



Descriptive standard for all breeds

Ewes

1. General Appearance

A strong, lively, and stylish animal with breed character, triangulation and attractive individuality with symmetrical balance and harmonious fusion of all parts, with emphasis on dairy qualities, with capacity for food and milk productivity, and suitable for reproduction of the desired type of offspring. Size and quality desired.

2. Head and Neck (Saanen, British Alpine, Toggenburg and BDE.)

- The head of ewes should be fine, of medium length, wide between the eyes and feminine.
- Head of British Alpine and BDE is slightly longer.
- The face should preferably be straight or slightly hollow, with prominent facial lines, strongly shaped mouth with strong lips and wide, open nostrils. Jaws that close well and are not too long or short. The amber coloured eyes should be large, full and alert.
- Upright, fine, open ears, high on the head, and alert.
- The neck should be long and slender in proportion to the body, with or without bells, and join neatly to the head and forebody.

2.1 Head and Neck of Anglo-Nubian

- All points of the above breeds are the same, except that the head is shorter, nasal bone curved, and nostrils narrow.
- The ears are large, set low on the head and hang without folds. The ears should be able to come together over the nostrils.
- The lower jaw may appear long but not show teeth.
- The neck has no bells and may show throat skin in both rams and ewes.

3. Body

3.1 Front quarter

- The shoulders must be slim, sharp, and upright and close firmly at the withers, with shoulders and top that smoothly join the body.

- The chest should be deep and full between and behind the front legs to provide good lung capacity.

3.2 Middle piece

- The trunk must be long and deep with support from well-developed muscles.
- Ribs should be well sprung with wide inter-rib spaces and characteristic double-wedge shape (viewed from above and side).
- Full back shift with good rib spring for capacity for big, strong lungs and space for good heart action.
- Large heart girdle formed by long well sprung ribs, with broad chest, wide chest floor between forelegs and fullness at the tip of the elbow.
- Flat-sided animals must be avoided.

3.3 Back

- The back must be straight, (not hollow or humped) strong and with wide spines.
- Prominent backbone should connect well and smoothly with shoulders and well sprung ribs.
- The loin must be strong, even, and broad.

3.4 Rear body

- The hips must be wide, but not heavy. The ends should be well defined, and almost level with the back.
- The swivels must be wide, and slightly lower than the hips and sit bones.
- The sit bones must be widely spaced, sharply defined, and free from coarseness or fleshiness.
- The sitting bones are slightly lower than the hip bones.
- The croup must be long from hips to sit bones.
- The thighs or thighs should be flat and wide, with minimum fleshiness, for good udder space.

4. Milk system

4.1 Udder

- A spherical, spacious udder, well attached front and back over a large area without flesh with a supple and soft skin texture. The front attachment without cavity.
- Hind oar well rounded, high, and wide attached with flat floor above heels, and no sign of hanging oar or division between two equal halves.
- Anglo-Nubian may show moderate division.

4.2 Milk vessels

- Large, long, prominent, sinuous, with lateral branches.

4.3 Teats

- Symmetrical, moderately long teats that point down, slightly towards the front and can be held comfortably in the hand.
- Teats should be widely spaced, well defined, with good opening for easy milking.
- Teats and udders must be free of lumps, warts, extra openings, and leaks.

5. Legs

- Broad and well-placed strong legs, with strong heels and pasterns and well-shaped hooves.
- Legs should be in proportion to body size and of good quality.

6. Skin, Hair, and Quality

- Skin should be thin, loose, and supple.
- Very thick, tight, and rough skin is not desirable.
- Hair must be dense and fine, with a soft feel and with the correct colours as specified in relevant breed points.

Rams

The standard for rams is about the same as for ewes, except that they must look male and not female.

1. Genital organs

- Must be well developed with both testes prolapsed in balanced, not split scrotum.
- Scrotum normal and strongly attached. Only one teat on each side and detached from scrotum allowed.

2. Legs

- Front legs straight and strong with good bone development.
- Hind legs straight, seen from behind, and not cow hipped.
- Withers upright and strong, with healthy legs.
- Legs in proportion to size and of good quality.

3. Colour of dairy goats

3.1 Saanen:

- White without markings

3.2 British Alpine:

- Black with white markings as follows:
 - Face stripes from above the eyes to the mouth.
 - White stripes on legs from the heels and knees down.
 - White on both sides of tail.

3.3 Toggenburg:

- May vary from fawn to dark chocolate with white markings as follows:
- Face stripes from above the eyes to the mouth, and on the sides and tips of the ears.
- White stripes on legs from the heels and knees down.
- White on both sides of the tail.

3.4 BDE:

- Red brown with black markings as follows:
 - Face stripes from above the eyes to the mouth and along the length of the back.
 - Black belly. Black front legs. Hind legs, black to heels.

3.5 Anglo-Nubian:

- Any color or combination of colors.
- May be plain, broken or variegated without "Swiss-Markings".
- Black skin but may be grey with black pigmentation.