



Standards for the Improved Boer Goat

As recognized by the American Boer Goat Association

These standards are effective July 1, 2004. Percentage Boer goat standards are effective July 1, 2004. They are located [[HERE](#)]

I. CONFORMATION

Any extreme occurrence of an undesirable trait is a disqualification.

A. HEAD

A prominent, strong head with brown eyes and a gentle appearance. Nose with a gentle curve, wide nostrils, and well formed mouth with well-opposed jaws. The jaws must have no over or under bite from birth to 24 months of age. After 24 months no more than a ¼ of an inch under bite is allowed. Correct fit is preferred. Teeth should erupt in the proper sequential positions. The forehead should be prominent and form an even curve linking the nose and horns. Horns should be dark, round, strong, of moderate length, positioned well apart and have a gradual backward curve before turning outward symmetrically. Ears should be smooth of medium length and hang downward.

Faults: Concave forehead, straight horns, jaw too pointed, overshot or undershot jaws

Disqualifications: Blue eyes, ears folded lengthwise, short ears, parrot mouth or more than ¼ of an inch under bite.

B. NECK AND FOREQUARTERS

Neck of moderate length and in proportion with body length. Forequarters full, well-fleshed, and limbs well jointed and smoothly blended. The chest should be broad. Shoulders should be fleshy, well proportioned with the rest of the body and smoothly blended and fitted into the withers. Withers should be broad and well rounded and not sharp. Legs should be strong, well placed and in proportion with the depth of the body. Pastern joints should be strong and hooves well-formed and as dark as possible.

Faults: Neck too short or too thin; shoulders too loose, and any structural foreleg, and muscle, bone, joint, or hoof deformities or abnormalities to include but not limited to knock knees, bandy legs, hooves pointing outward or inward, splay toes, buck knees, hollow legs, straight or weak pasterns.

C. BODY

Body should be boldly three-dimensional: long, deep and wide. Ribs should be well sprung. Loin should be well muscled, wide and long. The top line should be reasonably straight and strong and the shoulder well rounded with an abundance of muscle from shoulder through hip.

Faults: Concave or swayback; chest too narrow or shallow or flat; shoulders weakly attached; inadequate muscle through the back and loin, pinched heart girth.

D. HINDQUARTERS

Rump should be broad and long with a gentle slope. Britch and thighs well muscled and rounded. Base of the tail must be centered and straight. The remainder of the tail can curve upward or to one side.

Legs should be strong and the leg should have a straight axis from the hip (pin bones) through the hock, fetlock, and pastern. Hoofs should be well-formed and as dark as possible. **Faults:** Weak pasterns, straight pasterns, rump too steep, sickle-hocked, cow-hocked, post legs.

Disqualifications: Wry tail

II. SKIN AND COVERING

Any extreme occurrence of an undesirable trait is a disqualification.

Skin loose and supple. Eyelids and other hairless areas must be pigmented. Hairless areas under the tail should be at least 75% pigmented; 100% is preferred. Short glossy hair is desirable. A limited amount of winter down or under-coat will be accepted during winter, especially in colder environments.

Faults: Hair too long or too coarse.

Disqualifications: Not enough skin pigmentation.