



## Cecil County Fair 4-H Livestock Sale Facts



Cecil County 4-H youth need YOUR support of the 4-H livestock program. 4-H members have worked hard to learn the responsibilities of caring for an animal. Will you help bring this experience to a successful end?

### First Alternative-Meat For Your Freezer

1. As a buyer, you decide on a price to bid for the market animal at the auction. The market animal is sold to the highest bidder.
2. Since 4-H market animals are quality, hand raised market animals they should dress out well. Beef and Dairy Steers should dress out at around 60%, Swine 70%, Lambs 50%, Goats 50%.
3. If you and another person go together, you can split the meat and split the cost evenly. You could even divide the meat 3 or 4 ways!
4. Cost approximations and calculations:
5. Calculation example Beef (all approximations):
 

a. You pay \$1,200 for a 1,200 pound steer (dressed out 720 lbs.)	\$1,200
b. Processing cost of cutting, wrapping & freezing (\$.52/pound)	\$375
c. Slaughter cost of market animal	\$55
d. Waste Removal charge	\$14
e. Total	\$1644
f. Actual cost per pound	\$1644/720 \$2.28 per pound
6. Remember, the following cost factors do vary and can change
  - a. Cost you paid for the steer
  - b. Cost paid by the commercial buyer
  - c. Meat Processing fees
  - d. Weight the animal dresses out at

### Second Alternative-Turn Back Animal (You do not get to keep the meat) & You Pay the Difference

1. As a buyer, you decide on a price to bid for the market animal at the auction. The market animal is sold to the highest bidder.
2. As a buyer, you turn back animal at market price.
3. Calculation example (approximations):
 

a. You bid \$1,200 for a 1,200 pound steer	\$1,200
b. You turn back your newly bought steer for \$.80 per pound	\$960
c. Amount paid by you	\$240
d. Market price	\$960
e. Actual cost to you	\$240

 (However, you do not get to keep the meat)
4. Remember, the following cost factors do vary and can change
  - a. Cost you paid for the steer
  - b. Market price

The market prices (commercial buyer prices) will be announced at the start of the Livestock Auction and printed on the sale program

Attention All Buyers: If you are not able to attend the auction, you may send a bid with a member's parent or 4-H leader to make arrangements for bidding

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