**2025 Market Livestock Auction**

**Buyer FAQs**

**How do I register as a bidder?**

On the day of the auction you must fill out either a bidder form or a proxy bidder form. You *must* include, legibly, the name of the person paying, the name of the person or business who should be thanked by the 4-Her, a good phone number, email address, and mailing address. Double K Livestock Sales may have additional requirements.

**How are animals priced at the auction?**

All animals are sold by the pound. The final weigh in will be taken at the 4-H youth fair and will be a live weight for sheep, goats, beef, and swine and a processed weight for poultry. These weights will be reported in the auction booklet.

**How can I pay for an animal?**

Payment is required at the auction. Cash, check, or major credit cards will be accepted. There may be a processing fee for credit cards.

**Will I owe sales tax on any lot that I buy?**

No. What you bid is what you will pay (with the possibility of a processing fee on credit cards).

**Can I get a tax-deduction for participating in the auction?**

The initial purchase of an animal is NOT tax deductible. Subsequent purchases of animals are tax deductible for the amount paid ABOVE the market price of the animal. Donations of animals back to the 4-H program are tax deductible for market value of the animal. Donations of animals back to the 4-Her are not tax deductible. Whether donations of processed cuts to organizations is tax deductible up to that organization.

**Do I have to be present to bid?**

All bidding is in person. You may authorize someone to bid on your behalf. Proxy bidders must fill out a proxy bidder form so youth have contact information for the buyer of their animal for thank you letters. Payment is still expected on the day of the auction.

**Who gets the money I pay?**

The proceeds of first sale of animal goes to the 4-Her who raised the animal. Only 4% of the initial sale goes to the 4-H program to cover the costs of the sale. If an animal is donated back to the 4-H program to be auctioned an additional time those proceeds go to the 4-H program.

**Are animal processing costs included in what I pay?**

Processing fees are already included in the price of poultry which are sold frozen. You must pay for the transportation and processing fees for all live animals.

**How do I get my animal processed?**

Poultry will be sold processed and frozen. 4-H will have secured enough slots at local meat processing facilities to accommodate all lots. You may chose any of these processors or take possession of your animal and take it to the processor of your choice. If you take possession of your animal at the fair you will need to have a way to transport it. Several processors will be at the fair for your convenience so you can ask questions and determine the best fit for you. You should confirm where your animal is going and how it is being transported before you leave the auction.

**How do I transport my animal?**

If you have appropriate transportation for livestock you may take possession of the animal and transport it yourself. Be sure to obtain any necessary health paperwork if you will be transporting it over state lines. Transportation to several meat processors will be available the day of the auction, please confirm with the processor of your choice.

**Who can process my animal?**

The following local processors may be available to process purchased animals:

Owasco Meat Company

Pe-Car Farms & Cargile’s Custom Processing

Caver Meats

Kevin’s Custom Butchering

T&B Meats

Jon’s Custom Meats

**How much meat will I get and how much freezer space do I need?**

Amounts of meat will vary depending on the weight and breed of an animal and on the types of cuts you ask for. Some general figures based on the minimum weights for auction:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Species | Min. Auction Weight | *Approx*. Retail Cut Weight | *Approx*. Freezer Space |
| Beef | 1000lb. | 300lb | 14-15 cu. ft. |
| Sheep | 80lb. | 30lb. | 2-4 cu. ft. |
| Goat | 60lb. | 15lb | 1-2 cu. ft. |
| Swine | 180lb. | 81lb. | 2-4 cu. ft. |

**What can you do if you want to support the auction or a 4-Her but don’t want a whole animal?**

Some bidders will go in together to purchase an animal and split the resulting cuts. You may also donate a purchased animal back to the 4-H program to be re-auctioned. Animals may be auctioned up to 4 times, the fourth winning bid will take possession of the animal. Animals may be donated back to the 4-Her, but please check with the family ahead of time to make sure that they are able to take the animal back. You may also donate all or part of the processed animals to a food pantry or other organization. You may also bid on non-animal items offered in the auction. The proceeds from non-animal lots go to the 4-H program.

**How do I donate an animal to a food pantry or other organization?**

Please contact the organization you would like to work with before the auction to confirm they can accept the donation and how they want to arrange a pick-up. Confirm if the organization requires that the animal be processed at a USDA-certified facility. Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Program is working with 4-H to accept donations to distribute to food pantries across the local area, please contact the 4-H office if you are interested in donating to CAP.

**What do I get as a buyer?**

You receive the animal, a vinyl banner naming you a supporter of 4-H, and the pride of supporting positive youth development and the future of local agriculture.

**Are there other ways to support 4-H?**

Yes! You can become a Fair Sponsor by donating to the 2025 4-H Youth Fair. Donors of $100 or more are acknowledged with their name in the show ring. You may also contact 4-H Program Lead Sara Wagner at smw352@cornell.edu if you are interested in making an in-kind donation of materials for the 4-H Youth Fair. If you are knowledgable about a particular subject, agricultural or not, and enthusiastic about positive youth development contact Sara to learn more about becoming a volunteer.

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*This QR code will take you to the 4-H Youth Fair donation page on Paypal. Please be sure to add a phone number or email address to the notes section so that the office can appropriately acknowledge your gift.*

Any other questions can be directed to 4-H Program Lead Sara Wagner at smw352@cornell.edu.