

Milling/Processing Your Fiber Is Cost Effective

Average costs and weight loss to mill/process
Per ounce figure subject to the quality of the fiber at intake.

Wool

Example: 5 lbs. intake (\$22/lb) = \$110
Average loss in lanolin, dirt, damaged fiber, ect. = 35%
Total (\$110) divided by remaining ounces (52) = **\$2.12 per ounce**

If needing separator to de-veg –

Example: 5 lbs. intake to wash (x \$20) = \$110
Separation = \$13/lb – (x 5lbs) = \$65

Averages 5% weight loss

Total (\$175) divided by remaining ounces (50) = **\$3.50 per ounce**

Camelids (alpaca, llama, etc.)

Carding only if blended minimum 30% wool.

NOTE: Alpaca/Llama is less per ounce as losing less weight in wash/scour.

Example: 8 lbs. 5lb alpaca / 3lb wool intake
(\$22 + \$4 blending = \$26/lb x 8lbs = \$208)
Average loss: dirt, damaged fiber, ect. = Wool/17oz Alpaca/8oz.
Total (\$208) divided by remaining ounces (103) = **\$2.01 per ounce**

If needing separator to de-veg both– (avoidable)

Example: 5lb alpaca / 3lb wool intake
Separation alpaca \$15/lb x 5lbs = \$75
Wool \$3/lbs \$13 = \$39 \$114

Averages 25% weight loss alpaca 72oz – 18oz = 54 oz

Averages 5% weight loss wool 31oz – 2oz = 29 oz

Total with scour carding (\$322) divided by remaining ozs (alpaca and wool 83oz.) **\$3.87 per ounce**

Goats (angora, pygora, Cashmere, etc.)

Carding only if blended 50%.

pygora loss is 50%-70% so cost per ounce close to **\$5 per oz.**

Example: 6 lbs. 3Lbs. Goat/3lbs. Wool intake to card (x \$26) = \$156
Separation = Goats \$17/lb x 3lbs = \$51 / wool \$13x3lbs=\$39

Averages 25% weight loss goat=12oz/wool 40% loss 19oz

Total (\$246) divided by remaining oz (65oz) = **\$3.78 per ounce**

If purchasing a 5lb fleece for \$60, then **\$.75per ounce invested before milling/processing.**