



This purebred Berkshire barrow would be competitive in a market-hog show just about anywhere in the world.

The shoat in a market-hog project has a twofold task: to eat and to grow. It is the young person's responsibility to see that the shoat is kept comfortable, safe, and healthy while fulfilling its tasks.

The project begins with a rather young animal, just 8 to 10 weeks of age. As the animal grows and matures, its feed

better next time, then it will serve as the incentive to move on to something else, where youthful talents will be more focused and better applied.

Housing and Equipment

Housing for hogs being readied for show need be neither expensive nor elaborate. I can recall seeing more than one \$3,000 gilt drinking from a \$3 rubber pan and snuffling through the dirt of an open lot for stray grains of corn like any other hog.

The facilities for feeding out a small number of hogs outlined in chapter 3 should be more than adequate for holding and readying two or three head for show. Show hogs will be pushed for optimum growth in what can be some of the hottest weather of the year, however, which is a very important consideration.

Toward that end, I like to see housing for show pigs placed in an area that is well shaded by mature trees and that prevailing breezes can flow through. You must have airflow to cool growing hogs in hot and humid weather; to enhance it, a house with doors on both ends or a back panel that can be raised and lowered is preferable. These can be opened in proper sequence to facilitate airflow through the house and across the hogs.

SHOWING PIGS VERSUS
CALVES OR LAMBS