

# SAVANNA

## *Breed Information*

The Savanna Goat was developed under unfavorable environmental conditions such as; heat, intense sunrays, cold and rain. The breed moves easily and easily travels long distances for survival. Good animal management should allow the Savanna Goat to maintain its strength, while utilizing a wide range of vegetation (such as trees shrubs, large bushes which are unpalatable to other farm animals), and a long breeding season, sexually active and able to breed anytime of the year. When evaluating an animal's value and desirability, the best balance of all the standards should be sought. The animal who possesses the greatest conformity to the breed standards when viewed as a complete package is the best representative of the Savanna breed or for any breed for that matter.

It is possible to document and maintain bloodlines through pedigree and DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid). Owners and/or breeders should use standards to evaluate animals when establishing desirability and value. Animals that meet or exceed standards will survive through the ages while serving mankind.

### **Overall Quality, Size, Appearance and Type**

The Savanna Goat should be of suitable size for maximum meat yields. It should have good structural conformation which meets environmental and production needs, high adaptability to environmental conditions and production needs, high adaptability to environmental conditions and high fertility. Bucks should be masculine, proud, robust and well muscled. Does should be refined and feminine, yet strong, and have a slightly more angular chest than bucks. They should be able to breed easily and have the conformation and constitution to easily raise fast growing kids and the ability to aggressively defend their kids from predators.

The Savanna Goat has white short hair. During the winter months the goats develop extra fluffy cashmere hair for protection. The body should be white with pigmented skin in hairless areas around the head and under the tail to reduce sunburn, cancers, and skin diseases. A loose, supple skin helps the animal adapt to wide climatic conditions, and assists in providing resistance to external parasites.

In general appearance, the Savanna Goat is a white goat with a limited amount of freckling of red, blue or black. Horns curve backwards. Animals should be strong, vigorous, and symmetrical, with well-balanced muscling. Ideally, the Savanna Goat is a rapidly growing, well-proportioned goat of suitable size with the ability to maximally produce prime cuts of meat to meet consumer demands.

**FAULTS:** Are cull characteristic or defects which decrease the efficiency of the goat for breeding purposes and will ultimately affect an animal's functional efficiency, meat production and or survivability.

### **I. CONFORMATION**

## **A. HEAD**

A prominent, strong head with level eyes and must be protected by well-developed eyebrow ridges. Nose with a gentle curve, wide nostrils, and well-formed mouth with well-opposed jaws. Two tooth (1-1.5 years of age) may have no over or under-bite; the jaws should be perfectly opposed. Four tooth and older (the second pair of permanent incisors erupt at 1.5 to 2 years of age) animals may have 1/4-inch overbite. All permanent front teeth (goats have four pairs of front teeth in their lower jaw, with the fourth pair erupting at about 4 years of age) should be in the anatomically correct positions. Horns should be strong, of moderate length, positioned well apart, and have a gradual backward curve before turning outward symmetrically. Horns should be as solid as possible and dark in color. Ears should be broad, smooth, of medium length and hang downwards. Short ears should not be acceptable. Disbudded or dehorned animals should have that noted on their registration.

**FAULTS:** Abnormal mouth and jaws, and over-developed lower jaws.

## **B. NECK AND FOREQUARTERS**

Neck should be of reasonable length and in proportion with body length. Forequarters full well fleshed, and limbs well jointed and smoothly blended. The breast should be broad with a deep broad brisket. 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 hoofs well formed and tight and as dark as possible.

**FAULTS:** Neck too long, too short, or too thin; shoulders too loose, any structural foreleg, muscle, bone, joint or hoof deformities or abnormalities.

## **C. BODY (barrel)**

Body should be long, deep and broad. Ribs should be well sprung and muscled. Loins should be well muscled, wide and long. The top line should be straight and the shoulder well rounded.

**FAULTS:** Concave or swayback; chest too cylindrical or flat, shoulders weakly attached; poor muscling through the back and loin.

#### **D. HINDQUARTERS**

Hindquarters must be well muscled and carry a sufficient amount of meat. Rump should be broad and long, with a gentle slope. Britches and thighs well muscled and rounded. The tail should be centered, upwards and well covered with hair. The bare skin of the tail should also be pigmented. Legs should be strong and the leg should have a straight axis from the hip through the hock, fetlock and pastern. The goat should be able to stand easily on its hind legs. Hoofs should be well formed and as dark as possible.

### **II. SKIN AND COVERING**

Skin should be loose and supple, with sufficient folds over the neck and chest, especially in bucks. Ideally, eyelids and other hairless areas should be pigmented. Ideally, hairless areas around anus should also be pigmented. . Short hair is desirable. A limited amount of winter down or under coat (cashmere) will be tolerated during winter, especially in colder environments.

### **III. REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS**

Sexual organs should be normal and well developed. For a buck, two normal testicles in a scrotum should be present. The scrotum should not be excessively divided. For a doe, a well developed but not too large pigmented udder with two teats ideally. Four separate teats are also acceptable.

**FAULTS:** Udder and teat abnormalities or defects, other than those specified above, small or abnormal testes, excessive scrotal splits.

### **IV. COLORATION**

The ideal Savanna Goat is a totally white animal and has pigmented skin, with a limited amount of red, blue or black freckling).

**FAULTS:** Skin with no pigment.

