

Wheat. This grain has a higher feeding value than barley, but requires mixing with other meal to get the best results. It combines very well with barley, or barley and middlings.

Oats. Owing to the amount of fibre in this food, hogs cannot digest it so well as can cattle. Oats are more suitable for matured breeding stock than for young or fattening pigs, though a few finely ground oats may be used in a mixture to give variety, and to lighten heavier meal, such as that from peas, wheat, or corn. For young pigs, they are better to have the coarser hulls sifted out.

Rye. Rye has a feeding value a little lower than wheat, and a little higher than barley. It may be used in practically the same way as wheat.

Corn. This is a fattening food, and is not conducive to the development of bone and muscle. When fed alone, it gives poor results in producing gain in weight; and its bad influence upon the quality of bacon has already been described. If fed at all, it should be mixed largely with barley or middlings, or both; and some form of succulent food or skim-milk should always be fed with it. Owing to its tendency to produce soft bacon, it should be used as little as possible for hog feeding, when bacon production is the object.

Middlings. This by-product is also called shorts, though some millers make a distinction between shorts and middlings. It is almost universally used for young pigs, and mixed with skim-milk when such is available. If very floury, it is safer to mix a little bran with it, or some finely ground oats with the coarser hulls sifted out, when used for very young pigs; otherwise it sometimes causes indigestion. Soaking for a few hours, or scalding, improves it for young pigs. It combines well with almost any kind of meal, and makes a good food for pigs of all ages.

Bran. The use of bran in pig feeding is rather limited. It contains too much fibre, and is rather too bulky to be fed in large quantity to pigs. Sometimes a little of it can be used to advantage for the purpose of diluting or lightening other foods, as has been indicated. It can be used in larger quantity for matured breeding stock, where the object is to hold the animals in light breeding condition.

Skim-milk. With the exception of whole milk, there is perhaps no food better suited to pigs of all ages than skim-milk. It is especially beneficial in the case of young pigs, and tends to promote the development of bone and muscle. For fattening purposes, milk has been found to have the greatest feeding value per 100 pounds, when not more than three pounds of milk are fed for each pound of meal. Fed in this way, as low as 327 pounds of skim-milk have proved equal to 100 pounds of meal. This is an exceptionally good showing, however. In Danish experiments, it required, on an average, about 600 pounds of milk to equal 100 pounds of meal; but in these cases a very much larger proportion of milk to meal was used than the proportion mentioned above. In feeding skim-milk, therefore, the feeder must take into account the relative cost of milk and meal, in deciding what proportions to feed.

A strong point in favor of skim-milk, is the excellent quality of bacon it produces. It tends to correct the evil influences of corn, when fed in conjunction with that food; and our experience is that when it is used, hogs produce firm bacon though kept in comparatively close confinement.

Whey. Though unsuitable for very young pigs, a limited amount of whey gives very good results after the pigs are three or four months old. We have obtained the best results from whey feeding by using only enough whey to make the meal into a thick slop. When fed in this way, we have found that it requires from 12 to 14 pounds of whey to be equal in feeding value to one