



1



LAGE BABY PIG FEEDER
Manufacturer
 Lage Products Co.
 Montezuma, IA
 50171
 800/223-6507
Cost
 \$25.50
Description
 2-hole, plastic, dry feeder
Comments Large capacity

Illinois pork producers Mark and MaryLou Mathew used the creep feeders shown above on their 230-sow farm for three weeks. Their comments are included below. Most feeders were bought at World Pork Expo.

Baby pig creep feeders

Farm-tested on a 230-sow unit; producer comments (good and bad) are here

By Betsy Freese
Livestock Editor

A farm trial of products is often as valuable as a laboratory test, so we turned these baby pig creep feeders over to a pork producer.

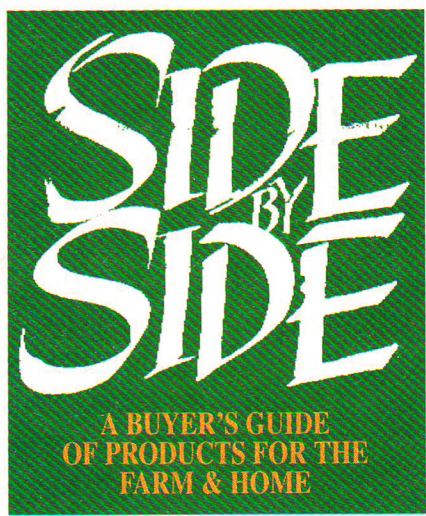
Mark Mathew, with wife MaryLou, owns a 230-sow farrow-to-feeder operation near LaHarpe, Illinois. He used each feeder shown here, except the two stainless feeders from Farmweld, for three weeks in his farrowing house. Mathew's comments on each feeder follow, listed in order of photos shown. He did not rank them. His rating system is 1 (worst) to 5 (best).

Your results may vary from Mathew's, depending on type of crate and flooring, and weaning age.

Producer comments

1. Lage Baby Pig Feeder (tall, yellow, 2-hole feeder).

Feeder installation	2
Accessibility of feed to pig	4



Feed waste	5
Durability of feeder	2
Cleanup	3

Hard to mount. Very lightweight feeder. Sow could tear it up if she got ahold of it. Large feed tank holds half a sack of creep feed, which I think is too much for a creep feeder in a crate.

May work better in a nursery pen.

2. Vittetoe Stainless Creep Feeder (large, 2-hole, stainless steel).

Feeder installation	3
Accessibility of feed to pig	5
Feed waste	5
Durability of feeder	5
Cleanup	4

Well-made feeder that is just too big for my farrowing crates. This would be better used in small groups of newly weaned pigs. When I used it in the crate, the size and flat bottom allowed the feeder to sit on the wire floor without being attached, which is good. In a situation where the sow is removed and the pigs left in the crate, this feeder would work well. This feeder is a smaller model of what I use in the nursery for pigs 15-50 lbs.

3. Agra Farrow Feed (red, round, plastic feeder that attaches to floor with a spring).

Feeder installation	
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Photographs: James R. Cobb



2 VITTOE CREEP FEEDER

Manufacturer
Vittetoe, Inc.
2112 County Line Road
Keota, IA 52248
800/848-8386
Cost
\$39

Description
Stainless steel, 2-hole creep feeder
Comments Large and heavy



3 AGRA FARROW FEED

Manufacturer
Made in Spain
Distributed by
Double LL,
Moorman's, Hdm
Tamco (800/853-HOGS) and others.

Cost
\$20 or less
Description
Round, plastic
Comments Mobile, lightweight



4 FREEDOM FEEDER

Manufacturer
The Behlen Group
2600 College Ave.
P.O. Box 115
Goshen, IN 46526
219/533-3131

Cost
\$20
Description
Plastic, adjustable feed gate, metal mounting bracket
Comments Sturdy



5 SURE START

Manufacturer
Kane Mfg., Inc.
Des Moines, IA
50317
800/247-0038

Cost
\$7.29
Description
Double-sided, 4-hole, plastic floor feeder
Comments Sturdy



6 PORKMASTER 88

Manufacturer
Nelson Products
Sioux Rapids, IA
50585

800/826-8751 or
800/826-8752 (IA)
Cost
\$7

Description
Galvanized, open-trough, 23 lbs.
Comments Available in plastic and stainless steel



7 STANFIELD FAST START

Manufacturer
Osborne Industries, Inc.
P.O. Box 388
Osborne, KS 67473
800/255-0316

Cost
\$20
Description
Tall, plastic, w/ lid, aluminum bracket
Comments Large feed pan

Accessibility of feed to pig	4
Feed waste	5
Durability of feeder	4
Cleanup	5

Easy to attach to 3-gauge wire floor. Feed waste is about zero. However, pigs showed very little interest in this feeder as well as the green Cargill feeder and the Danish red round feeder. I would rather waste a little feed and have the pigs know what it is, than see no activity at all. Older pigs at 2-3 weeks of age ate well from the feeder. This feeder could be used to wean very young pigs into the nursery using a wet feed or milk product.

4. Freedom Feeder (gray, heavy plastic feeder with V-bracket to mount to crate side).

Feeder installation	3
Accessibility of feed to pig	3
Feed waste	5
Durability of feeder	5
Cleanup	4

Similar to the red Kane upright creep feeder. Was knocked loose by the pigs' and sow's feet. Adjusts using nut on outside (for feed slide) which can be turned by older pigs. Well-made unit.

5. Kane Sure Start (red feeder with four shallow feed compartments, for



8 EZ-SERVE

Manufacturer
Hawkeye Steel Products, Inc.
P.O. Box 2000
Houghton, IA
800/553-1791

Cost
\$12
Description
Round blue plastic bowl with two stainless steel bolts underneath
Comments Sturdy, easy to clean

The feeder above was Mark Mathew's favorite. He says it's heavy and durable, and wastes little feed.

placement under the crate divider).

Feeder installation	4
Accessibility of feed to pig	5
Feed waste	2
Durability of feeder	5
Cleanup	5

More durable than the similar plastic Porkmaster, but with shallower compartments and greater feed waste.

I like to add water in one compartment and a small handful of feed in the other. Even with water already provided, the pigs really take to this feeder fast.

6. Porkmaster, No. 88 (galvanized feeder that hangs in crate).

Feeder installation	2
Accessibility of feed to pig	3
Feed waste	5
Durability of feeder	2
Cleanup	3

I have owned galvanized feeders, and they just don't last very long. They rust out in about three years. I wired it in so feeder stayed in place.

7. Stanfield Fast Start (tall orange feeder with big pan).

Feeder installation	3
Accessibility of feed to pig	5
Feed waste	4
Durability of feeder	4
Cleanup	4

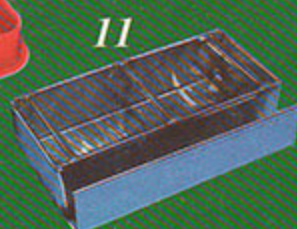
This has a large feed pan which encourages young pigs to get in and root around and begin to eat at an early age. They did seem to eat quicker with this feeder. The large pan takes up a lot of floor space in the crate. Bracket included will mount feeder to divider, but this limits



9
SNAPP FEEDING BOWL
Manufacturer
 Ikadan System
 Denmark
 Tel. +4597156300
 Fax +4597156320
Cost
 \$22
Description
 Round plastic bowl w/spring-loaded locking
Comments Metal parts might rust



10
NO. LB-4
Manufacturer
 Nelson Products
 Sioux Rapids, IA
 50585
 800/826-8751 or
 800/826-8752
Cost
 \$3
Description
 Plastic, 4-hole tray
Comments Light, slides along crate divider



11
FARMWELD CREEP TRAY
Manufacturer
 Farmweld, Inc.
 Rt. 2, Box 1B
 Teutopolis, IL 62467
 800/328-7675
Cost
 \$28.35
Description
 Stainless, welded creep tray
Comments Available as 2-sided tray



12
CARGILL N.E.W. Manufacturer
 Cargill, Inc.
 Minneapolis, MN
 Distributed by
 AgBuyCo
 (217/854-8806)
 and several other companies
Cost
 \$17.50
Description
 Round, plastic, locks underneath
Comments High sides, low waste



13
KANE CREEP FEEDER
Manufacturer
 Kane Mfg., Inc.
 Des Moines, IA
 50317
 800/247-0038
Cost
 \$13.22
Description
 Upright, 2-hole, plastic feeder
Comments Sturdy



14
FARMWELD STAINLESS FEEDER
Manufacturer
 Farmweld, Inc.
 Rt. 2, Box 1B
 Teutopolis, IL
 62467
 800/328-7675
Cost
 \$73
Description
 Stainless, upright feeder, top adjust
Comments Large and heavy

Baby pig creep feeders

mobility between crates. Big pan allows pigs to get body in feeder.

8. EZ-Serve, Hawkeye Steel Products, Inc. (blue round plastic feeder).

Feeder installation	5
Accessibility of feed to pig	5
Feed waste	4
Durability of feeder	5
Cleanup	5

Feeder easy to place in crate. Pigs went right to this feeder. Two steel pins screw into the bottom to keep the feeder where you put it. Very little feed waste. High sides let pigs in, but feed can't be rooted out. Pigs need to root around in the feed before they learn they can eat it. My favorite feeder, and I would purchase more of these.

One drawback: One of the pins dropped in the pit, so I replaced it with a bolt. The pins should have a locknut.

9. Snapp Feeding Bowl (red round feeder with metal movable ring and black knob; attaches to floor).

Feeder installation	1
Accessibility of feed to pig	4
Feed waste	5

Durability of feeder	2
Cleanup	5

Looks like the Cargill and Agra round feeders, but there is a world of difference. This one would not attach to 3-gauge woven wire. It would attach to 2-gauge, but pigs were able to work this feeder loose every other day. Too many parts that can come loose (knob on end, ring to keep pigs out of feed) and too many metal parts to rust and make this feeder top heavy.

10. No. LB-4, Nelson Products (red feeder with four bowls, placed under crate divider).

Feeder installation	4
Accessibility of feed to pig	5
Feed waste	3
Durability of feeder	3
Cleanup	4

I liked this feeder for two reasons—it serves two crates and the pigs are quick to find the feed. Feed waste is high with this product, but better than throwing a handful of feed on a mat. The cups are deep, but don't hinder the pigs eating. One drawback: Pigs were able to shove this feeder up and down the length of the divider.

11. Farmweld Creep Tray. This feeder was not used in Mathew's farm trial.

12. Cargill N.E.W. (green, round, floor-attaching feeder).

Feeder installation	4
Accessibility of feed to pig	4
Feed waste	5
Durability of feeder	4
Cleanup	5

Feeding area is higher off the floor than the Agra round plastic feeder, but no advantage or disadvantage was seen. Feeder stayed in place entire test period. Color shows up well in crate.

13. Kane Creep Feeder (red, upright heavy plastic feeder with bracket to mount on crate side).

Feeder installation	3
Accessibility of feed to pig	3
Feed waste	5
Durability of feeder	5
Cleanup	4

Feeder has very large holding area for feed; too much feed capacity for my pigs weaned at 3 weeks. If you wean at 4-5 weeks, this feeder will work well. Hang high enough off the floor to prevent pigs from messing in the feeder. Sow knocked the feeder loose with her feet when she laid down.

14. Farmweld Stainless Upright Feeder. This feeder was not evaluated in Mathew's farm trial. **SF**