75	8.75	5.25	8.50	7.00	8.00

The following is a table of how much feed and \$\$ that can be saved through each weight phase of the growing period (90 days total on feed) for HONOR Show Chow Showpig Grower. (5-7% less feed wastage included).

Pig Wt (lbs)	Est. Feed Intake	Suggested Feed Intake	Difference	Number of days	Total feed saved per phase
50 to 100	3.75	3.5	0.25	25	6.25
100 to 150	5.00	4.5	0.5	20	10.0
150 to 200	6.65	6.0	0.65	20	13.0
200 to 250	7.88	6.5	1.38	20	27.6
250 to Show	8.75	7.0	1.75	5	8.75
				Total	65.6

By hand or limit feeding, it may be possible to save as much as 66 lbs of feed, or a little over 1 bag of feed.

Here are some other important points:

1. Always provide clean, fresh water at all times
2. Provide sufficient shelter to protect from heat, rain and wind
3. Effectively deworm pigs every 30 days
4. Use an elevated feeder (hanging feeder off the ground)
5. Although you may feed enough to meet the daily lysine requirements, the pig may not be "full". Feed HONOR Show Chow Powerfill as a topdress at 1 -2 lbs per day for the final 30 – 45 days.
6. Some pigs that have higher requirements, may not grow as well using a limited feed intake program. If you find your pigs are not growing satisfactorily, increase daily feed intake.