



Market Animal Budget Plan 2020-2021

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How much should I spend on my project animal(s) this year? How many project animal(s) should I purchase this year? By completing the following worksheet, you will learn to make informed decisions about how much your project will cost and how you can strive for profit. This worksheet is modeled based on market values of animals rather than typical 4-H Livestock Sale income which can be significantly higher than market value. It is important for 4-Hers to recognize the realities of producing market animals in today’s industries, as well as the importance of securing a buyer.

1. Complete a separate Market Animal Budget Plan for each species you plan to raise:

This market plan is for _____

2. Estimate how much money you will need to spend to build or improve animal housing for your market animal this year and list it on the budget table under “Expenses - Animal Housing Improvements – Total Expense” (A)

3. Estimate how much money you will need to spend on new animal equipment your market animal this year and list it on the budget table under “Expenses - New Animal Equipment – Total Expense” (B)

4. Estimate how much money you will need to spend on health care for your market animal this year and list it on the budget table under “Expenses - Health Care – Total Expense” (D-F)

5. Calculate how much feed your animal will need using averages provided below or your own numbers:

_____ x _____ = _____ lbs_		
(How much weight your animal needs to gain)	(Average Feed efficiency rate)	(Total Feed: How much feed you sheep will need)

6. Calculate how much of that feed is grain/concentrate vs. Hay/roughage, then list both in the budget table under “Feed Expenses” (G) & (K):

_____ x _____ = _____ lbs		
Total Feed	(Percent of feed that should be grain)	Pounds of grain per sheep (G)
_____ x _____ = _____ lbs		
Total Feed	(Percent of feed that should be hay/roughage)	Pounds of hay per sheep (K)

7. Calculate the price per pound of a feed labeled for your market animal (remember, some bagged feeds are complete ration feeds that include roughage, others are only concentrates and roughage must be supplied separate). List your values in the budget table under “Feed Expenses” (H)&(L).

_____ ÷ _____ = \$ _____		
Cost of bag of concentrate/grain feed	Pounds of feed in bag	Cost per pound of concentrate (H)
_____ ÷ _____ = \$ _____		
Cost of bale of hay/forage	Pounds of feed in bale	Cost per pound of hay/forage (L)

8. Calculate your estimated income based on market values and ideal sell weight provided below and list that income in the budget table (O-Q).

_____ x _____ = \$ _____		
Sell Weight	Average market value	Market Value Income Animal 1 (O)
_____ x _____ = \$ _____		
Sell Weight	Average market value	Market Value Income Animal 2 (if applicable) (P)

9. Calculate how much money you have available to purchase project animals and still “break even” (expenses are equal to income):

_____ - _____ = \$ _____		
Total Income	Total Expense	Funds available for animal purchase (at break even point)

Estimated Project Expenses:					
Expense Type		Pounds/units needed per animal	Price per pound/ unit	Number of Animals	Total Expense
Animal Purchase Cost(s)		Follow instructions on the worksheet to learn what price you should consider purchasing animals based on your estimated expenses and income			tbd
Animal Housing Improvements		n/a	n/a	n/a	(A) \$ _____
New Animal Equipment	(halters, clippers, trailer etc.)	n/a	n/a	n/a	(B) \$ _____
Health Care	(vaccinations etc.)	n/a	(D) avg. Vaccination costs per animal	_____ (E)	(F) \$ _____ (D) x (E) = Total (F)
Feed (per animal)	Grain/ Concentrates	_____ (G) from #6 calculations	_____ (H) research feed costs	_____ (I)	(J) \$ _____ [(G)x(H)] x (I) = Total (J)
	Hay/Roughages	_____ (K) from #6 calculations	_____ (L) research feed costs	_____ (M)	(N) \$ _____ [(K)x(L)] x (M) = Total (N)
Total Expenses					\$ _____ (add column together- (A+B+F+J+N) = Total Expenses
Estimated Project Income: (Market Value)					
Animal Market Sale Value	Animal 1			(O)	\$ _____
	Animal 2 (if applicable)			(P)	\$ _____
Total Income (Market Value)					\$ _____ (O+P) = Total Income

Species	Feed Efficiency (how many lbs. of feed required to gain 1 lb.)	Average daily gain (how many lbs. Animal will gain per day)	How much weight your animal needs to gain: (Buy or weigh in weight- sell weight)	Percent of feed that should be grain/concentrate :	Percent of feed that should be hay/roughage :	Avg. Market value*
Sheep	4lbs feed:1 lb gain	.75lbs	Avg. 130lbs – 50lbs = 80lbs gained	75% = .75	25% = .25	\$1.38/lb
Beef	6lb feed: 1lb gain	2.80lbs	Avg. 1250lbs- 825lbs = 425lbs	75% = .75	25% = .25	\$1.13/lb
Goat	7.5lb feed: 1lb gain	.33lbs	Avg. 70lbs-35lbs	70% = .70	30% = .30	\$1.85/lb
Swine	4lb feed: 1lb gain	1.8lbs	Avg. 270lb – 60lb = 210lbs	100% = 1	0% = 0	\$.52/lb

* Note values may change over the years, check current value for the most accurate numbers

Reflect/Apply Questions:

1. What is your budget for buying market animals this year if you want to at least break even (calculation #9)(this may be zero or low for 4-H projects using market value)?

\$ _____

2. How many market animals do you plan to buy/raise this year? _____
3. Do you plan to spend above your break-even budget for market animals this year? And if so, what are your plans to increase your income above market value?

4. What are some differences between larger scale livestock producers and 4-H producers that makes it possible for larger scale producers to make profit on market price?

5. Why do you think most 4-H animals sold at 4-H Livestock auctions tend to sell for 4x-20x higher than market value?

6. There is opportunity to increase market livestock project profits in 4-H; mark which of these practices are ETHICAL/Good Practices with an E, and those that are UNETHICAL/Poor Practices with a U.

E/U

- a. _____ Meet requirements to sell 1 animal at DC Fair 4-H Livestock Sale
- b. _____ Feed my animal less or poor quality food (kitchen garbage etc.) to reduce my costs
- c. _____ Spend less on my project animal when I purchase it, or breed/produce my own market animal
- d. _____ Purchase a sick or small/runt animal because it is cheaper
- e. _____ Secure at least one buyer BEFORE Fair who plans to attend the livestock sale (or private treaty) to purchase my animal

7. How might you market your animals to potential buyers? Think of three ways you can bring interested buyers to the livestock sale or market your animals through private treaty.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
8. Have you thought about what you will do if you do not break even this year on your animals?
9. Have you thought about what you might do if you do not make the Douglas County Fair and Rodeo Livestock Sale?
10. While breaking even and ideally earning extra money on your animal is a great goal, what are two educational goals you have for your project this year beyond money?
 - a.
 - b.