

ABGA Breed Standards

I. CONFORMATION

Any extreme occurrence of an undesirable trait is a disqualification.

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.

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.

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.

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.

III. REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

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DOES

Does should have well-formed udders with good attachment with the number of functional teats not to exceed two per side. A split teat with two distinctly separated teats and openings with at least 50% of the body of teat separated is permissible but teats without a split are preferred. It is most important that the udder is constructed so that the offspring are able to nurse unassisted.
A. Kidding or Pregnancy Does must have kidded or exhibited pregnancy by 24 months of age.
Faults : Udder and teat abnormalities or defects to include but not limited to oversized or bulbous teats, pendulous udder.
Disqualifications: Cluster teats, fishtail teats or a doe that has not kidded or exhibited signs of pregnancy by 24 months of age.

BUCKS

Bucks must have two large well-formed, functional, equal sized testes in a single scrotum with no more than a 2" split in the apex of the scrotum.
Disqualifications: Single Testicle. Testicles too small. Abnormal or diseased testes; excessive split in scrotum.

IV. COLORATION

The typical Boer goat is white bodied with a red head, but no preference is given to any hair coloration or color pattern.

Standards for Percentage Boer Does

The American percentage Boer doe is a unique product that combines the more desirable characteristics of the indigenous goats of North America and other breeds with the genetic impact of the improved Boer goat. Producers should at all times strive to select and breed animals that exhibit a predominance of Boer goat conformation and production traits. In short, a percentage Boer doe should look and perform as much like a fullblood improved Boer doe as possible. The percentage Boer doe should be feminine, yet strong and vigorous and symmetrical, with well-balanced muscling. She should be able to breed easily and have the conformation and constitution to easily raise fast growing animals. With certain exceptions, the standards for percentage Boer does will be identical to those required of fullblood or purebred animals.

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Faults: Horns too close, jaws too pointed, short ears.

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

B. NECK AND FOREQUARTERS

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C. BODY

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inadequate muscle through the back and loin, pinched heartgirth.

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Faults: Weak pasterns, straight pasterns, rump to steep, sickle hocked, cow hocked, and post legs.

Disqualifications: Wry Tail

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