

# Beef- Beginning Planning & Record Sheet

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One of your market project goals should be to have a market ready animal. Knowing what your animal weighs now and the estimated end weight will help you be successful in achieving your market ready goal.

## **General Project Information**

Youth Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Weigh-in Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Tag Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Hip Height (inches): \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ ESTIMATED FINAL WT:

Vaccinations (circle): wormer, 8-way type, Other (list): \_\_\_\_\_

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Estimate Average Daily Gain (ADG) for your steer

Est. finished weight	Beginning weight	Total required gain	Days in feeding period	Required daily gain
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
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*This about this...*

1. What does market ready mean? Is your estimated final weight an ideal market weight for the beef industry?
2. The national average for ADG is 2.5 lbs/day. Is your required ADG achievable?

## **Feeding Your Steer-**

Steers will consume about 3% of their body weight per day. A fattening ration is 2% in grain and 1% in hay. Make every effort to keep feed waste to a minimum. Grain waste can be 5 to 10% of the amount fed and hay waste 10 to 20%, depending on facilities and care in feeding.

List your concentrates (grain): \_\_\_\_\_

List your roughages: \_\_\_\_\_

List any other: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your feeding method i.e.; free choice, feed truck or by hand, no. of times, fed in a bunk or feed pan, etc.

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How much do you feed in the beginning?

**Grain:** Steer wt. x 2% = pounds of grain per day / 2 feedings per day = pounds of grain per feeding

Steer wt \_\_\_\_\_ x 2 % = \_\_\_\_\_ lbs grain per day / 2 feedings = \_\_\_\_\_ lbs per feeding

**Hay:** Steer wt. x 1% = pounds of hay per day / 2 feedings per day = pounds of hay per feeding

Steer wt \_\_\_\_\_ x 1 % = \_\_\_\_\_ lbs hay per day / 2 feedings = \_\_\_\_\_ lbs per feeding

*Ask yourself these questions*

1. How much does one scoop weigh? Is one scoop of grain enough pounds to feed per feeding?
2. How many scoops should you feed?
3. Calculate how much grain and hay per feeding you will feed by fair time.

### ***Weight & Feed Estimate Record***

Tracking animal weight can tell you where your animal is compared to your goal. Weigh and record your animals' weight. Determine the estimate of feed you should be feeding. The feed amounts are just minimum estimates. You should be feeding more due to waste factor. If your animal is eating all the grain, increase it (slowly). It is better to push your calf, in the beginning, to get him market ready then run out of time in the feeding period.

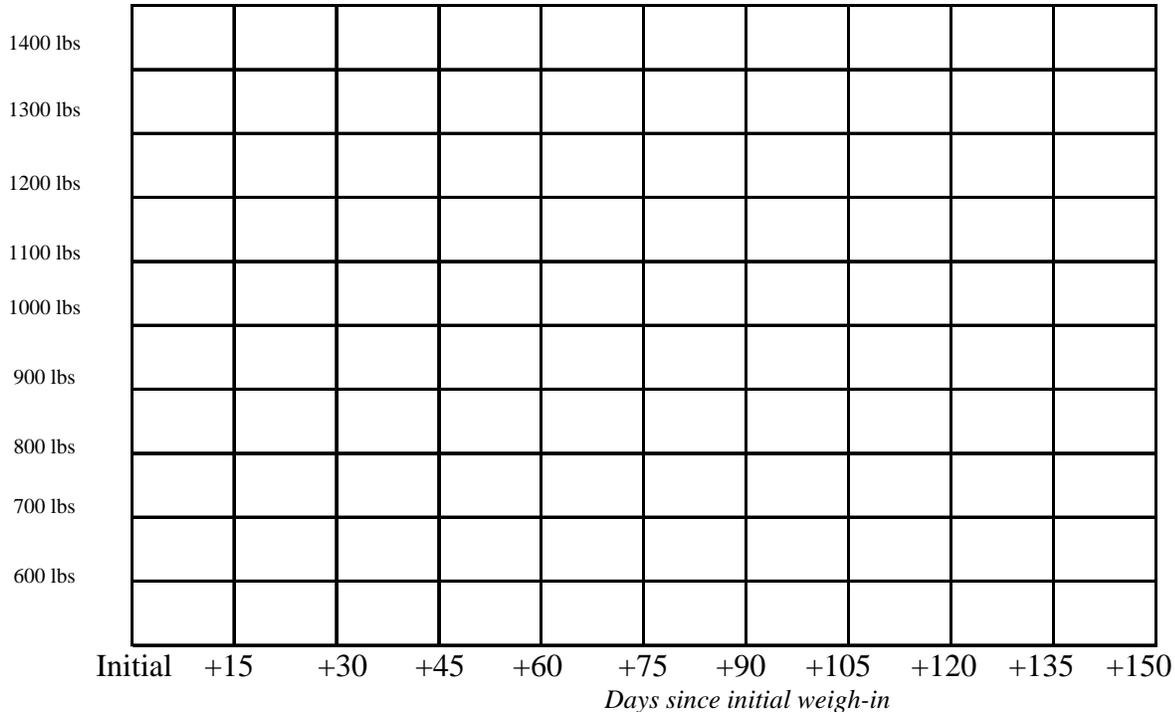
<b>Weigh date</b>									
<b>Days since first weigh day</b>	XXXXXX								
<b>Current weight</b>									
<b>Overall A.D.G.</b>	XXXXXX								
<b>Estimate Grain/day (wt x 2%)</b>									
<b>Estimate Hay/day (wt x 1%)</b>									

*This about this...*

1. Typical influences in ADG can be feed, water, weather, and illness. Is the ADG more or less than predicted? What caused any problems?
2. After each weigh day; do you need to feed more grain or hay?
3. What happens if your animal does not have the ADG you predicted?
4. If your animal is not market ready by fair time, what happens?
5. Is carcass quality affect by your feeding?

# Market Beef Growth Chart

To achieve success with your 4-H Market Beef project, it is important you know the estimated final weight of your animal and your progress toward that goal throughout the feeding period. The chart below enables you to plot the predicted growth curve (immediately after the initial weigh-in) and then plot the actual weight of your animal at various times during the feeding period to determine if you are “on target.”



Initial weigh-in date: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial animal weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of days in feeding period: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated final weight: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Mark the initial weight at the appropriate location on the left-hand side of the table.
2. Mark the estimated final weight at the appropriate location for the number of days in the feeding period.
3. Connect these two points with a straight line. This is your predicted rate of growth.
4. Record your animal’s weight in the table below and the chart above each time it is weighed during the feeding period. Connect this point with the previous actual weight. Is the actual growth curve above or below your predicted growth line? Why?

## Progressive Project Weight Record

<b>Weigh date</b>										
<b>Days since last weigh day</b>	XXXXXX									
<b>Current weight</b>										
<b>A.D.G. (since last weigh date)</b>	XXXXXX									
<b>Overall A.D.G.</b>	XXXXXX									

Tracking animal weight can tell you where your animal is compared to your goal. After each weigh day ask yourself; do you need to feed more grain or hay?

Typical influences in A.D.G. can be feed, water, weather, and illness. Ask yourself is the A.D.G. normal? What caused any problems?