

## THE SA BOER GOAT

### **The Boer Goat Breeders Association of South Africa**

**16pp**

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### **The SA Boer Goat - Extracts from history**

**The SA Boer Goat is purely indigenous to Africa and more so to South Africa . With the development and enobling of the Boer Goat no cross-breeding or foreign species were used. In fact only by means of brilliant selection and breeding from indigenous animals this enobled race was developed.**

**This extraordinary achievement was the work of a handful of farmers from the Eastern Cape in South Africa . One of the pinnacles in the history of the Boer Goat was the establishment of the South African Boer Goat Breeders' Association in Somerset East on 4 July 1959 . The first Chairperson of the Association was Mr. T B Jordaan with his secretary Mr. P B (Syce) Botha.**

**What followed was a continues improvement of an already existing breed by a broad spectrum of highly qualified and valued breeders throughout SA and Namibia following a healthy breeding policy. In this relatively short period of 43 years, the SA Boer Goat has developed into the most favoured meat goat in the world, producing a low calorie, heart friendly meat.**

**This great achievement necessitates a word of thanks and praise to all the previous Presidents, Secretaries, Board members, judges, Inspectors and especially the SA Boer Goat breeders, to whom this booklet is dedicated.**

***Izak Vorster PRESIDENT SABGA***

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THE SA BOER GOAT

**The SA Boer Goat - Extracts from**

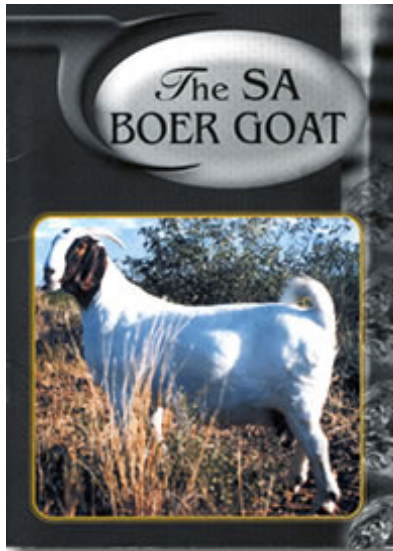
**THE SA BOER GOAT - EXTRACTS FROM  
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**Economic Value of the Boer Goat**

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## **Economic Value of the Boer Goat**

**Economical farming implies profitable farming, in other words the more profit you make out of farming enterprise, the more economical or profitable it is. The livelihood of the farmer thus depends on his farming with that animal or crop which will ensure that he receives the highest possible yield and profit in**

**the climatic and soil conditions applicable to his circumstances. He also depends on optimal utilisation of each natural source, in such a way that the resource in question will not deteriorate as a result, but will rather be improved over the long term.**

**The Boer Goat fulfills the above aims in the following ways in terms of its characteristic features:**

## **1. MEAT AND PELTS OF A HIGH QUALITY**

**1.1 Meat: Considered in the light of the health-consciousness that prevails on a worldwide basis, the SA Boer Goat yields heart friendly, low cholesterol lean meat of a high quality, particularly during the young stage. The meat is flavoursome, succulent, tender, extremely attractive and very tasty. As a result of these qualities Boer Goat meat is very much sought after. Boer Goats must be marketed between the ages of 3 and 12 months, and carcasses should weigh no more than 23 kg.**

**Goats in good condition yield biltong and dried sausage (droewors) of very good quality, which can definitely compete with the very best on the market.: Considered in the light of the health-consciousness that prevails on a worldwide basis, the SA Boer Goat yields hart friendly, low cholesterol lean meat of a high quality, particularly during the young stage. The meat is flavoursome, succulent, tender, extremely attractive and very tasty. As a result of these qualities Boer Goat meat is very much sought after. Boer Goats must be marketed between the ages of 3 and 12 months, and carcasses should weigh no more than 23 kg. Goats in good condition yield biltong and dried sausage (droewors) of very good quality, which can definitely compete with the very best on the market.**

**Organic meat: A Very exciting thought about this meat is that with a little selection against internal and external parasites it will be quite possible to exhibit the meat of the SA Boer Goat on the shopshelves as organic meat!**

**In the light of the predilection for the Boer goat meat displayed by certain consumers in SA and the rest of the world, along with the characteristics required for the right type of meat for the healthconscious sector of consumers world-wide, one cannot do otherwise than predict a rosy future for Boer Goat meat originating from goats of a high quality.**

**Table 2 Comparison of the chemical composition of goat & other species (per 100g)**

<b>Species</b>	<b>Energy KKal</b>	<b>Fat (%)</b>	<b>Saturated Fat (%)</b>	<b>Protein (%)</b>	<b>Iron (mg)</b>	<b>Cholesterol (mg)</b>
<b>Goat</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Beef (trimmed)</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Beef</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>&gt;86</b>

<b>Pork (trimmed)</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Pork</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>&gt;86</b>
<b>Lamb</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Chicken</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>&gt;89</b>
<b>Chicken (Skinned)</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Turkey</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Ostrich</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Veal</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>112</b>

**\* Not available (From an article by Dr. Vlok Ferreira, Boer Goat News 2002)**

**1.2 The results** achieved by Boer Goats, expressed in percentage are



very good, fluctuating between 48 - 60%. These results are narrowly linked to the age and more particularly the quality of the animals.

Live mass: 54 kg

Carcass weight: 29 kg

Carcass percentage: 54%

**1.3 The pelt** of the SA Boer Goat has a high leather value. An endeavour should be made to breed goats with short, smooth hair, since this increases the quality of the pelt. The pelts of Boer Goats are used for making the uppers of shoes, as well as for gloves and a range of sophisticated leather products.



## **2. HARDY AND ADAPTABLE**

**The Boer Goat is undoubtedly one of the hardiest small stock breeds in the world, with a great capacity for adoption. It is therefore encountered in a great variety of climatic - and pasture - conditions and is consequently fit for conditions varying from extensive to intensive. It is well known that the SA Boer Goat climatise well in the warmest, driest regents of SA and also in other countries where humidity is very high and also can this adaptable animal tolerate very low temperatures. Boer Goats are particularly drought resistant and it is reported that in arid areas where water-places are far apart they only drink every 6 to 7 days. The SA Boer Goat possess the unique quality that it can not only survive on very little, but can flourish on optimum feeding conditions and produce optimum production.**

***The Boer Goat is***

***an excellent walker, has sturdy legs and moves easily in rugged mountainous areas and through dense bush***



### **3. RESISTANCE TO DISEASES**

**The Boer Goat also has an exceptional ability to withstand and resist diseases such as blue tongue, prussic acid poisoning (geilsiekte) and, to a lesser extent, enterotoxaemia (pulpy kidney). As far as is known, Boer Goats do not contract blue tongue at all. Their grazing habits also make them less susceptible to infection caused by internal parasites, since Boer Goats prefer to graze above the ground, if such grazing is available, such as bushveld or scrub vegetation.**

#### **4. FERTILITY AND KID PERCENTAGE**

**The Boer Goat is very fertile and is not seasonally bound. Furthermore, multiple births are the rule rather than the exception, with an average kid percentage of 180%. These two important economic characteristics have made the Boer Goat very popular for the following reasons:**

**4.1 Because the Boer Goat is not seasonally bound, the kidding season can be selected to fit in with the period when**

**food is most plentiful; or, under intensive conditions, kidding can occur every 7 - 8 months.**

**4.2 It's exceptionally high kid percentage implies that the Boer Goat cannot be surpassed with regard to the percentage of meat per kilogram per ewe or per hectare. This factor places the Boer Goat very high on the ranking list with regard to intensive farming.**

**In figure 1 the result of 108 ewes older than 1 year's evaluation with regard to reproduction over 3 years: Kg meat per ewe produced per year aver. over 3 years, eg. 3 ewes left produced 15,20 kg aver. at 100 days; centre 30.35 kg meat aver. per year at 100 days. The group far right produced more than 50 kg meat aver. per year at 100 days.**

In figure 1  
the result of  
108 ewes

older than 1  
year's  
evaluation  
with regard  
to  
reproduction  
over 3  
years: Kg  
meat per  
ewe  
produced per  
year  
averaged  
over 3 years.

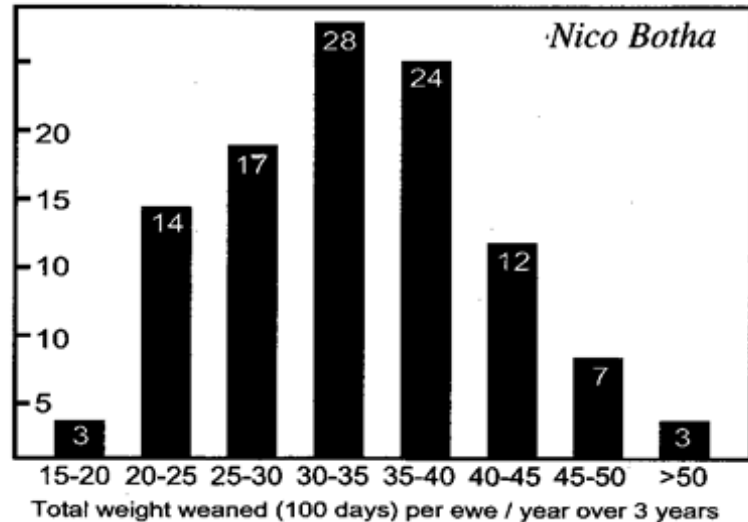
e.g. 3 ewes  
left produced  
15-20 kg  
aver. at 100

## **Figure 1**

days; centre  
30-35 kg  
meat aver.  
per year at  
100 days.  
The group  
far right  
produced  
more than  
50 kg meat  
aver. per  
year at 100  
days.

### Difference in ewe production over 3 years

209% born/ewe, 174% weaned/ewe 33,kg weaned (100 day mass)  
per ewe/year, average 100 day mass = 19,8 kg





## **5. ABUNDANCE OF MILK**

**Growth rate is linked to sufficient milk production and good nurturing instincts in ewes with regard to their young. An ewe has enough milk to raise two kids rapidly.**

## **6. LONGEVITY**

**The SA Boer Goat is able to maintain economic production up to the age of approximately 10 years. This implies that the**



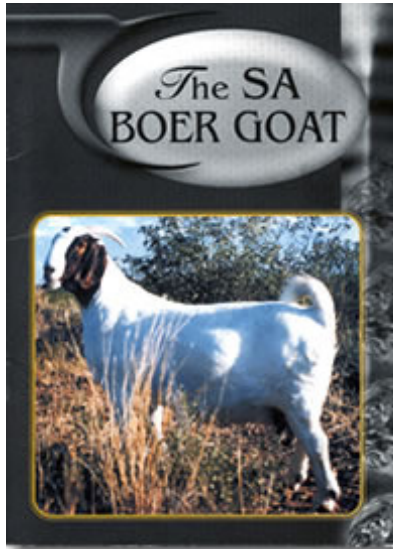
**percentage of young replacement ewes which have to be withheld, is very low.**

## **7. GRAZING HABITS**

**Goats prefer small trees and shrubs as their basic diet, but their exceptional economic value lies precisely in the fact that they are able to utilise certain plants which are less appetising to other stock breeds. Experiments undertaken at Omatjenne Experimental Farm have proved that a Boer Goat consumes 74% leaves and 26% grass. As a result, it is possible to farm with cattle and Boer Goats simultaneously without their being in competition with each other to any great extent, so that a maximum number of kilograms of meat per hectare can be produced. As a result of the grazing habits of the Boer Goat, it can be successfully incorporated in this way in order to utilise bushes and shrubs, and thus to assist in controlling infiltration of the bush.**

**When one considers all these characteristics of the SA Boer Goat along with all the space available in this country as well as abroad, where Boer Goats could be successfully accommodated and establish itself world-wide as one of the biggest natural resources for farmers.**





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## **Boer Goat Management (updated 2002)**

### **1. KIDDING SEASON**

**Select time of year during which the most plentiful**

**supply of food is available up to the period after weaning occurs; in other words, the period during which food will be available for 3 1 / 2 - 4 months in order to breed kids as well and as cheaply as possible. If possible, it is preferable to plan in such a way that food will still be in plentiful supply for a further 2 - 4 months, since it is best to market Boer Goat kids at the age of 3 - 6 months. This enables the farmer to withhold only his replacement goats during the period of the year when food is scarcer, especially in those sections of the country where farming is carried out on an extremely extensive basis. Try to keep mating time as short as possible ideally, 36 days. In this way, each ewe will have two cycles of being with the ram. This also facilitates management and marketing considerably.**

## **2. MATING SEASON**

## **2.1 Before mating occurs**

**Make sure ewes are not too fat one month before mating, so that a growing condition can be effectuated before mating, by means of carrying out the following.**

**a Inject, or dose with, Vitamins AIDE 3 weeks before mating season. This is extremely important, especially during dry periods.**

**b Administer stimulating feed in the form of (i) a spare camp, (ii) a good lick or (iii) a small amount of maize daily.**

**c Put teaser rams in place 2 - 3 weeks before mating time.**

**d Inoculate ewes against enzootic abortion 1- 2 months before mating season.**

## **e Have rams tested for fertility.**

### **2.2 Mating season**

**1. Mass mating ; 1 ram per 35 - 40 ewes. It is very important to endeavour to mate the young ewes separately from the mature ewes.**

**2. Single mating; 1 ram per 50 ewes.**

**NB : With regard to 1 and 2 above, it is very important to keep rams in small shady camps during very hot periods with a little growing supplement; and rams should only be let loose among ewes during the evening. This system works particularly well in cases where goats are penned at night.**

**3. Control servicing; Try to carry this out in cool weather wherever**



**possible. A ram can cover an ewe  $\pm$  every  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour.**

**4. Artificial insemination; Insert sponge on day 1. Remove sponge on day 14 and inject 1/ 4 cc PMS on withdrawal during the active period of March - June or 1/ 2 cc PMS during July - February. A. L. at48, 60, 72 hours. Guard against synchronising too many ewes at a time, as if very bad weather should occur during the kidding season and you do not have enough accommodation for the animals, problems could result. Ewes which are artificially inseminated on the same day usually give birth within a period of 5 - 7 days relatively to one**

**another. Carry out manager during A.I. Keep ewes as calm as possible, providing protection against excessive heat; after A.I., stimulate with teaser rams or young rams on the other side of the fence. Keep ewes in approximately the same nutritional conditions as before A. I.**

## **2.3 After mating season**

**Keep ewes in the same growing condition for the first month in order to prevent abortion of the fertilised egg cell. Have ewes tested for pregnancy by sonar 42 days after covering, or remove open ewes, with markers, and place with teaser rams or install catch-up rams 14 days after A.I.**

## **3. KIDDING SEASON**



### **3.1 Prior to kidding**

- 1. Inoculate against gangrene of uterus 2 - 3 months before kidding season. The symptoms of this disease are: Ewes die shortly after or up to 3 days after birth as a result of severe inflammation of the uterus.**
- 2. Inoculate against scabby mouth 1 month before kidding season in order to guard against udder infection.**
- 3. Two thirds of the growth of the foetus takes place during the last three weeks of pregnancy. For this reason, it is very important to make extra nutritional provision during this period, in the form of the same treatment as that administered before mating time, i.e. AIDE and stimulating feed.**
- 4. Among Boer goats, the average percentage of kids is 180% and many triple births occur.**

**5. Extra nutrition will make kids stronger and better able to maintain life at birth, especially in the case of multiple births. This is why the sonar is of inestimable value in determining the presence of triplets or quads, in order to ensure that each of the kids is born strong and with a good capacity to maintain life.**

**6. During droughts it is essential to prevent abortions by giving supplementing feed after two months of pregnancy.**



### **3.2 During kidding season**

**This is the only period during which Boer goat farming requires a great deal of care and attention. This is why it is important to keep the kidding season**

**as brief as possible, so that full attention can be focused on it for it is extremely important to carry out planning properly. Remember, nothing can be achieved without work but one should make one's work enjoyable and successful. Therefore, it is necessary to plan this aspect thoroughly and consider using one of the following methods, or a combination thereof, in accordance with your particular circumstances.**

## **1 . Enclosure of kids in large pen**

**Here, all the kids remain behind in the pen when the ewes go to pasture. This system is not recommended, since the kids are invariably thirsty when the ewes return, with the result that any kid will tend to drink milk from any ewe. It is surprising to note how often this method is still used, in spite of all its inherent disadvantages.**

## **2 . Small camps**

**The creation of small camps with sufficient food, shelter and shade, which are specially kept aside for the kidding season, is showing signs of becoming the accepted method for the future, especially in cases where farming with large numbers is practiced. In terms of this system, 10 - 20 ewes are placed in a small camp, where they are able to give birth in peace and remain with their kids until the latter are strong enough ( $\pm$  2 - 3 weeks), after which they may be**

**incorporated into larger flocks. Each ewe which has given birth (along with her kids) receives the same paint serial number. Different colours may be used for single kids, twins and triplets. All that the labourer has to do is to walk amongst the ewes three times per day and place kids correctly with their siblings, and ensure that the ewe allows each kid to drink. The worker may also sort the ewes into camps according to single or dual births once they have given birth, so that it is easier for the labourer to ascertain whether a ewe should have one or two kids.**

**The birth of triplets needs special attention and feeding. The following solutions are suggested:**

- a Use small enclosures for the first three weeks.**
- b Since there is no place for three kids to drink simultaneously, triplets usually present the problem**

**that the weakest kid is always pushed to one side. If three kids are left with the ewe, she is able to raise them successfully if she is very well fed or if the third kid can be removed 'by means of one of the following systems:**

**i Giving the kid to an ewe with a single kid by means of using small enclosures. What is important is that the ewes with only a single kid apiece should each receive a new kid as soon as possible after having given birth to their own. Ewes usually accept a new kid after 1 or 2 weeks.**

**ii Raising the third kid by hand with a bottle, or making use of a milch-goat. The latter method works exceptionally well, and a good milch-goat can simultaneously raise four kids exceptionally well if a system of separate**

**enclosure is used.**

#### **4. DISEASES AMONG SUCKLING KIDS**

**1. Diarrhoea This is the result of drinking too much milk or Kocksidioses. Consult the district veterinarian.**

**2. Blue louse The kids begin to bite and scratch. Catch hold of a kid and inspect its flanks; the lice will be clearly visible.**

**Treatment: Dip or make use of an agent which is poured on. Lice are particularly prevalent in enclosures.**

**3. Tapeworm Dose once a month.**

**4. Pasteurella Inoculate kids after weaning against.**

**5. Orf infection Inoculate kids from 1 week of age.**

**6. Brucellosis Inoculate male kids at +3 months according to the Rev 1 formula.**

**7. Black Quarter Where necessary inoculate.**

**8. Castration At+1 month old.**

## **5. WEANING**

**1 . Male kids 3 - 3 1/ 2 months of age.**

**2 . Female kids and geldings 3 1 /2 - 4 1 /2 months.**

## **6. MARKETING**

**From 3 months onwards according to market demands.**

## **7. DISEASES**

**1. Pulpy kidney The Boer goat is not very susceptible to this disease, but it is preferable to inoculate.**



**2. Pasturella This disease presents a big problem amongst goats and tends to occur under conditions where animals are under stress: drought conditions, sudden severe cold, etc. There are effective inoculations available.**

**3. Blue udder Inoculate annually 2 - 4 weeks before kidding season.**

**4. Brucellosis Use Brucella inoculation agent Rev 1. Inoculate male kids at 3-4 months. This treatment safeguards animals for their entire lifespan.**

**5. Gangrene of uterus Inoculate with Clostridium Septicum 2 - 3 months before kidding season on an annual basis.**

**6. Enzootic abortion Inoculate ewes annually 4 - 6 weeks before mating.**

## **7. Coryne bacterium It is abscesses which occur both internal and external.**

### **Treatment :**

**1 . Take a specimen for analysis and make sure exactly which bacterium causes your infection.**

**2. Inoculate with the vaccine that causes your infection.**

**i Inoculate once**

**i After 3 weeks a second inoculation (Booster).**

**iii Thereafter every two months.**

**3 . As soon as the abscess is ripe, it is cut open with a vertical cut and pressed out in a receptor and burnt. The wound must be thoroughly**

**cleaned and disinfected with a disinfectant lotion i.e. Latogin. Isolate the animal until the wound is healed.**

**8 . Although it is necessary to inoculate under certain circumstances, the following aspects needs urgent attention:**

**i The health conscious public are focussing on organic food at the moment. Therefore it will be a good thing to avoid inoculations & dipping fluid as far as possible.**

**ii Because the Boer Goat has been in Africa for more than 2000 years, it can be done. Select animals resistant against these diseases as well as internal and external parasites, then breed with these animal. Eventually it will be worthwhile because we will fetch a premium**

## **price for our organic meat.**

### **9. PARASITES**

#### **1. Internal**

**The Boer goat is not highly susceptible to roundworm, since it prefers to graze at a level above the ground under extensive conditions. However, over a broad spectrum, it is a good idea to dose three weeks after the first spring rains and then again three weeks after the first frost. In the case of cultivated pastures, dosing should take place on a regular basis.**

**Tapeworms present great problems among suckling kids the latter should therefore be dosed every month.**

#### **2. External**

**i Blue lice disease is problematic especially during dry months, dip or use a pour-on agent.**

**ii Ticks are greatly problematic since goats are extremely sensitive to them. Make use of patch treatment or, under severe conditions, use a pour-on agent.**

## **10. CLASSING**

**It is recommended that all breeders who wish to make progress rapidly must register at the S.A. Studbook to and do performance testing through the ARC.**

**1 . Weigh all kids at 100 days and send their weights to the ARC. The result of these tests will enable you to evaluate the kids but mainly the ewes.**

**2 . With above indexes in mind you can class the kids by means of the eye, hand method. Those with obvious faults can be eliminated.**

**3 . At 270 days weigh for the second time and send the**

**weights to the ARC. Your results are very important because that will show the performance of the kid from weaning up to 9 months.**

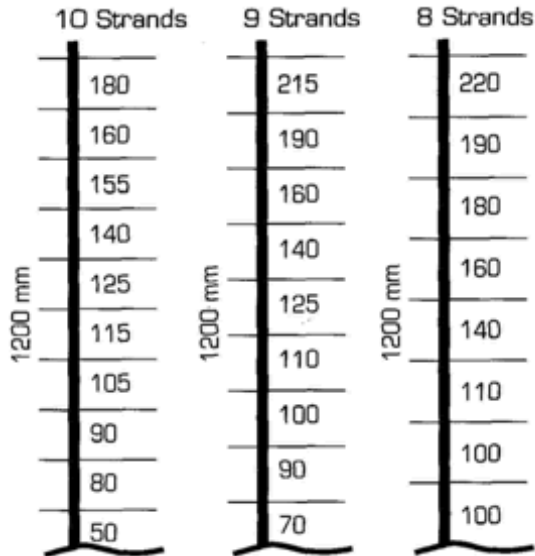
**4 . The second time around classing is done according to type while keeping the ARC test results in mind. Selection will have to be very strict and the breed standards must be interpreted in full. Because these animals will be your stud for the future you must eliminate all unwanted animals and only keep those that are above average.**

**5. The next classing will take place after a sonar test or just before kidding where all the ewes that does not lamb will be eliminated. This time we select therefore for reproduction or fertility.**

**6 . Finally all animals that are too old must be culled.**

## 11. FENCES

**Because Boer Goats are highly intelligent animals and also have the means to be self-sufficient, it is necessary to implement a effective fencing system to make farming with Boer Goats an immense pleasure.**



1. Boer Goats are intelligent and fencing must be very tight and spaced correctly
2. Standards should be 2 m from each other with supports in between where necessary.
3. Camps and handling facilities must not encourage kids to climb through fences.
4. Make sure there is no gap between the gate and gatepost.
5. A Boer Goat kid that did not

learn to climb through fences will  
not do it when fully grown.



## THE SA BOER GOAT

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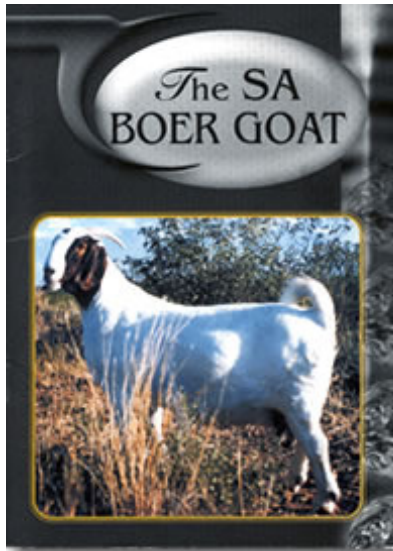
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➔ **Breed Standards of the Boer Goat**

**The following are the standards as drawn up and accepted by the Boer Breeders Association of South Africa. The aim of the breeding standards are to improve the breed and to increase their economic value.**



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## **Breed Standards of The Boer Goat**

### **CONFORMATION**

**HEAD : A strong head with large soft brown eyes and without an untamed look. A strong slightly curved nose, wide nostrils, strong well-formed mouth with well-fitted jaws. Up to 6 tooth must show a 100% fit. Eight tooth olds and older may show 6 mm protrusion. Permanent teeth must cut in the correct anatomical place. The forehead must be prominently curved linking up with the curve of nose and horns. Horns should be strong, of moderate length and placed moderately apart with a gradual backward curve. Horns have to be as round and solid as possible and coloured darkly. Ears are to be broad, smooth and of medium length hanging downwards from the head. Too short ears are undesirable.**

**Characteristic cull defects : Concave forehead, horns too straight or too flat, pointed jaw, ears folded (lengthwise), stiff protruding ears, too short ears, over- or undershot jaw and blue eyes.**

**NECK & FOREQUARTERS : A neck of moderate length in proportion to the length of the body, full and well fleshed and well-joined with the forequarter is essential. The breastbone should be broad with a deep and broad brisket. The shoulder should be fleshy, in proportion to the body and be well-fitted to the withers. The withers should be as broad and as well-filled as possible (not sharp). The front legs should be of medium length and in proportion to the depth of the body. The legs should be strong and well placed, with strong pastern joints and well formed hoofs which are as dark as possible.**

**Characteristic cull defects : Too long, thin neck, too short neck, shoulders too loose.**

**BARREL : The ideal is a long, deep broad barrel. The ribs must be well sprung and fleshed, and the loins as well filled as possible. The goat should have a broad,**

**fairly straight back and must not be pinched behind the shoulders.**

**Characteristic cull defects : Back too concave, too slab-sided, too cylindrical or pinched behind the shoulder.**

**HINDQUARTERS : The Boer Goat should have a broad and long rump; not sloping too much, well fleshed but tocks which are not too flat, and have fully - fleshed thighs. The tail must be straight where it grows out of the dock and then swing to either side.**

**Characteristic cull defects : A rump that hangs too much or is too short. A too long shank or flat buttocks. A crooked tail**

**LEGS : The legs must be strong, well placed, and of good texture. fleshy or too thin legs are undesirable. Strong legs imply hardiness and strong constitution of**

## **the Boer Goat.**

**Characteristic cull defects . knock knees, bandy legs, cowhocked or post - legged or sicklehocked. Legs too thin or too fleshy. Weak pasterns and: hoofs pointing outwards or inwards.**

**SKIN AND COVERING: A loose supple skin with sufficient chest and neck folds, especially in the case of rams, is essential. Eyelids and hairless parts must be pigmented. The hairless skin under the tail should have 75% pigmentation for stud purposes with 100% pigmentation the ideal. Short, glossy hair is desirable. A limited amount of fur will be tolerated during winter months.**

**Characteristic cull defects : Covering too long and coarse or too furry.**

**SEXUAL ORGANS:Ewes: Well-formed udder firmly**

**attached with teats as indicated on accompanying sketches (subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting 2002) and no more than two functional teats on a side.**

**The following is currently acceptable:**

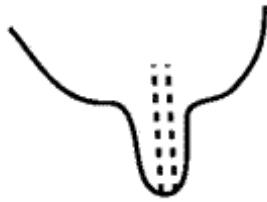


One functional teat on a side is the ideal



**One functional teat on a side and one non-functional teat (separate from the teat).**

**The following two may not be split!**



**One functional teat with two milk canals.**

**\* Acceptable only if they stay functional.**



**One functional teat with two milk canals and one non-functional teat.**

**\* Acceptable only if they stay functional.**



**Two separate functional teats on a side.**

**Two separate functional teats and one non functional teat on a side.**



**More than three teats on one side is a bunch of teats and not permissible.**

**One functional teat with a small nipple at the base of the teat.**



**\* Acceptable only if the nipple is not functional and teat is functional.**

**On functional teat with a small nipple elsewhere on the teat.**





**\* Acceptable only if the nipple is not functional and teat is functional.**

**Rams: Two reasonably large , well formed, healthy and equal sized testes in one scrotum. A scrotum with no larger split than 5 cm is permissible. The scrotum must be at least 25 cm in circumference.**

**Characteristic cull defects : Bunched, calabash or double teats. Too small testes; a scrotum with more than a 5 cm split.**

**QUALITY: Is indicated by the following characteristics: This is achieved with short glossy hair and a fine lustre, an ennobled appearance with especially a strong head, well backward bent. round horns, loose thick, supple, pleated skin (particularly with rams) and short smooth hair with a gloss. Combined with the above mentioned qualities, the goat must have a vigorous appearance.**

**SIZE :** The ideal is an average sized heavy goat with maximum meat production. A desirable relationship between length of leg and depth of body should be achieved at all ages. Lambs should tend to be longer in the leg.

**Characteristic cull Defects :** Goats too large or too small (pony)

**COLOURING:** The ideal is a white goat with a red head and ears, and fully pigmented skin, with or without blaze. Shadings between light red and dark red are permissible. The minimum requirement for a stud animal is a patch of at least 10 cm in diameter on both sides of the head, ears excluded. Both ears should have at least 75% red colouring.

The following is permissible for stud purposes:

**HEAD, NECK AND FOREQUARTERS :** A total red colouring is permissible not further than the shoulder blade and on the shoulder it must exist not lower than

**level with the chest junction.**

**BARREL, HINDQUARTER AND BELLY . Only one patch not exceeding 10 cm in diameter is permissible.**

**LEGS: The term "legs" is taken to mean that portion below an imaginary line formed by the chest and the underline. Patches with maximum of 5 cm in diameter are permissible.**

**TAIL : The tail may be red, but the red colour may not continue onto the body for more than 2,5 cm.**

**RED HAIR AND COVERING : Very few red hairs are permissible at the 2 tooth stage.**

**PIGMENTATION: A stud goat's skin must be at least 75% pigmented. Discriminate against too light pigmentation.**

**FLOCK GOAT : A flock goat is a Boer goat which does not comply with the stud standards, but has no cull faults. At least 50% of the colour must be white; the other 50% must be red. Under the tail the flock goat must be at least 25% pigmented. Rams may not be more than 25% red.**

**EXPLANATION OF BREED STANDARDS :** In applying standards there are many aspects which cannot be fully defined. In such cases the inspector or judge must use his discretion. In spite of the breed standards being clear and to the point, it is never the less necessary to supply additional information in respect of certain descriptions. The major part of the body of the goat must be white to make it conspicuous and to facilitate the rounding up of goats in dense terrain. A pigmented skin on the hairless parts, e.g. under the tail, round the eyelids and mouth etc. is absolutely essential, because it offers resistance to sunburn which may result in cancer. A pigmented skin is also more resistant to skin disease. A loose, supple skin is essential for adaptability to climatic conditions. In South

**Africa , which is a warm and sunny country, an animal with a loose skin and short hair is better adapted. In addition a skin of this kind provides additional resistance to external parasites.**

**GENERAL APPEARANCE AND TYPE:** In appearance it is a goat with a fine head, round horns bent backwards, a loose, supple and pleated skin (especially in rams) with different body parts well fleshed and in perfect balance. The ewe must be feminine, wedging slightly to the front, which is a sign of fertility. The ram , never the less, appears heavier in the head, neck and forequarters. The upgraded boer goat is an animal with symmetry, with a strong, vigorous appearance and enough quality. In the ewe there is a strong emphasis on femininity; in the ram one of masculinity.

### **FERTILITY:**

- 1. Local shows - All ewes 4 tooth and older must be**

**visibly pregnant, or must have kidded already.**

**2. Regional, SA, and World shows - All ewes 4 tooth and older must be undoubtedly pregnant, or must have suckling kids to be allowed to compete.**

**3. Auction sales - On all auction sales of the SABGA, or under protection of the SABGA, all ewes 4 tooth and older must be undoubtedly visibly pregnant. If not, a certificate of pregnancy must be handed in during inspection.**



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## **MEMBERSHIP (of the Boer Goat Breeders' Association of South Africa)**

**Application for MEMBERSHIP should be done at the  
office:**

**PO. Box 282 Somerset East**

**Tel. (042) 2432130.**

## **Services by the Boer Goat Breeders' Association of South Africa .**

**1. INSPECTION SERVICES in the following cases carried out by the panel of qualified inspectors of the SA Boer Goat Breeders' Association of SA:**

**1.1 Stud breeders at least every 2 years.**

**1.2 Flock breeders by means of the classing of animals.**

**1.3 All auctions which occur under the auspices of the Boer Goat Breeders' Association of South Africa.**

**1.4 Screening of licensed AI rams.**

**2. COURSES: Presentation of the Junior and Senior courses and Judge's examination.**



- 3. PROMOTION DAYS in accordance with the need.**
- 4. AUCTIONS : Three national auctions of ewes and rams are presented.**
- 5. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS are offered every two years and REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS during the alternate years**
- 6. Any ENQUIRIES with regard to Boer Goats should be directed to the office.**

