

# Management Guidelines for Optimizing PIC 337 Sired Pig Performance

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The PIC 337 is North America's Best Selling Boar for a reason- its makes more money for producers and processors. In order to maximize those economic benefits, it is important to recognize that the fast growing progeny of the 337 be given the feed, space and handling that pigs of their size need to perform their best. Below are PIC's recommendations for Optimizing performance on PIC 337's fast growing progeny.

## 1. Feed and Feeder Specifications

### A. Recommended Feed Manufacturing Specifications (Form and Particle Size)

Physical form

- Preferred feed form is mash feed. If pellets are fed, insure that particle size specifications are met and there are minimal respiratory issues or off feed events

Particle size (Mash or Pellets)

- 700-800 microns
- < 30% over 1 mm
- < 20% under 300 microns
- < 2.5% under 150 microns

### B. Feeder Requirements (Dry and Tube)

Dry Feeders

- Maximum of 12 pigs per feeder space
- Minimum of 14 inches of head space per pig

Tube Feeders

- Maximum of 11 pigs per tube
- Minimum of 2 inches of trough space per pig

### C. Minimize Incidence of Off-feed Events

Control respiratory and enteric disease through strategic feed and water medications and /or vaccinations

Minimize mechanical feed disruption

- Check feed delivery system and bin inventories daily
- Meet minimum feed particle size requirements
- Maximum of 4 % added fat in mash feed

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## 2. Space Requirements

### A. Adjust Pen Space Needs for Fast Growth

- Minimum of 7.0 sq feet per pig for pigs weighing less than 265 pounds
- Minimum of 8.5 sq feet per pig for pigs weighing greater than 265 pounds
- Optimum space requirement dependent on economic value of space

### B. Pig Flow Recommendations

- Single source into buildings with a maximum of 7 days age spread at placement
- Practice AIAO management by site
- Minimize mixing of pigs after placement.
- Only remove pigs that cannot compete in the current pen environment

### C. Marketing and Transport

- Only practice feed withdrawal on barn close-outs
- All drivers should be TQA Certified (Trucker Quality Assurance Program sponsored by the National Pork Board).
- Paylean®
  - Incidence of deads and downers may increase with Paylean® use. Insure that handling and transport procedures minimize stress to reduce potential transport loss.
  - Transport losses may increase as inclusion level and duration of feeding increases

## 3. Nutritional Needs

- See PIC Nutrient Specifications (2003)