Record Keeping Booklet
For Your Swine Project Animal

Portions of this Record Keeping Booklet have been adapted for use from the Alberta 4-H Record Keeping Manual
Code of Practice Contract

The following describes general responsibilities of (4-H member)____________________ and all persons in his or her authority in the proper care and handling of their 4-H project animal(s).

- To provide food, water and care necessary to protect the health and welfare of their project animal.
- To provide a safe and healthy environment for the project animal that is clean, well ventilated and provides ample space.
- To provide a well planned disease prevention program to protect the health of the project animal and the rest of the herd. This includes a strong veterinary/client relationship.
- To use humane and sanitary methods when it becomes necessary to treat or dispose of any animal.
- To make timely inspections of all animals to evaluate the health and insure that all basic requirements are being met.
- To insure proper handling techniques are used to eliminate any undue stress or injury when manual manipulation project animals is necessary.
- To provide transportation for project animals that avoid undue stress or injury caused by overcrowding, excessive time in transit, or improper handling when loading or unloading.
- To willfully mistreat any animal will not be tolerated and authorities could be notified.
- To make management decisions based on scientific facts and to consider the welfare of all animals.
- To learn about species-specific quality assurance programs to be sure they are applied as closely as possible to your project animal.

I have read, understand and commit to the above statements.

4-H Member________________________________________

4-H Leader_________________________________________

Parent or Guardian___________________________________

Date ___________________________________
**CARING FOR MY PROJECT ANIMAL**

Check the things that you are already doing well to care for your project animal. If you want to improve how you care for your animal check that column, too.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I’m already doing</th>
<th>I want to improve</th>
<th>Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prepare facilities before I get my animal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Provide adequate housing and bedding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feed my animal regularly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feed a balanced ration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Provide good quality water at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Control internal and external parasites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Train my animal at a young age.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Have a planned health program to prevent disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Observe animals daily and get treatment for those who need it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Have animals identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Keep feed and treatment records.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Be aware of animal comfort at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use proper technique for vaccination or treatments of any kind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use only proper handling equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sort and load animals safely and with concern for their health and safety.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Be respectful of your project animal and have fun.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABOUT ME:

Name of Member:_________________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________________________________
City:___________________ Postal Code______________ hone Number___________________
Name of Parent or Guardian: ________________________________________
My age as of January 1st of this year__________
My total number of years completed as a 4-H member is____________
List the other 4-H Projects you are involved in________________________

ABOUT MY CLUB

Club Name________________________  Number of members__________
4-H Association________________________4-H Region__________________
Club Leaders _____________________Phone______________________
_____________________Phone______________________
_____________________Phone______________________

CLUB EXECUTIVE

President _______________________Phone______________________
Vice President___________________ Phone_______________________
Secretary______________________  Phone_______________________
Treasurer______________________  Phone_______________________
Club Reporter__________________  Phone_______________________
Other_________________________ Phone_______________________
_________________________ Phone_______________________
_________________________ Phone_______________________
ABOUT MY PROJECT PIG:

Date 4-H member began caring for project pig __________________________

Breed of swine__________________________ Date of Birth________________

Sex_______ Tattoo or ID number_____________________________________

Sire and Dam if known _____________________________________________

Address where the animal is being housed: _____________________________

Number or pigs in the 4-H pen. ________Size of the pen (meters squared)____

Type of penning______________________________

Type of flooring___________________________________________________

Type of feeder being used______________# of pigs per feeder___________

Type of waterer being used______________# of pigs per waterer___________

Type of manure system in the pen e.g. liquid, straw etc.____________________

Draw a floor plan of the pen in which your project pig is being housed.
Write a short paragraph about the breed of your project pig or if it is not purebred what type of cross is your project animal and what are the benefits of this type of crossbred pig.

Place a current photo of you project pig - be sure to date and title the photo.

Colour:______________________________________________________

Special Markings______________________________________________

Date and Purchase of Ownership________________________________

Where and from whom did your project pig come?
RECORD OF MEMBER TRAINING AND GOALS:

MEMBER: Are you a Novice _____  
         Junior_____  
         Intermediate_____  
         Senior_____  

If you have already shown a project pig before what are your goals for this year?

Why did you join the swine project this year?

If you have not shown a swine project before what are your goals for this year?

Do you have any fun activities that you would like to see the club do for this year?

Any other goals?

Remember, the more you put into your 4-H club year, the more you will get out of it!
## EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment on hand</th>
<th>Value at the start of the project</th>
<th>Depreciation of 10% per year</th>
<th>Value at the end of the project year.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Example food and water equipment</td>
<td>$24.00</td>
<td>$2.40</td>
<td>$21.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brush</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>(A) $</td>
<td>(B) $</td>
<td>(C) $</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment Item (New Purchases)</th>
<th>Date Purchased</th>
<th>Value of purchase</th>
<th>Value at the end of the project year.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>(C)$</td>
<td>(D)$</td>
<td>(E)$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total value of equipment on hand (C) + Value of Equipment Purchased (E) = Total value of equipment (F) $

________(C) + ____________ (E) = __________________ (F)
CARING FOR YOUR SWINE PROJECT ANIMAL

Having an animal under your care is a big responsibility. List the duties and chores that you are responsible for to ensure that your project animal is healthy and happy while in your care. Your to do list:

DAILY:

WEEKLY:

MONTHLY:

ANNUALLY: (YEARLY IF THE ANIMAL IS RETURNING TO THE HERD)

ANY SPECIAL DUTIES NOT LISTED:
## FEEDING RECORDS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Feed Purchased, size of bag and lot number on bag.</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Cost=

How much do you feed per feeding and per day? ________________gms.

Can you determine how many feedings there are per bag of feed?

If you are feeding more than one type of feed calculate of all types of feed you are feeding your project swine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feed type</th>
<th>Size of the feed bag in gms</th>
<th>Amount fed per day in gms</th>
<th>Amount of daily feeding per package</th>
<th>Cost per daily feeding in $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attach a sample feed tag into your record book.
ANALYZING your Feed:

Do you feed a brand name feed? ____________________________.

Why did you choose this brand of feed? __________________________

What type of ration does this feed say it is? (E.g. grower, maintenance, finisher)

From the tag on your feed what are the guaranteed nutritional analysis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>What % does your label read?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protein (min)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat (min)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiber (max)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moist or dry matter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others on the list</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have you had any feeding problems? Does your pig accept his feeding well? If you are having problems describe them.

What may be the possible reason for feeding problems?

What steps will you take to solve this problem?
HEALTH and VACCINATION RECORDS

Identification number of your project animal _______________________

Exam completed by:_______________________________________________

Date:__________________________________________________________

Temperature_______________

Breathing_______________

Pulse____________________

Weight (beginning)_____________________(End)___________________

Height____________________

Stools___________________

Behaviour:    Lively and alert ______________________________________
           Interested _________________________________________
           Appetite _________________________________________
           Condition of hair coat ______________________________
           Eyes (clear not running)____________________________
           Nose (no discharge or sneezing)______________________
           Feet and Legs_____________________________________

On Exam day were there any other items of note or comments?

Did your project pig receive any vaccinations or deworming? If so what was used and in what dose?

__________________________________________________________________________

Will your project animal need any form of booster shot? If so when will it be required?

__________________________________________________________________________
# RECORD of SICKNESS or INJURY:

Use this chart below to record any sickness, injuries or medical conditions that your project pig may develop over the course of this season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Action taken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What steps are you taking to ensure the safety of your project pig and safety for yourself when working with your project pig?
### TRAINING and ACTIVITY RECORD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity practiced or done for your project swine</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You may need to add another of these sheets to your book to take you to the close of your project year.
SHOW RECORD of my PROJECT SWINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Show date</th>
<th>Show attended and transport cost if applicable.</th>
<th>Classes entered &amp; cost</th>
<th>Placings</th>
<th>Judge(s)</th>
<th>Awards received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR PROJECT YEAR

Value invested

Year end value of your project animal  $___________________

Year end value of cost of equipment (pg 8)  $___________________

TOTAL VALUE INVESTED  $___________________

Cost of feed for your project animal  $___________________

Veterinary costs for medications, vaccinations worming or others  $___________________

Membership fees  $___________________

Costs to enter shows and for hauling to shows  $___________________

Any additional costs  $___________________

TOTAL COST FOR PROJECT YEAR=  $___________________

If your project animal went auction or a private buyer after the project year was finished what price did you receive for the animal?

$______________

What was your net gain or loss on your project animal for the season?

$______________

What was the final weight on your project animal at sale?______________
FITTING AND SHOWING YOUR PIG

This handout will help you getting started on your swine showing career. Always remember that is you are showing a project animal that they should NOT be returned to the farm. They should be marketed following the show to prevent the spread of disease.

TRAINING GUIDELINES:

DOs
- Start early. Stay in the area that is familiar to the pig (alleyway or even the pen) when starting to train. Keeping the pig in a closed area makes it harder for the animal to run away.
- Be gentle. Remember that you are training the animal and it takes a lot of time and patience. Treat the animal with care. A slight tapping with your cane should be sufficient to move the animal. Your pig should stop when a cane is placed in front of, or to the side of, the head as a guide. Practice by using other members of the family as judges to get your pig ready for showing condition.
- Be consistent. Use the same signals while practicing. Write them down if you can’t remember what you did. Practice in the cool of the day. This will reduce the stress on your pig and on you.

DONT’S
- Don’t stroke the pig or tap the animal on the top of the back.
- Don’t touch the pig with your hands. Use the cane to prod the pig gently.

PREPARATIONS PRIOR TO THE SHOW:

Your pig should be washed several times before the show. Cleanliness is important during this period. Keep the pen clean at all times. Trimming feet and hair will probably not be necessary and should only be done on the advise of an expert.

WASHING AND FITTING begins several weeks before the show. Washing helps to loosen the scurf (dirt and dead skin cells). Warm, soapy water and a soft brush will do a good cleaning job. A very mild soap is recommended. It is important to be sure that all the soap is removed from the hair by rinsing once or twice with clean water. To shorten drying time, this water should be brushed off. Brush in the direction of the hair only.

After you have washed your pig for the final time the night before the show, it is helpful to rub it with a clean dry cloth or shavings until dry. This helps to make the coat appear brighter. The hair can be left full of shavings overnight. The next morning before the show, you can brush out the shavings and dust.

Although the final fitting is the most important, you will be able to do a better job if you have washed your gilt or barrow a few times previous to the final fitting.
CLEAN BEDDING will keep your pig clean, so washing should not be necessary the following morning. However, if stains are a problem, rubbing with fine sawdust can help to remove them.

THE SHOW—TRANSPORTATION

Show day is here, and this is where all your hard work and practice pays off!! Be careful when loading your pig, so you do not stress or hurt the pig or yourself. The following points are important in transporting.
- Make sure the truck or trailer are appropriate for hauling your pig to show.
- Put clean straw for bedding in the truck
- Be sure there are no sharp objects in the truck or trailer.
- Arrive about two hours before show time to give yourself a chance to get ready and give your pig a chance to rest.

EQUIPMENT YOU NEED TO BRING TO THE SHOW:

Put the following items in your show box to take with you.
- Soft brush
- Pail
- Cloth
- Soap
- Cane
- Clean, neat clothing (bring these with you as you will get dirty unloading your pig and tidying it up for the show)
- A moving or handling board to unload the pigs and keep them from fighting.

GETTING READY TO SHOW:

- Unload your pig and put it in the proper holding area.
- Remove any dirt picked up while traveling to the show.
- Clean the feet and legs of your pig and make sure the bedding is clean.
- Let your pig rest.
- Change into your show clothes.
- Just before going into the show ring, brush off any dirt or dry straw and do not allow the pig to root or lie down.
- Be prepared to answer questions.

DRESS CODE FOR THE SHOW

Wear dark pants with a white top such as a T-shirt or dress shirt. Tops should be plain unless T-shirts are provided by the show or are designated for use at a special show. Clothing supplied or designated by a show must be worn as recommended. Dress neatly including, properly tied shoes.
YOUR SCORECARD AS THE JUDGE SEES IT FOR SHOWMANSHP:

- Dress code 10
- Showing equipment 10
- Technique 50
- Control 15
- Showing animal to best advantage 15
- Entering and leaving the ring 10
- Attitude 10
- Exhibit (the pig) 30

**TOTAL** 100 points

**SHOWING EQUIPMENT:**
Brush- small, to fit in rear pants pocket; not to be carried in hand unless in use
Cane- the straight end only should be held in hand; the hook is used to guide the pig.

**CONTROL:**
- The showperson should keep control of the pig at all times in a relaxed manner. Your pig should be trained to respond to the touch of the cane.
- Keep the pig about 5 m from the judge. The pig should be kept between yourself and the judge. The showperson should be near the rear of the pig while guiding it. Keep one eye on the judge and one eye on the pig.
- Try not to interfere with other animals or people. Use the cane as much as possible to control the pig.

**SHOWING THE ANIMAL TO ITS BEST ADVANTAGE:**
The swine showperson must recognize the conformation faults of his/her animal and correct these to the best of his/her ability. It is the showperson’s responsibility to find out the strong points of the animal that he/she is showing. The pig should be kept moving and displayed to its best advantage.

**ENTERING AND LEAVING THE RING:**
Enter quickly and smoothly. When asked to pen the animal, proceed directly to the designated pen. Close the gate behind you. Freshen the pig if required. Keep the pig between yourself and the judge while paying attention to the judge. After leaving the pen, close the gate behind you.

**ATTITUDE:**
Your attitude towards fellow competitors and their animals is a very important part of showmanship. You must respond quickly and smoothly to the requests of the judges and officials. You must always be courteous and sportsmanlike to everyone.

**EXHIBIT:**
Your pig must be sparkling clean. It should be in its natural state and be shown without the use of powders, oils or clipping. Any foreign materials such as shavings, straw or dirt that the pig might acquire while in the show ring should be removed immediately.

**MOST OF ALL, HAVE FUN!!**