



**AgEcon** SEARCH  
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

*The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library*

**This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.**

**Help ensure our sustainability.**

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search  
<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>  
[aesearch@umn.edu](mailto:aesearch@umn.edu)

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*

*Some  
Cost of  
production*

GIANNINIS FOUNDATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
LIBRARY

Bulletin No. 59/EC 31.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER  
Agricultural Economics Department

Some Pig Costs

1949 - 1950

December, 1950

## PIG REPORT

This report deals with the costs of fattening, breeding and rearing pigs on ten farms in Lancashire, Cheshire and Staffordshire at various periods between December 1948, and November, 1950. The fattening costs are given in summary form in Table I, and in detail in Table II, while the rearing costs obtained from two of the farms are shown in Table III. Table IV presents the results for a pedigree herd for a year ending in June 1950.

The costs and returns from fattening farms cover periods beginning and ending on different dates, and as a result, they have been variously affected by changes in price levels. The price of feeding stuffs rose sharply with the partial removal of the subsidy in April 1949, and this was followed by a further rise in April 1950, when the remainder of the subsidy was removed. Consequently, food costs on those farms where the pigs were fed off before April 1950, and particularly where some of the expenditure was incurred before April 1949, might be expected to be lower for reasons of price alone. During the whole period, the average price of pig meal increased from 17/5d per cwt. to 30/5d per cwt, so it is not altogether surprising that Farm No.5 which was the latest farm to be costed, and therefore felt the full effect of this increase, should show the worst result. Returns were affected by the increase in the price of fat pigs following the Price Reviews in 1949 and 1950.

Although the results are not strictly comparable, some relation between profits and feeding costs can be seen. The highest profits were made on farms where an appreciable amount of swill was purchased, despite the higher labour requirements of swill feeding. On Farm No.6 (with the highest profit per pig) over one third of the total food cost was incurred for swill, and on Farm No.2 (with the second highest profit) nearly three quarters of the total food cost consisted of swill. At the other end of the scale, the two farms which have made losses have relied almost entirely on meal for fattening purposes. It seems, therefore, that profits from fattening pigs depend very largely on a supply of good quality swill to supplement purchased concentrates.

TABLE No. 1

Farm Number	6	7	3	1	2	4	5	
Number of pigs sold or Valued out.	872	235	78	54	36	12	2	
Profit per £100 Production.	43.4	32.7	13.9	37.7		20.3		
Loss per £100 Production					4.3		24.7	
Feed as % of total cost	53	71	80	53	76	86	82	72%
Labour as % of total cost	31	16	13	28	17	8	9	17%
Other costs as % of total cost.	16	13	7	19	7	6	9	11%

Feeding stuffs are by far the most important item of cost and judging by these results the present relationship between food prices and pig prices is unlikely to attract many farmers to pig feeding, except where swill can be obtained. On the two farms, numbers 1 and 6, where swill is available in quantity, feeding stuffs are just over 50% of the total cost as compared with almost 80% of the total cost on the others.

Definitions:

Production = Total Sales + Closing Valuation less Opening Valuation + Purchases.

Labour - Taken at 2/3½ per hour, except where actual costs were greater. The labour includes management of pigs and time taken in cooking swill.

Miscellaneous - Includes such items as pig rings and licences.

Overheads - Taken as 5% of Total Cost.

Home-Grown Foods - Valued at average costs of production.

COST OF FATTENING PIGS

Farm No:--	1				2				3				4				5				6							
<u>Investigation Period:</u>	5th Apr. '49 5th Apr. '50				31st Jan. '49 31st Jan. '50				31st Dec. '48 31st Dec. '49				24th Oct. '49 22nd Mar. '50				29th Apr. '50 5th Nov. '50				31st Dec. '48 31st Dec. '49				5th Apr. '49 5th Apr. '50			
	No.	£	s	d	No.	£	s	d	No.	£	s	d	No.	£	s	d	No.	£	s	d	No.	£	s	d	No.	£	s	d
<u>Opening Valuation</u>																												
Boars	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sows & Gilts	-	-	-	-	2	40	0	0	2	24	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	45	0	0
Stores	17	175	8	0	22	80	0	0	17	88	0	0	-	-	-	-	2	16	0	0	353	2107	10	0	17	141	0	0
Fat Pigs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Purchases</u>																												
Breeding Stock	-	-	-	-	4	37	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stores	37	196	10	0	2	11	0	0	-	-	-	-	12	88	10	0	-	-	-	-	519	2930	15	0	206	2664	11	9
<u>Births</u>	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-
<u>O.V. + Purchases</u>	54	371	18	0	36	168	0	0	78	132	0	0	12	88	10	0	2	16	0	0	872	5038	5	0	235	2850	11	9
<u>Sales</u>																												
Fat Pigs	37	780	15	5	26	404	17	6	25	428	19	6	12	260	17	0	2	46	1	9	471	9726	18	11	195	3352	11	0
Others	-	-	-	-	2	42	4	4	26	100	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	50	0	0
<u>Closing Valuation</u>																												
Boars	-	-	-	-	1	15	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sows & Gilts	-	-	-	-	4	80	0	0	6	72	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	0	0
Stores	17	168	0	0	2	25	0	0	9	54	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	379	3237	0	0	33	437	0	0
Fat Pigs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	52	0	0
<u>Deaths</u>	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
<u>Sales C.V. + Deaths</u>	54	948	5	5	36	567	1	10	78	675	2	9	12	260	17	0	2	46	1	9	872	12963	18	11	235	3911	11	0
<u>PRODUCTION</u>	576	17	5		399	1	10		543	2	9		172	7	0		30	1	9		792	5.13.11			1060	19	3	

Farm No:

	1			2			3			4			5			6			7		
	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
<u>PRODUCTION</u>	576	17	5	399	1	10	543	2	9	172	7	0	30	1	9	7925	13	11	1060	19	3
<u>COSTS</u>																					
Purchased Con.	26	0	0	301	16	3	328	12	6	117	11	6	30	10	9	1527	11	8	197	11	6
H.G. Concentrates.	23	8	0	13	11	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	10	9
Swill	130	0	8	-	-	-	35	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	846	5	2	252	17	6
Pot. & Cabbage	12	0	0	-	-	-	11	5	0	-	-	-	10	0	0	-	-	-	28	10	0
<u>TOTAL FOODS</u>	191	8	8	315	8	1	375	6	7	117	11	6	31	0	9	2373	16	10	508	9	9
Labour	101	19	7	70	4	9	62	13	6	10	16	6	3	11	6	1367	14	9	117	4	4½
New Equip & Repairs	-	-	-	5	15	0	-	10	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	412	19	10	25	15	0
Vet. Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
Litter	7	10	0	2	10	0	1	15	2	-	18	0	-	12	0	120	7	4	12	10	0
Fuel	35	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carriage	5	5	4	2	10	0	1	10	0	1	8	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	13	4
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	5	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	-	-	-	1	17	0
<u>TOTAL</u>	342	3	7	396	12	10	445	5	3	130	14	0	36	4	3	4274	18	9	679	9	5½
Overheads 5%	17	2	0	19	16	0	22	5	0	6	10	8	1	16	0	208	12	11	33	19	5½
<u>TOTAL COST</u>	359	5	7	416	8	10	467	10	3	137	4	8	38	0	3	4483	11	8	713	8	11
PROFIT	217	11	10	-	-	-	75	12	6	35	2	4	-	-	-	3442	2	3	347	10	4
LOSS	-	-	-	17	7	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. of fat pigs sold or valued out	37			26			26			12			2			471			198		
Profit per fat pig	5	17	7	-	-	-	2	18	1¾	2	19	4	-	-	-	7	6	2	1	15	1
Loss per fat pig	-	-	-	13	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	19	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average Weight at Sale	9sc. 19½ lbs			-			-			11sc. 3 lbs 10sc. 5 lbs				-			-			8sc. 0½ lb	

COST OF REARING PIGLETS

Two farms each costing one Sow

	Farm 9			Farm 10		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Opening Valuation	30	0	0	30	0	0
Closing Valuation	27	5	0	27	5	0
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Depreciation	2	15	0	2	15	0
Feed	16	4	0	16	2	6
Labour	6	10	7½	8	0	5
Litter		5	0		6	3
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Total	25	14	7½	27	4	2
Plus Overheads 5%	1	3	0	1	4	5
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Total Cost	26	17	7½	28	8	7
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Piglets Born		14			9	
Reared		11			9	
Cost per piglet	£2	8	10	£3	3	2
Sow farrowed			June 2nd 1950			June 10th 1950

PEDIGREE STOCK REARING

Farm Number 8.

Investigation Period: 30th June 1949  
30th June 1950

<u>Opening Valuation</u>	No. of Pigs	£	s	d	<u>Closing Valuation</u>	No. of Pigs	£	s	d
Breeding Stock	31	373	0	0	Breeding Stock	35	415	0	0
Growing Stock	<u>150</u>	<u>1045</u>	0	0	Fattening Stock	65	750	0	0
	181	1418	0	0	Growing Stock	<u>111</u>	<u>413</u>	0	0
						211	1578	0	0
<u>Purchases</u>					<u>Sales</u>				
Breeding Stock	1	31	10	0	Breeding Stock	15	462	7	9
					Growing Stock	110	507	15	2
					Fattening Stock	226	3839	16	4
Births	<u>414</u>				Deaths	<u>34</u>			
	596	<u>1449</u>	10	0		596	<u>6387</u>	19	3
<u>Costs</u>									
Purchased Concentrates		1531	12	3	Piglets Born	414			
Home Grown Concentrates		1209	18	1	Piglets Reared	397			
Swill		74	1	8					
Other		4	13	9					
		<u>2820</u>	5	9					
Total Foods									
Labour		306	1	9					
Veterinary Expenses		50	0	0					
Litter		100	0	0					
Fuel		36	0	0					
Miscellaneous		28	10	0					
Overheads (5% Total Cost)		167	0	0					
PROFIT		<u>1430</u>	11	9					
		<u>£6387</u>	19	3			<u>£6387</u>	19	3



