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**2025/2027 Cost of Production**

# **Weaner Pig (Nursery)**





Guidelines For Estimating  
**Weaner Pig (Nursery) Costs 6 to 26 kg**  
Based on marketing 35,512 pigs

Date: June, 2025

This guide is designed to provide you with planning information and a format for calculating costs of production of a swine weaner 6 to 26 kg enterprise in Manitoba. This type of operation is intended to represent the second stage, or nursery, of a three stage pork system. General Manitoba Agriculture recommendations are assumed in using feed and veterinary inputs. These figures provide an economic evaluation of the livestock and estimated prices required to cover all costs. Costs include labour, investment and depreciation, but do not include management costs, nor do they necessarily represent the average cost of production in Manitoba.

These budgets may be adjusted by putting in your own figures. As a producer you are encouraged to calculate your own costs of production. The assumptions on which the costs are based are outlined in the supporting pages. These assumptions were arrived at using the breeding stock, management practices, and facilities seen in modern, well managed swine operations of comparable size in Manitoba. Productivity and performance assumptions are based on information collected by department specialists, feed companies and other organizations. Where individual herd productivity and performance levels differ from those listed, adjustments will be required.

This tool is available as an Excel worksheet at:



[The Farm Machinery Custom and Rental Rate Guide](#) is also available to help determine machinery costs.

**Contact Us**

For more information, contact a Farm Management Specialist.

- [manitoba.ca/agriculture](http://manitoba.ca/agriculture)
- [mbfarmbusiness@gov.mb.ca](mailto:mbfarmbusiness@gov.mb.ca)
- 1-844-769-6224

**Note:** This budget is only a guide and is not intended as an in-depth study of the cost of production of this industry. Interpretation and use of this information is the responsibility of the user. If you need help with a budget, contact a Farm Management Specialist.

## **Weaner Pig (Nursery) Costs 6 to 26 kg Cost of Production**

The following farrow wean cost of production budget is based on the assumption that all feed is purchased.

The budget includes a land investment cost for 40 acres, with 0 acres rented out at \$100 per acre, of the estimated 81 to 126 acres of total landbase that would be required for this size of livestock operation. This land base falls within the 2XP2O5 application rate, soil phosphorus levels permitting.

The rations illustrated in this budget are examples only. Individual farm conditions should be taken into account when formulating the diets. Producers need to know what the feed intakes of their animals are. Please consult with a nutritionist for diet formulations suggestions.

The Manitoba pork production industry profile is changing and this budget was specifically designed to address the need of producers who may want to analyze the cost of starting up or switching to a swine nursery 6 to 26 kg operation. Several companies are offering contracts with varying levels of guarantees. Producers need to accurately calculate their costs before they can properly make a decision.

### Weaner Pig (Nursery) 6 to 26 kg Summary - June, 2025

	Purchased Feed		<u>Your Cost</u>
	<u>\$/Pig</u> <u>Sold</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Cost</u>	
<b>A. Operating Costs</b>			
<b>1. Feed Costs:</b>			
Pre Starter 1	\$1.23	\$43,680	_____
Pre Starter 2	\$4.10	\$145,599	_____
Starter 1	\$10.09	\$358,316	_____
Starter 2	<u>\$11.06</u>	<u>\$392,763</u>	_____
<b>Total Feed Cost</b>	<b>\$26.48</b>	<b>\$940,358</b>	_____
<b>2. Other Operating Costs:</b>			
Weanling cost	\$63.00	\$2,237,256	_____
Veterinary Medicine & Supplies	\$2.82	\$100,000	_____
Maintenance & Repairs	\$0.19	\$6,627	_____
Hydro & Propane	\$1.58	\$56,148	_____
Insurance	\$0.46	\$16,421	_____
Manure Costs	\$0.39	\$13,742	_____
Office Supplies	\$0.04	\$1,560	_____
Levy, Marketing & Transportation	\$3.74	\$132,815	_____
Property Taxes	<u>\$0.30</u>	<u>\$10,600</u>	_____
Subtotal Operating Costs	\$99.00	\$3,515,527	_____
2.10 Interest on Operating Cost	<u>\$0.65</u>	<u>\$23,169</u>	_____
<b>Total Operating Costs</b>	<b>\$99.65</b>	<b>\$3,538,696</b>	_____
<b>B. Fixed Costs</b>			
Buildings & Manure Storage	\$1.92	\$68,337	_____
Barn Equipment	\$2.72	\$96,665	_____
Land	<u>\$0.38</u>	<u>\$13,551</u>	_____
<b>Total Fixed Costs</b>	<b>\$5.03</b>	<b>\$178,553.00</b>	_____
<b>C. Labour</b>			
Wages, benefits and hired manager	\$1.90	\$67,392	_____
<b>Total Cost of Production</b>	<b>\$106.57</b>	<b>\$3,784,641</b>	_____

### Profitability and Breakeven Analysis

	<u>Per Pig</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Estimated Farmgate</b>		
Market Price per weanling	\$87.00	\$3,089,544
Land rental per head sold	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>Gross Revenue / hog</b>	<b>\$87.00</b>	<b>\$3,089,544</b>
<b>Marginal Returns</b>		
Over Operating Costs	(\$12.65)	(\$449,151)
Over Operating & Labour Costs	(\$14.55)	(\$516,543)
<b>Over Total Costs (Net Profit)</b>	<b>(\$19.57)</b>	<b>(\$695,096)</b>
<b>Operating Expense Ratio</b>	<b>114.5%</b>	
<b>Breakeven Selling Price</b>	<u><b>\$/Pig</b></u>	
Operating Costs	\$99.65	
Operating & Labour Costs	\$101.55	
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$106.57</b>	
<b>Return On Assets (ROA)</b>	<b>(38.5%)</b>	

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## Risk & Sensitivity Analysis

	<u>Purchased Feed Per Pig</u>
<b>A. Operating Costs</b>	
Feed cost	\$26.48
Weanling cost	\$63.00
Other Operating Costs	<u>\$10.17</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$99.65
<b>B. Fixed Costs</b>	\$5.03
<b>C. Labour</b>	<u>\$1.90</u>
<b>Total Costs</b>	\$106.57

### Estimated Farmgate

Price (\$ per weanling)	\$87.00
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	Up	Down
Percent Market Price Variation	10.0%	10.0%
Percent Feed Cost Variation	10.0%	5.0%
Percent Weanling Cost Variation	5.0%	5.0%

Higher Market Price	\$95.70
Lower Market Price	\$78.30
Higher Feed Cost	\$29.13
Lower Feed Cost	\$25.16
Higher Weanling Purchase Cost	\$66.15
Lower Weanling Purchase Cost	\$59.85

### Higher Margin Scenario - Market Price Up 10%, Feed Price Down 5% and Weanling Purchase Cost Down 5%

Operating Costs	\$95.17
<b>Total Costs</b>	\$102.10
Gross Revenue / hog	\$95.70
<b>Marginal Returns</b>	
Over Operating Costs	\$0.53
Over Operating & Labour Costs	(\$1.37)
Over Total Costs (Net Profit)	(\$6.40)
<b>Operating Expense Ratio</b>	99.5%

### Lower Margin Scenario - Market Price Down 10%, Feed Price Up 10% and Weanling Purchase Cost Up 5%

Operating Costs	\$105.45
<b>Total Costs</b>	\$112.37
Gross Revenue / hog	\$78.30
<b>Marginal Returns</b>	
Over Operating Costs	(\$27.15)
Over Operating & Labour Costs	(\$29.04)
Over Total Costs (Net Profit)	(\$34.07)
<b>Operating Expense Ratio</b>	134.7%

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### Weaner Pig (Nursery) Production Costs 6 to 26 kg

1. This input table outlines the cost of production for the weaner barn only.
2. Buildings and equipment are valued at new cost.
3. Manure haulage is contracted out.

#### Herd Profile

Weaner Pig Places	5,200
Number of turns	7
Weaner Pigs Purchased	36,400
Percent Post-Weaning Mortality	2.4
Pigs Died, Post-Weaning	888
Weaner Pigs Sold	35,512
Average Market Price	\$87.00
Weanling Formula Factor (% of Mkt Price)	64.44 %
Calculated Weanling Purchase Price	\$63.00 /pig

Weaner Pig Efficiency	Pre Starter 1 Ration 1	Pre Starter 2 Ration 2	Starter 1 Ration 3	Starter 2 Ration 4	
Days Post-Weaning (nursery)	3.0	8.0	17.0	14.0	42
Target Starting Weight (kg)	6.0	6.5	9.0	16.5	6.0
Target Ending Weight (kg)	6.5	9.0	16.5	26.0	26.0
Average Daily Gain (kg)	0.17	0.31	0.44	0.68	0.53

Days Weaner on feed (nursery)	42 days
Total Cycle Days (per turn)	52 days
Target Starting Weight	6.0 kg
Target Ending Weight	26.0 kg
Feed Conversion Ratio (feed:gain)	1.66 kg
Average Daily Gain	0.53 kg

Feed Requirements and Costs	Ration 1	Ration 2	Ration 3	Ration 4	
kg weight gain/pig	0.50	2.50	7.50	9.50	
x FCR (Feed:Gain)	1.60	1.60	1.59	1.74	1.66
= kg ration/pig	0.8	4.0	11.9	16.5	
x ration cost per tonne	\$1,502	\$1,000	\$827	\$654	
÷ kg/tonne	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
x weanlings purchased	36,400	36,400	36,400	36,400	
÷ pigs sold	35,512	35,512	35,512	35,512	
= /pig sold	\$1.23	\$4.10	\$10.09	\$11.06	

#### Other Operating Costs, Taxes and Land

##### Veterinary Cost

	\$2,000	professional services
+	\$98,000	medication
÷	35,512	pigs sold
=	\$2.82	/pig sold

**Maintenance & Repairs**

	<b>0.55</b>	% of total capital investment
x	\$1,204,840	total buildings and equipment cost
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	<b>\$0.19</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>

**Utilities**

	<b>\$0.09324</b> /kwhr	Hydro rate
x	<b>200,000</b> kwhr	Hydro usage
	<b>\$0.75</b> /litre	Propane rate
x	<b>50,000</b> litres	Propane usage
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	<b>\$1.58</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>

**Insurance**

	\$1,204,840	value - buildings & equipment
x	<b>\$0.78</b>	/\$100 Capital Invested
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	\$0.26	/pig sold
	5,200	average number pigs in barn
x	\$87.00	estimated market value of hogs
x	<b>\$0.88</b>	/\$100 Capital Invested
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	\$0.11	/pig sold
	<b>\$75.00</b>	Business Interruption Insured value
x	5,200	average number in barn
x	<b>\$0.78</b>	rate /\$100
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	\$0.09	/pig sold
=	<b>\$0.46</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>



**Manure Costs****Haulage**

2.4 litres/pig/day

x	365	days/year
x	5,200	average inventory of pigs
x	<b>\$0.0030</b>	/litre = \$0.014 /gallon
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	\$0.38	/pig sold

**Estimated Nutrient Value**

	2.4	litres/pig/day
x	365	days/year
x	5,200	average inventory of pigs
÷	<u>1,000</u>	
=	4,555	# of 1000 litres of manure

	Nitrogen	Phosphate	Potassium
kg per 1000 litres	<b>2.62</b>	<b>0.59</b>	<b>1.37</b>
x # of 1000 litres of manure	4,555	4,555	4,555
x % nutrient value recovery	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
÷ lbs per kg	2.2046	2.2046	2.2046
x fertilizer value per lb.	<b>\$0.90</b>	<b>\$0.90</b>	<b>\$0.50</b>
÷ <u>pigs sold</u>	<u>35,512</u>	<u>35,512</u>	<u>35,512</u>
= estimated nutrient value / pig sold	<b>\$0.08</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

\* kg/1000 L x 10 = lbs/1000 imp. Gallons

**Odour control & Mgmt Fees**

	<b>\$0</b>	Odour control (barley straw)
+	<b>\$3,000</b>	Manure Management Fee
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	\$0.08	/pig sold
=	<b>\$0.39</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>

**Office Supplies**

	<b>\$0.30</b>	/pig place
x	5,200	pig places
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	<b>\$0.04</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>

**Marketing & Transportation**

	<b>\$3.50</b>	Trucking in
+	<b>\$0.00</b>	Trucking out
+	<b>\$0.19</b>	Council Levy
+	<b>\$0.00</b>	Grading Charge
+	<b>\$0.00</b>	Truck Washing
+	<b>\$0.05</b>	Insurance
±	<u><b>\$0.00</b></u>	<u>Special Levy</u>
=	<b>\$3.74</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>

Interest on Operating Cost		7.00 %
	\$63.00	weaner cost
x	42	total days to market
x	7.0	% operating rate
÷	<u>365</u>	<u>days/year</u>
=	\$0.51	/pig sold
	\$99.00	subtotal operating cost
-	\$63.00	weaner cost
÷	2	average
x	42	total days to market
÷	365	days/year
x	<u>7.0</u>	<u>% operating rate</u>
=	\$0.14	/pig sold
=	<b>\$0.65</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>

Property Taxes		
	<b>\$10,000</b>	taxes on grower-finisher barn & land
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	\$0.28	/pig sold
	<b>\$15.00</b>	taxes on land
x	40	acres
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	\$0.02	/pig sold
=	<b>\$0.30</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>

Labour		
	<b>48.0</b>	hours/week
x	52	weeks/year
=	2,496	total hours/year
x	<b>\$27.00</b>	wage/hour (includes hired manager)
÷	<u>35,512</u>	<u>pigs sold</u>
=	<b>1.90</b>	<b>/pig sold</b>

\*\* FOOTNOTE: 1 cubic metre = 1000 litres  
 1 cubic metre = 35.314 cubic feet  
 1 cubic metre = 219.97 imperial gallons

Fixed Costs					
<b>Pig Places<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>3.0</b> ft. <sup>2</sup> per Pig Place	<b>15,600</b> ft. <sup>2</sup> Total		
<b><u>Buildings</u></b>	<b><u>\$/pig place</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>Barn Equipment</u></b>	<b><u>\$/pig place</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
Barn Cost	<b>\$126</b>	<b>\$655,200</b> (\$42/sq.ft.)	Weaner Barn	<b>\$70</b>	<b>\$364,000</b> (\$23/sq.ft.)
Office and Loading (300 sq.ft.)	<b>\$1.75</b>	<b>\$9,100</b> (\$30/sq.ft.)	Other	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$104,000</b>
Manure Storage	<b>\$8.25</b>	<b>\$42,900</b>	Fire Alarm System	<b>\$0.20</b>	<b>\$1,040</b>
Standby Generator	<b>\$3.00</b>	<b>\$15,600</b>	Storage Bins	<b>\$2.50</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>
<b>Total Barn Cost</b>	<b>\$139.00</b>	<b>\$722,800</b>	<b>Total Equipment Cost</b>	<b>\$92.70</b>	<b>\$482,040</b>
Residual Value (End of Useful Life)		<b>50%</b>	Residual Value (End of Useful Life)		<b>10%</b>
Useful Life (years)		<b>25</b>	Useful Life (years)		<b>10</b>
Owned Barn Equity		<b>25%</b>	Owned Barn Equipment Equity		<b>25%</b>
Barn Financed		<b>75%</b>	Barn Equipment Financed		<b>75%</b>
Barn Opportunity Cost (Investment Rate)		<b>1.50%</b>	Equipment Opportunity Cost (Investment Rate)		<b>1.50%</b>
<b><u>Buildings Cost</u></b>			<b><u>Barn Equipment Cost</u></b>		
Finance Rate & Term	<b>7.000%</b>	<b>20</b> Years	Finance Rate & Term	<b>7.000%</b>	<b>10</b> Years
Principle & Interest Cost		<b>\$51,170</b>	Principle & Interest Cost		<b>\$51,474</b>
Buildings Depreciation Cost		<b>\$14,456</b>	Equipment Depreciation Cost		<b>\$43,384</b>
Owned Building Opportunity Cost		<b>\$2,711</b>	Owned Equipment Opportunity Cost		<b>\$1,808</b>
<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>\$68,337</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>\$96,665</b>
<b>Total Cost \$/pig sold (based on 35,512)</b>		<b>\$1.92</b>	<b>Total Cost \$/pig sold (based on 35,512)</b>		<b>\$2.72</b>
<b><u>Land</u></b>					
Average Land value (\$/acre)		<b>\$4,000</b>			
Acres		<b>40</b>			
Site preparation cost		<b>\$36,000</b>			
Owned Land Equity		<b>25%</b>			
Land Financed		<b>75%</b>			
Land Opportunity Cost (Investment Rate)		<b>1.50%</b>			
<b><u>Land cost</u></b>					
Finance Rate & Term	<b>6.000%</b>	<b>20</b> Years			
Principle & Interest Cost		<b>\$12,816</b> \$0.00			
Owned Land Opportunity Cost		<b>\$735</b>			
<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>\$13,551</b>			
<b>Total Cost \$/pig sold (based on 35,512)</b>		<b>\$0.38</b>			
<b><u>Land Rental</u></b>					
Number of Acres rented out	<b>0</b> acres				
Land rental rate (income)	<b>\$100</b> /acre				
<b>Total Capital Investment</b>		<b>\$1,400,840</b>			
<b>Total Capital Investment / Pig Place</b>		<b>\$269</b>			

<sup>1</sup> FOOTNOTE: The number of square feet in the building and the cost per square foot for buildings and equipment are approximations only. A certified building plan which is designed according to the average inventory of grower-finisher pigs should be used in order to get the exact dimensions and area for new buildings.

1 sq.ft. = 0.0929 sq.m; 1 sq.m. = 10.764 sq.ft.; 1 ft. = 0.3048 m

1 cubic metre = 1000 litres; 1 cubic metre = 35.314 cubic feet; 1 cubic metre = 219.97 imperial gallons

## Summary of Purchased Feed Ingredients Used

	<b>Total per Pig Mkt <u>(kgs)</u></b>	<b>Total per Year <u>(tonnes)</u></b>	<b>Total per Month <u>(tonnes)</u></b>	<b>Total per Pig Mkt <u>(lbs)</u></b>
Pre starter 1	0.8	29.1	2.4	1.8
Pre starter 2	4.1	145.6	12.1	9.0
Starter 1	12.2	433.2	36.1	26.9
Starter 2	<u>16.9</u>	<u>600.6</u>	<u>50.1</u>	<u>37.3</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>1,208.5</b>	<b>100.7</b>	<b>75.0</b>

**Total pigs sold                      35,512**

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### **Contact Us**

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