User Guide for the 4-H Livestock weight calculators.

In order to assist youth and their leaders, USU Extension created the livestock weight calculators found at https://extension.usu.edu/4H-Livestock-Calculator. The calculators can be used to reliably predict a market animal’s weight as well as the average daily weight gain. The calculators were designed with examples for bovines, porcines, ovines and caprines, but they may be used for calculating the values described above for many other species. Additionally, the calculators work well when environmental conditions remain relatively constant, e.g. housing, rations, exercise, etc. If a market animal is subjected to a change in conditions the accuracy of the calculators may be diminished. Before you use the calculators you will need the following information:

- Two separate weight measurements for the market animal.
- The number of days in between the two measurements.
- The number of days until the fair.
- The date of the most current weight measurement.

The number of days between two dates can be calculated by counting the days in between the given dates.

How to use the calculators.

1. Go to https://extension.usu.edu/4H-Livestock-Calculator on any internet connected device. The website works well on major browsers including mobile versions.
2. Select your animal’s species by clicking on the corresponding image. For example if you wanted to predict a steer’s final weight the image of the steer would be selected.
3. If the average daily weight gain has already been calculated, use the predicted fair weight calculator, see Image 1. If the Average daily weight gain is unknown, use the average daily gain calculator to calculate it first, see Image 2.
4. Enter the information for each of the fillable fields into the calculators that are being used.

Example: A youth is going to use the calculators in order to predict the final weight of his/her market steer. The youth doesn’t have the average daily gain calculated yet, so the youth will use the average daily gain calculator first. He/She has two weight measurements. The first weight (624 lbs) was obtained 100 days before the second weight (870 lbs). The youth inputs the weights and days as seen in Image 2. The calculator automatically calculates the steer’s average daily weight gain of 2.46 lbs/Day as seen in Image 2. The youth then enters that average daily gain, the animals second weight, and the number of days until the fair from the date of the second weight as seen in Image 1. The predicted weight will automatically be calculated and displayed (1229 lbs) as seen in Image 1.
5. After recording the results, click the reset button in order to calculate the values for a new animal.
**Image 1.** The predicted fair weight calculator with values for the example detailed in step 4.

**Image 2.** The average daily gain calculator with values for the example detailed in step 4.