

Purchasing a Market Goat

What to Know as a Buyer

At the time of the sale, market goats will weigh between 55 and 125 pounds with an average weight of 80 pounds.

Market goats sell for between \$2.50 and \$4.00 a pound with an average price of \$3.25 per pound.

Processing fees (butchering, cutting, and wrapping) vary based on the butcher. The estimated processing total is \$145. For a precise amount, contact one of the suggested butchers.

After butchering and processing, market goats yield about 60% (+/- 10%) meat. If the average market goat weighs 80 pounds, the yield will be about 48 pounds of meat.

48 pounds of meat will need about 2 to 3 cubic feet of freezer space.

Below is a summary of what to expect when buying a market goat at the Ramona Junior Fair. (Please note, this information is an estimate and actual numbers may vary.)

An 80 pound market goat is purchased at the price of \$3.25 per pound for a total of \$260. After the butcher's processing fee of \$145, the total is \$405. By dividing \$405 by the weight of the meat taken home (48 pounds) the price of \$8.44 is paid per pound for this high-quality, hand-raised meat. In the process, you have helped a young person complete their project, reach a hard-earned goal, and possibly make a profit to help fund future projects. Also, because you are buying through the Ramona Junior Fair (a 501 c3 non-profit), you can consult with your tax preparer and possibly receive a tax write-off for any amount that you paid that is over the current market price. It's a win-win situation for both parties!

What Does an Exhibitor Put in to Raising a Market Goat?

The animal receives 4 months of hand feeding, exercise, and care.

One market goat is purchased for \$200 to \$300.

The cost of feed to finish a market goat is \$200 to \$250.

The total estimated investment into raising a market goat is \$400 to \$550.

With a conservative average financial investment of \$475 into a market goat at an average weight of 80 pounds, the breakeven point, when selling through the auction, is \$5.90 per pound.