

Growth Rate

By

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How do you know how much food to feed? How do you know how fast your KuneKune is growing?

No two KuneKune from the same litter grow at the same rate. While they will generally grow at the same rate, boys will grow faster and bigger than girls. The other difficult criterion is how big are the parents?

When I have my vet come out, I always ask the vet to LOOK at the pigs before looking at the chart or scale to see the actual weight. And when my vet actually exams my pigs and checks them over by feeling their body, I hope they say that the weight is good.

But KK's are commonly overweight. So depending on the other conditions of your pigs will determine if your pigs are at a healthy weight. Be sure and know the size/weight of the parents of your KuneKune so that you can share this during vet visits. Because all KuneKune's will over eat if allowed, you may not want to free feed your pigs. Use a measuring cup and give the same amount at each feeding. Use a high quality pig food. We recommend checking with other breeders in your area.

We are what we eat. We not only control what and how much food we eat, we are solely responsible for what and how much food your pigs eat. If your pig is overweight, whose fault it that? Like all other pigs, KK's are grazers. They are generally happy with just top grass and rarely will root. An adult can live on just plenty of grass in the Spring/Summer. Generally an acre of grassland or pasture is enough for up to five pigs. If there is not enough grass, feeding them extra pellets and adding fruits and vegetables leftovers will be enough.

If KuneKune's are only fed pellets, the following is a general guideline;

Piglets 2-4 months: .5 pounds per day

Piglets 4-9 months: .75 pounds per day

Adult animals: 1-1.5 pounds per day

The more grass they have, the less pellets they need to be fed.

As you get to know your pigs you will be able to learn how much to feed them according to your eye. As soon as your pig starts getting too fat, feed LESS. A pig that is too fat, is an unhealthy pig.