



# DAIRY GOAT MILK PRODUCTION TESTING

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# DAIRY GOAT MILK PRODUCTION TESTING

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Two distinct types:

- Measuring one day (24 hour) production.
- Monitoring over a lactation (up to 365 days).



# PRODUCTION TESTING AWARDS

- Both 24 hour and lactation monitoring have associated awards
- AWARDS ARE based on exceeding benchmarks.
- Separate distinct benchmarks for standard breeds and Nigerian Dwarfs.
- Awards facilities for the lactating doe herself, her sire, dam and offspring.
- Awards also PROVIDE recognition of multi generational ACHIEVEMENT.
- Awards permanently referenced against the successful goats registration number, kept in a centralised database and published in the annual DGSA “*The Herd Book*”.
- Testing managed at State level and overseen by Federal Milk Awards Officer.



# ONE DAY (24 HOUR) MILK TESTS

- Conducted over a 24 hour period.
- Requires independent monitor to officiate, witness and authenticate.
- Sometimes conducted at major shows such as EKKA and Perth Royal.
- Three consecutive milkings monitored:
  - Strip out - initial milking to ensure tested does udder is emptied completely.
  - Milking one – timing flexible but usually around 12 hours after strip out.
  - Milking two - final milking – to be conducted exactly 24 hours after strip out.
- Does meeting or exceeding benchmark criteria are eligible to apply for milk awards (explained later).
- One day tests can also be used towards lactation monitoring.

# 24 HOUR PRODUCTION AWARDS

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- Different criteria for standard dairy breeds and Nigerian Dwarfs.
- Test requires independent monitor to authenticate legitimacy.
- Often conducted at major shows – e.g. EKKA and Perth Royal Shows.
- Test can not be undertaken less than 7 days after kidding.
- Points given for:
  - days in milk,
  - kgs of milk and
  - butterfat content.
- Minimums for milk and butterfat must be met for eligibility (irrespective of points).

# 24 HOUR PRODUCTION AWARDS

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- Same awards available to both standard breeds however criteria differ for Nigerian Dwarfs.

- Awards:

Award	Suffix	Represents
Q Star	*	Achieving milk quantity
Star	*	Achieving higher milk quantity
Star Q Star	*Q*	Achieving both quantity & quality

- Intergenerational Recognition of Awards:

- Daughters of does with 24 hour awards are eligible for recognition by a number of unbroken awarded generations attached to her award. (E.g. Original Q\*, daughter Q\***2**, granddaughter Q\***3**, .....

- Awards is permanent and appears immediately after goat's name (EG. Dandalee Park Lady Bird \*Q\***15**)

# 24 HOUR PRODUCTION AWARD

## POINTS CALCULATIONS

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- Same formula used for all breeds.
- Points given for:
  - Time - days in milk – rewards ongoing production
  - Quantity - Milk yield
  - Quality - Butterfat produced

- Calculations:

Criteria	Formula	Explanation
Time	Days in milk x 0.1 pts	Rewards does for milking long-term. Max points 3.65 (365 days/1 year of lactation)
Quantity	Kgs of milk x 2.2 pts	Historical awards - 2.2 represents change from Imperial to Metric
Quality	Kgs of bf x 44 pts	Historical awards - 44 represents change from Imperial to Metric

# 24 HOUR AWARD CRITERIA (STANDARD BREEDS)

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Award	Points required	Min milk required (kgs)	Min butterfat required (%)
Q Star (Q*)	18	3.50kgs	3.5%
Star (*)	11	Approx 5.0kgs	3.0%
Star Q Star (*Q*)	Both above in respective criteria	Approx 5.0kgs	3.5%

# 24 HOUR AWARD CRITERIA (NIGERIAN DWARF)

Award	Points required	Min milk required (kgs)	Min butterfat required (%) Appendix D, C & B	Min butterfat required (%) Appendix A, X & P
Q Star (Q*)	6	1.15kgs	4.0%	5.0%
Star (*)	4	Approx. 1.80kgs	3.5%	4.0%
Star Q Star (*Q*)	Both above in respective criteria	Approx. 1.80kgs	4.0%	5.0%

# 24 HOUR AWARDS – SIRE, DAMS & OFFSPRING

- Recognition of 24 Hour awards can also be carried on to sire, dam and/or offspring.

Award	Suffix	Criteria
Sire of Merit	SM	5 or more daughters with a 24 hour milk award
Sire of Distinction	SD	8 or more daughters with a *Q* milk award
Dam of Merit	DM	3 or more daughters with a 24 hour milk award
Dam of Distinction	DD	5 or more daughters with a *Q* milk award
Dagger	†	Awarded to a buck who's dam and sire's dam both have 24 hour milk awards.
Generational acknowledgement	Q*, Q*2, Q*3, Q*4.....	A doe who's dam has a 24 hour milk award is eligible to have a number (one higher) following her award. Once broken numbering recommences.

# HERD RECORDING / LACTATION MONITORING

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- Often simply referred to as Herd Recording.
- Same formula used for all breeds, however different award criteria for Nigerian Dwarfs.
- Based on conducting regular one day tests and averaging for duration between tests (max interval 70 days).
- To enable maximum participation – separate regimes with different suffixes available for those using independent monitors, partly monitored or unmonitored (referred to as Farmer Own).
- Based on achieving predetermined standards for age yields in milk, butterfat and/or protein (listed later).

# HERD RECORDING BASICS

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- To commence after 7 but before 90 days post kidding.
- Testing intervals to be less than 70 days.
- Recommended at least 10 testing in 365 day lactation.
- Official 24 hour/One day tests can be used towards herd recording.
- Can be done using independent monitor or without – different suffix awards.

# PRODUCTION STANDARDS FOR AGE

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- Awards are based on meeting (or exceeding) predetermined standards for age.
- Separate standards for large breeds and Nigerian Dwarfs.
- Standards include benchmarks for:
  - Milk yield (kgs),
  - Butterfat yield (kgs) and
  - Protein yield (kgs).
- Does achieving or exceeding any of the benchmarks may be eligible to claim awards.
- Awards are permanent and appear against individual doe's registration number.
- Results can contribute to Type & Production classes held at some shows.

# PRODUCTION STANDARDS FOR AGE

- **Standard Dairy Breeds**

Category	Age at Kidding	Milk Yield (kgs)	Butterfat (kgs)	Protein (kgs)
Junior Yearling	Up to 18 months	636	22	17.8
Senior Yearling	18 – 24 months	653	23	18.3
Junior 2	24 – 30 months	670	23	18.8
Senior 2	30 – 36 months	695	25	19.5
Junior 3	36 – 42 months	720	26	20.2
Senior 3	42 – 48 months	745	28	20.9
Junior 4	48 – 54 months	770	29	21.6
Senior 4	54 – 60 months	795	30	22.3
Mature	Over 60 months	820	32	23

# PRODUCTION STANDARDS FOR AGE

- **Nigerian Dwarfs**

Category	Age at Kidding	Milk Yield (kgs)	Butterfat (kgs)	Protein (kgs)
Junior Yearling	Up to 18 months	212	7.4	6
Senior Yearling	18 – 24 months	218	7.7	6.1
Junior 2	24 – 30 months	224	8	6.3
Senior 2	30 – 36 months	232	8.4	6.5
Junior 3	36 – 42 months	240	8.7	6.8
Senior 3	42 – 48 months	250	9.4	7
Junior 4	48 – 54 months	260	9.7	7.26
Senior 4	54 – 60 months	265	10	7.5
Mature	Over 60 months	275	11	7.7

# CALCULATING PRODUCTION PERFORMANCE

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- Monitoring to commence 7 – 90 days after kidding.
- Intervals between monitoring not to exceed 70 days.
- Milk yield is measured (by kgs) for 24 hour period at intervals throughout the doe's lactation (max 365 days).
- Milk samples also taken on testing day and sent for analysis of butterfat and protein content.
- Yield, bf and protein on monitored days are used as average to estimate yield for period. Periods added together to give estimated lactation totals.
- Does achieving or exceeding any of the standards may be eligible to claim awards.

# HERD RECORDING AWARDS

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- At end of lactation or 365 days max if doe milking through a report is produced estimating:
  - Total milk production,
  - Total butterfat yield and
  - Total protein yield.
- If **any** of the estimated yields exceed standards goat may apply for recognition and/or award.
- Different award suffixes depending on degree benchmarks exceeded (see next slide).
- Awards claimed through State Milk Awards Officer (SMAO), before being forwarded to Federal Milk Awards Officer for checking, recording, publishing and issuing of award certificates.
- Fees apply for applying for awards, contact your respective SMAO to discuss.

# PRODUCTION STANDARDS FOR AGE

- SUMMARY - DIFFERENT AWARD LEVEL THRESHOLDS**

<b>Award Category</b>	<b>Suffix</b>	<b>Standard Breeds Benchmark Milk Yield (kgs)</b>	<b>Nigerian Dwarf Benchmark Milk Yield (kgs)</b>
Reached Standard	RS	As per slide 14	As per slide 15
Register	R (or F)	900kgs	300
Register of Merit	RM (or FM)	1150	380
Advanced Register	AR (or AF)	1400	465

# HERD RECORDING AWARDS

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## REACHING STANDARD

- When a doe reaches standard for milk, bf and/or protein she may apply for the associated award (EG RS/JY – a doe that meets the Junior Yearling standard in any criteria).
- Once awarded this prefix may precede her name in pedigrees etc and is a permanent entitlement. (EG. **RS/JY** Dandalee Park Jade)

# HERD RECORDING AWARDS

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- **EXCEEDING STANDARD**
  - over 900kgs standard breeds
  - over 300kgs Nigerian Dwarfs
- Awarded does can claim a suffix that quotes her actual production.
- Appear as a letter R (if monitored) or F (unmonitored Farmers Own testing) followed by the number of 10 kgs units of milk produced. (EG 957kgs of milk under monitored testing = **R95**).

# HERD RECORDING AWARDS

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- **REGISTER OF MERIT**

- over 1150kgs standard breeds
- Over 380kgs Nigerian Dwarfs
- Recognising superior performance.
- As with R and F on previous slide with addition on M (Merit). (EG 1257kgs of milk under monitored testing = **RMI25**).

# HERD RECORDING AWARDS

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- **ADVANCED REGISTER**
- **Highest award recognises milk quality and parents awards**
  - over 1400kgs standard breeds **plus** average bf over 3.5%.
  - Over 465kgs Nigerian Dwarfs **plus** average bf over 4% (App D, C or B)  
**or** average bf over 5% (App A, X or P).
- Dam and Sire's dam must BOTH also be RM or AR awarded.
- Advanced Register: (EG Appear as **ARI60**).

# HR AWARDS – SIRES, DAMS & OFFSPRING

- Recognition of HR awards towards sire, dam and/or offspring.

Award	Suffix	Criteria – Standard Breeds	Criteria – Nigerian Dwarf
Sire of Merit	SM	5 or more daughters with a R90 or F90 award or higher	5 or more daughters with a R30 or F30 award or higher
Sire of Distinction	SD	8 or more daughters with a R120 or F120 award or higher	8 or more daughters with a R40 or F40 award or higher
Dam of Merit	DM	3 or more daughters with a R90 or F90 award or higher	3 or more daughters with a R30 or F30 award or higher
Dam of Distinction	DD	5 or more daughters with a R120 or F120 award or higher	5 or more daughters with a R40 or F40 award or higher
Section Mark	§	Awarded to buck who's dam and sire's dam both have F90 or R90 or above awards. EG. §90/90	Awarded to buck who's dam and sire's dam both have F30 or R30 or above awards. EG. §30/30
Double Section Mark	§§	Awarded to buck who's dam and sire's dam both have FM or RM and who's sire is Section Mark out of a FM or RM dam. EG. §§120/150	Awarded to buck who's dam and sire's dam both have FM or RM and who's sire is Section Mark out of a FM or RM dam. EG. §§40/45

# MILK TESTING SERVICE PROVIDERS:



Below are names of service providers (alphabetical order only) and their respective contact details. There may be others also. Interested persons are encouraged to shop around to select the provider that best meets their needs.

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Dairy Express	ABRI c/- UNE ARMIDALE NSW2351	1800 633 165	<a href="https://dairyexpress.une.edu.au">https://dairyexpress.une.edu.au</a>
Farm West	28 Clifford St DAVENPORT WA 6230	(08) 9726 2626	<a href="https://farmwest.com.au">https://farmwest.com.au</a>
HICO	Head Office: 2 Foster St MAFFRA VIC 3860	(03) 5147 1633	<a href="https://hico.com.au">https://hico.com.au</a>
TasHerd	16 Main St, HADSPEN TAS	(03) 6393 6202	<a href="https://tasherd.com.au">https://tasherd.com.au</a>

# CONTACTS:



For more information contact your local DGSA State Milk Awards Officer:

QLD:	Karen Coghill	07 4983 2510	<a href="mailto:kabcoghill@bigpond.com">kabcoghill@bigpond.com</a>
NSW:	James Parlevliet	0412 893 808	<a href="mailto:osorydairygoats@gmail.com">osorydairygoats@gmail.com</a>
SA:	Lynda Schmidt	0438 645 020	<a href="mailto:braimac67@bigpond.com">braimac67@bigpond.com</a>
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FEDERAL MILK AWARDS OFFICER

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