

PRODUCING HEAVY WEIGHT HOGS FOR GREATER PROFIT

ANNOUNCER: Experienced feeders believe that selling hogs at 200 pounds is not a good practice, because hogs weighing 300 and 400 pounds generally will market at from 25 to 50 cents of top prices. Under the present relationship between feed and hog prices, selling or butchering lightweight pigs is not the way to make the most profit. J.H. Williams, district agent, and M.V. Brown, administrative assistant, Negro Extension workers at Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College, are here this morning to discuss this subject:

Brown: What is the advantage of producing heavier hogs, Williams?

Williams: By feeding hogs weighing up to 300 pounds, farmers can step up their production 50% without increasing the number of sows or investment in equipment; even adding 50 pounds to make 250 pound hogs gives one-fourth increase in production.

Brown: Does this fit into our defense plans?

Williams: Yes, it does. It is an easy and profitable method of meeting the government's request for a 14% increase in production for this year.

Brown: Do you believe you can profitably develop these weights with the present price of corn and hogs?

Williams: I certainly do, Brown. With corn selling at 85¢ per bushel, hogs weighing 300 pounds can be produced at a cost of about \$8.65 per 100 pounds. This leaves a margin of more than \$5.00 per 100 pounds, or \$15.00 per 300 pound hogs. This margin of profit alone amounts to more than the total price paid for 200 pound hogs less than 20 years ago.

Brown: Well, what do you consider the most important factor which determines these weights?

Williams: The price of corn is the most important factor for ~~the~~ determining how heavy to make hogs for the market or for home use. This is possible now because of the demand for pork, and ceiling prices.

Brown: Would you carry all hogs being fed to the weights mentioned?

Williams: No Sir. The rate at which hogs are gaining is very important. The slow gainers should be marketed or slaughtered at lighter weights, letting the rapid gainers stay in the lot until they reach maximum weights.

Brown: Do you believe a farmer should stop feeding when his supply of feed is exhausted?

Williams: By no means. They should not stop short of heavier weights because of the lack of feed on hand so long as corn can be bought at prices which make feeding profitable.

Brown: How do these rules apply to the average farmer?

Williams: As is always the case, the efficient producer of pork can increase the margin of profit. Likewise, the inefficient farmer must realize that he is working on narrower margins. It is a simple matter for every farmer to obtain actual cost figures on his hog production. A few simple records will show what gains he gets on an average and how much feed is consumed per 100 pounds of hogs marketed or slaughtered.

Brown: What is the farmer's outlook in hog feeding?

Williams: With rapidly rising costs and shortages, especially of labor, next year may be less profitable, even though the price level is higher. Every farmer should, therefore, be doing everything possible to cash in on the present situation. Feed probably will be higher next year in comparison with hog prices. Now is the time to feed hogs to heavier weights to obtain extra profits and give the government the needed pork and lard supplies, and to produce to the maximum for use by farm families.

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK**  
**IN AGRICULTURE AND**  
**HOME ECONOMICS**

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE OF TEXAS  
AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

STATE OF TEXAS

EXTENSION SERVICE  
COUNTY AGENT WORK

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

June 19, 1942

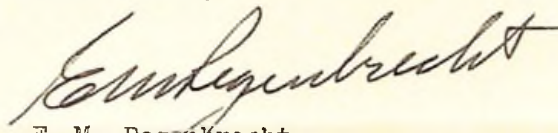
Mr. J. H. Williams  
District Agent  
Prairie View, Texas

Dear Williams:

I have your letter of March 26 with registration papers attached. This matter has been taken up with Sanders and with Mr. Dahlberg and we have made arrangements whereby the Animal Husbandry Department will breed the gilts in the Cow-Hog-Hen Program without cost. They have also agreed to give a second service this fall, charging the boys a reasonable service fee at that time and the money thus received will be turned over to the boy who owns the boar. This arrangement I believe will be fair to the boy who owns the boar as well as to the boys who own the gilts.

I am today sending the registration papers  
back to Sanders.

Yours truly,



E. M. Regenbrecht  
Extension Swine Husbandman

EMR:EM  
cc R. A. Sanders

# COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK

## IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE OF TEXAS  
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EXTENSION SERVICE  
COUNTY AGENT WORK

1224 13th Street  
Huntsville, Texas  
October 13, 1942.

Mr. J. H. Williams  
District Agent  
Prairie View College  
Prairie View Texas.

Dear Mr. Williams,

We are planning a one day training meeting for County Agricultural Victory Leaders on Friday October 23, 1942. We would deeply appreciate your coming over and assisting us with our program on that date. Please notify us by return mail as to whether or not you can arrange to be present so that we may proceed with the arrangements of the program.

Yours very truly,

*K. H. Malone*

K. H. Malone

Negro Co. Agri. Agent

*E. L. Merrell*

Elizabeth Merrell

Negro Co. Home Demstr. Agent