

Bhutan: The Namgays of Shingkhey Village

ONE WEEK'S FOOD IN FEBRUARY

* Homegrown; ‡ Not in Photo

Grains & Other Starchy Foods: \$0.25

red rice,* 66.2 lb, *this also feeds the many guests who drop by at mealtimes.*

flour,* 3.1 lb

red potatoes,* 2.2 lb

barley,‡ 2 lb, for toasting

Dairy:

milk,* 2.8 gal, *from family cows. Butter is churned from a portion of this milk; the by-product, whey, is also used. About 1.8 lb of cheese is produced from the milk as well.*

Meat, Fish & Eggs: \$0.08

eggs,*‡ 11

fish, dried, 4.4 oz, *The family eats fish or meat—normally in dried form—once or twice a month. The fish in the photograph represents about three months' worth of either fish or meat.*

The dollar amount represents what the portion they eat costs.

Dried beef is eaten more often than fish.

Fruits, Vegetables & Nuts: \$1.46

Mandarin oranges, 3.5 lb

yellow bananas, 1.4 lb, *fruits are purchased infrequently.*

radishes, 6.6 lb

spinach,* 5 large bunches

mustard greens,* 4 large bunches

eggplant,* 2.2 lb

red onions, 2.2 lb

tomatoes, 1.1 lb

carrots,‡* 1.1 lb

green chilies, fresh, 4.4 oz, *amount in photo represents about three months' worth.*

red chilies, dried, 4.4 oz, *amount in photo represents about four months' worth.*

Normally, all vegetables are homegrown or borrowed from a neighbor. Vegetables are purchased infrequently.

Condiments: \$1.27 (Market value of homegrown foods, if purchased locally: \$29.06)

mustard oil,* 2.1 qt

salt, 3.3 lb, *for cooking and feeding to cows for increased milk production.*

ginger, 1.1 lb

bicarbonate of soda (baking soda), 1 small pk, *used to neutralize acid in tea.*

chili powder, 1 handful

Beverages: \$0.76

tea rounds, 2 cakes, *for butter tea.*

Red Label tea, 0.7 oz, *for guests only;*

*water comes in through a plastic hose
from a spring above the house, used
for cooking and boiled for drinking.*

Miscellaneous: \$1.21

betel nuts, 80

leaves for betel nuts, 2 bundles

lime paste, 1 pk

Food Expenditure for One Week:

\$224.93

Ngultrum: \$5.03