



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 1

GENERAL

"Paving the road to excellence"

Today we begin to review the South African Savanna Breed Standard.

We will start with the GENERAL section and address it point by point.

The standard will first be quoted as it is written. Further explanation will be stated by cutting in below the standard with my comments. I trust this format will be efficient to move us along.

The entire breed standard is posted on the PI website (link is attached). You are welcome/encouraged to read ahead. Discussion will be contained to the points at hand per each section.

Ewes = Does

Rams = Bucks

General

● "The Savannah White Goat should be a strong, virile, functionally efficient goat, with a lively but not wild carriage."

NOTE:

The first comment in setting the standard for the Savanna goat emphasizes the goats color (more on this factor later).

Strong, virile and FUNCTIONALLY efficient. Keep in mind as we move forward that each part that makes up the breed standard points to the goat being 'functionally efficient'. Functionally efficient shadows your ability to make a profit.

The Savanna is to be lively (robust, active, alert) but not wild/crazy. This points to temperament. The temperament of the goat can make a huge gain on management. Wild goats can be a 'bear' to deal with, time consuming and frustrating. Remember, Time Is Money. Goats that are alert and active, yet somewhat compliant, make for easier management.

● "The ewes must be of a medium size but should appear refined and feminine."

NOTE: Bigger is not always better. A doe must maintain her femininity. Does should not be 'dainty' nor should they be masculine. You should be able to tell your does from your bucks across the field. They should present a definite wedge body (being deeper in the flanks than in the girth area. A 'Bucky' looking doe (short neck and thick front end) is not considered feminine. Does should also display feminine horns, being arched back and not wild nor thick.

● "Ewes with lambs at foot should have good mothering ability and should aggressively defend their lambs against dogs and other predators."

NOTE: Does should readily accept their kids, support suckling, clean the kids and in general nuzzle and encourage them. They should protect their kids from threats. Does that walk away from their kids are NOT profitable and not a good representation of the breed. A doe that can not or will not care for her offspring is a candidate for removal from the herd.

● "Rams must be masculine, proud, robust and well muscled."

NOTE: A masculine buck should be balanced (more on balanced later). It is not uncommon to see bucks with short of a neck. A bucks neck will be thicker than a does, but he should have a neck, not a head on a body. He should carry himself proudly. This means his head will be 'up' (that takes some neck) often bucks lacking a reasonable length of a neck will carry their head level in front of them, pay attention for this. He should be agile, fluid in movement and carry muscle throughout his body. Do not confuse fat with muscle.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 2

GENERAL

"Paving the road to excellence"

This installment will complete the 'GENERAL' section of the South African Savanna Breed Standard.

This will give us an overview of the basic goal of the Savanna goat. Productivity is, of course, the overall goal. Productivity leads to profits. As we move on through the breed standard you will be able to see how 'Function follows Form' and 'Profit follows Performance'.

Ewes = Does

Rams = Bucks

GENERAL continued

● The Savannah White Goat was developed under very unfavorable environmental conditions and must be able to easily endure unfavorable conditions such as heat, intense sunshine, cold, and rain.

NOTE: Again we see, color matters. The original developers of the Savanna breed had a vision. The end product needed to be able to sustain in all types of weather, without shelter. I realize that 'we in America' often feel a deep need 'and responsibility' to provide shelter and comfort for our goats. The truth is that when the Savanna is bred and selected according to the standard we will see an incredibly hardy animal. Hardiness = Profitability

● The breed moves easily and can, if necessary, travel long distances in search of fodder and water.

NOTE: We realize that most breeders of the Savanna goat here in the US do not require that their animals travel long distances (read miles a day). We also need to realize that we tend to underestimate the ability of this breed. We do not benefit the breed nor the industry if we 'soften' the goat.

The Savanna goat should have a nice stride and fluid movement. Not only is that beautiful in motion, but it also makes for a more healthy and profitable animal.

● The Savannah White Goat should also be able to utilize a wide range of vegetation, such as trees, shrubs, and small as well as big bushes which are hard and even unpalatable to other farm animals.

NOTE: This amazing white goat was developed with a job in mind. It was selected, generation by generation, to improve the environment by maintaining a balance in brush (mid-growth) and grass (lower growth), and Trees (upper growth). Few species will eat the variety that a goat will eat. Goats can create more grass growth for other 'grazers' and keep forest density to a minimum, thus creating a canopy for the protection of both flora and fauna. We see this today as goats are being used in many areas to maintain public lands and lessen fire hazards. Often our goats are fed so well that they have no need, or desire, to forage on the very vegetation that they were created to flourish on.

● The Savannah must have a long breeding season and should be sexually active and able to breed at any time of the year.

NOTE: Year-round breeding assures that there are offspring throughout the year. This fills the gap in nature when unfavorable 'climate' conditions cause excessive losses. Nature has planned for the replacement of aging adults. If we can think of our goats as 'wildlife' as well as 'livestock' we can better understand their value in a profitable setting.



FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 3

CHARACTERISTIC BREED TRAITS

"Paving the road to excellence"

As we move on to more individual elements we must first cover the breed's characteristics in general.

Characteristic Breed Traits

● Lively appearance

Note: A lively appearance is a great asset to herd management. If the breed (hence, the entire herd) presents a high head carriage, moves quickly and with energy, and always appears alert (not to be confused with a goat that is fearful, anxious, and ready to flee at any given moment) you have an excellent observation tool. When the entire herd is 'lively' and you see one or two that have a low head carriage and do not appear alert, the odds are that you have a goat that needs to be checked on. It could be injured, sick, or carrying a high parasite load. When the herd is 'lively' they travel together. There is safety in numbers. This becomes very important for range animals.

● Symmetrical conformation, with legs and body not too long or too short.

Note: In general we are talking about 'balance' here. One where the entire goat presents a pleasing package. Height, length, and depth of the body should present a balance. Some would like to believe there are two basic body types: One that is long in the body while one lacking depth of body. Then you have the opposite of this, short in length but having depth of body. In reality, there is one body type: Balanced in the length of the body, depth of the body, height, neck, and head. The entire goat should be in proportional balance. Then you have achieved one of the most desired characteristics of the presentation of your herd. When a goat is 'built on balance' it simply travels better. That translates to being able to forage more efficiently, thus being more profitable.

● Short kemp white hair. During the winter months, the goats develop extra fluffy cashmere hair for protection.

Note: Yes, the Savanna is a white goat. The desire in the Savanna goat for uniformity is strong. The hair should be short, which gives less opportunity to harbor mites, ticks, etc. The cashmere that can develop on a Savanna goat for winter warmth and protection should readily shed off in the Spring as temperatures warm. Leaving a smooth coat that protects from the elements without making a 'home' for mites, ticks, etc. Keeping an animal comfortable and healthy makes him more range hardy and once again, more profitable.

● The goats have strong jaws and strong long-lasting well-developed teeth.

Note: A strong, serviceable jaw allows for the consumption of woody stems and small trees. Strong teeth are necessary to grind the forage. Teeth need to be strong and properly formed in order to last the goat's lifespan. It is important that we consider the correctness of the mouth when we appraise a goat. A strong and healthy mouth is essential for thrift and profitability. The mouth is perhaps one of the most important aspects of thrift.



FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 4A

"Paving the road to excellence"

Now that we have finished the General and Characteristic Breed Traits of the South African Savanna Breed Standard we are ready to move on to the individual aspects of the breed.

The material we cover from here forward can be applied to help select and sort the individual goats in your herd.

Our goal here is to help each breeder to strengthen the quality of their own herd and to help sort out the individuals that qualify as Savanna Seed Stock. Not all registered goats are Seed Stock but many of them are good foundation animals that will be an important part of a herd that is working toward Seed Stock quality.

Let me state right here that I am fully aware that there are two aspects to the desired goat. Form/Beauty and Function /Utility. Further, I believe that you can have both. Function is how the animal actually produces and that is extremely important to any herd's bottom line. Form is about the visual. Many of the visual traits are a tip-off as to how you can expect an individual to function. Our goal is to understand the value of the breed standard as it was set in place by the developers of the Savanna breed. As we move forward with the Breed Standard review continue to think BALANCE. Balance is the foundation of beauty.

(NOTE: We are changing the format just a bit so we can include photos where needed in the document.)



FOR MORE INFORMATION



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BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 4B

HEAD

"Paving the road to excellence"

● The Savannah has a fairly long, slightly curved head and the head has the shape of that of a big-mouth yellow-fish. The head and nose must be fairly broad and not sharp.



NOTE: There is a lot to be gleaned from this first point. One is that the Savanna's head is "fairly long". If you look at a photo of a good quality Boer and a good Savanna side by side you will see that the Savanna's head is built longer (much like the difference you will see in a Red Boer vs a Kalahari Red goat). The curve of the Savanna is not as pronounced as that of the Boer.

The length of the goat's head will give you an indication as to the length of the goat's body. You want the head and nose/muzzle to be wide/broad, not pinched, sharp or pointy. A goat with a wide muzzle will most always have a wide chest and body. To be noted in regards to the 'Roman Nose', we are looking for a gentle arc, with bucks tending to be bolder than does



FOR MORE INFORMATION



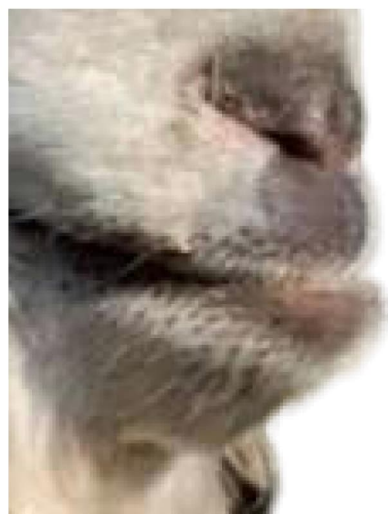
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BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 4C

HEAD

"Paving the road to excellence"

● The mouth must be reasonably wide with well muscled jaws. The upper and lower lips must be well muscled and mobile like that of a kudu.
NOTE: If the muzzle is wide the mouth should also be reasonably wide with a well muscled jaw. Common sense will tell us that a wide strong mouth makes for easier consumption of 'twiggy' forage. Upper and lower lips will be strong and mobile, thus allowing for the goat to be efficient as pulling leaves from trees, etc. A wide muzzle should produce wide open nostrils, obviously this allows for easier breathing and greater oxygen flow.



● The teeth of young as well as mature goats in the case of rams, as well as ewes, must bite solidly and correctly on the dental pads of the upper jaws. No jaw or mouth faults will be tolerated, except eight tooth olds and older may show 6mm protrusion.

NOTE: Often the teeth are not given enough consideration as we don't readily see them without extra effort. The teeth must be well aligned for proper chewing. Remember that the goat will spend much time chewing its cud. This is an important part of the digestion process and the enzymes that are drawn into action in the mouth will make nutrients more readily available to the animal. Underbites and overbites should NOT be tolerated (except as stated in the most mature of animals). If you have a kid with a bad bite it is not going to get better. Cut your losses right there and send the individual off to market, regardless of good how the rest of the body appears. (Examples of over and underbite are attached). Let's remember that if we want good production and performance a strong and healthy mouth is essential.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 5

HEAD

"Paving the road to excellence"

- The eyes must be lively and surrounded by black pigmented eyelids, and skin must be protected by well developed eyebrow ridges.

Note: The standard for the eye is fairly straightforward. A well-pigmented goat will have darkly pigmented eyelids. What we don't often consider is the eyebrow ridges and brow bone. These protect the eye in general but especially in 'battle'.

- THE HORNS ARE DARK BLACK AND GROW BACKWARDS FROM THE CROWN OF THE HEAD. THE HORNS MUST BE STRONG AND OVAL SHAPED AND MUST NOT PRESS AGAINST THE NECK. THE HORNS SHOULD NOT GROW WILD OR BE TOO LONG. RAMS HAVE SLIGHTLY STRONGER, HEAVIER HORNS THAN EWES. AT THE BASE THERE SHOULD BE A REASONABLE WIDTH BETWEEN THE HORNS.

NOTE: The ears act as radiators, dissipating heat from the body. Obviously, this is important to the animal's comfort. Again we see the need for good pigmentation and mobility for 'flicking' away petty insects. Basically, we see two general types of 'ear style' very long and then wider but often a bit shorter in length than the narrower ear. Perhaps in the end the surface area for dispelling heat is equal in both styles. Long supple ears frame the beautiful face of the Savanna. Although performance is the fuel that drives production there is nothing wrong with beauty



- The ears must be fairly big, of oval shape and hang down next to the head. The ears must be well pigmented and mobile in order to protect the goat against midges (muggies), ticks, gadflies and other insect pests.

NOTE: Horns are one of the most talked about aspects in the Savanna. The breed standard is very specific about them. Again we see the presence of pigment in the horns. Horns are a battle tool and must be strong and well-set.

- One function of the goat horns is to serve as an air conditioning system, of sorts, during hot weather. The horns help regulate internal temperature, which is why experts recommend against dehorning breeds
- Horns too close to the head will rub raw places on the side of the neck. This creates an opportunity for infection.
- Horns too close together (less than 3 inches apart at the base) create a place for horns or legs to get trapped when bucks do battle. This can cause the death of both bucks if they get locked in tight and certainly can cause a broken leg.
- Horns take up a lot of concussions so they need to be 'up' off the head.
- Proper horns also aid in protecting the eye.
- Wild horns do not provide the same 'shock absorbing' effect as horns sitting squarely above the head. A 'wild horn set' is characteristic of other breeds (IE: Kiko and Spanish are two) and can put the purity of an animal into question. Be judicious when evaluating a goat on this feature. Wild horns can take generations to correct. Don't get complacent about this trait.

- Ewes as well as rams must be able to use their horns to protect themselves as well as their kids.

NOTE: Do not overlook proper horn display in your does. Just because the does horns are not as elaborate as those of a buck, remember, she passes her genetics on to her offspring.



FOR MORE INFORMATION



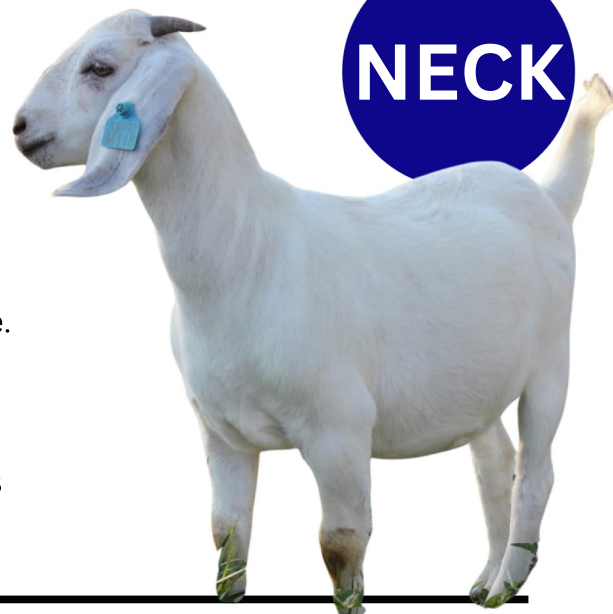
BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 6

NECK & FOREQUARTERS

"Paving the road to excellence"

The neck is well-muscled and reasonably long so that the goat can easily reach as high as possible to browse on branches and pods of various types of thorn trees.

Note: It goes without saying that when bucks fight it is a powerful expression of determination. A weak neck can easily be a broken neck. The length of the neck is something that can easily be over looked. A short neck in a buck can cause some to consider him strong and muscular in appearance. But if the head is almost sitting on the shoulder then the neck is too short and the over all goat loses balance. Your does should have a longer more elegant neck than your bucks. You want your does to be strong, deep, long and balanced with an elegant neck so she can carry a high proud stately head. A total balanced package. I have learned from some very successful breeders that it you will get your best stud bucks from strong feminine does.



Forequarters



● The forequarter is well muscled and of medium width; there will be strongly discriminated against a narrow or a very wide forequarter. The front legs are well-placed and straight. The cannon bone of both the front and hind legs should be short and strong. The pasterns of the front and hind legs must be strong and springy and must be slightly sloping. Again straight or weak pasterns will be strongly discriminated.

Note: Notice that we are cautioned to strive for balance in the forequarter. Front legs are to be placed squarely under the front of the goat, thus setting a good foundation. Watch for the front leg set that is to far back, giving the appearance that the front of the goat cantilevers levers out over its foundation. Goats that have well-placed front legs tend to have a smooth powerful stride (easier to travel and seek forage). Cannon bones take a lot of work, weak ones are not the goats friend. Pasterns are one of the most important aspects to watch for. Weak pasterns are painful (read uncomfortable to search for forage). Weak pasterns are not difficult to detect but they are difficult to 'fix'. Look for animals that have 'short' pasterns. Typically long pasterns will become broken-down pasterns Give yourself a break and do not keep or sell goats with weak pasterns.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



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BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 7A

PASTERN & CANNON BONES

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● The forequarter is well muscled and of medium width; there will be strongly discriminated against a narrow or a very wide forequarter. The front legs are well-placed and straight. The cannon bone of both the front and hind legs should be short and strong. The pasterns of the front and hind legs must be strong and springy and must be slightly sloping. Straight or weak pasterns will be strongly discriminated against.

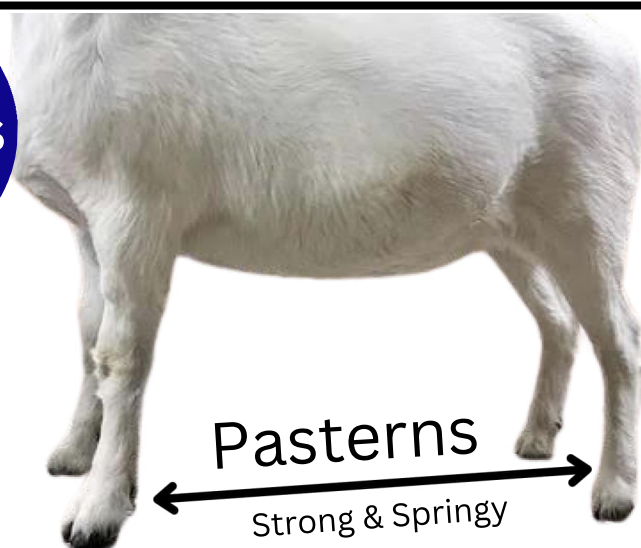
NOTE*

Once again we see the developer of the South African Savanna leaning heavily on 'balance'. The forequarter is to be balanced in proportion of the rest of the goat, yet well muscled. Proper width of the forearm makes sturdier bone. The cannon bone carries the goat through life. Short and strong has more integrity (more durable) than long and thin. Broken legs can be a death sentence for a goat in the wild or in a vast range situation.

NOTE*

Proper pasterns are akin to an athlete wearing proper fitting and constructed sport shoes. Properly constructed pasterns move the goat along confidently and pain free. Long/straight pasterns tend to 'break over' in time, leaving the goat vulnerable to a less thrifty life.

Pasterns



FOR MORE INFORMATION



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BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 7B

HOOVES, SHOULDERS & WITHERS

"Paving the road to excellence"

- The hooves of both front and hind legs must be strong, hard, black and reasonably big. The two sections of each hoof must be close to each other.

- The hooves should not be overgrown and the hooves of Savannas must not easily become sore and develop foot rot.

NOTE*

As an army travels on its stomach a goat travels on its hooves. Large strong hooves give the goat a solid foundation. Spayed hooves (width between the two hoof halves) are frowned upon. We want the two halves to function as one unit. Twigs, muck, and BACTERIA can lodge between the hoof halves and slow the goat down. Most goats traveling in rocky terrain wear down their hooves. Goats in less rocky terrain may need periodic trimming to remove crevices for rot and soreness to develop. Watch for 'natural' hoof health when you advance your breeding stock. With diligent mating selections, a breeder can lessen needed hoof Maintenance.

Hooves

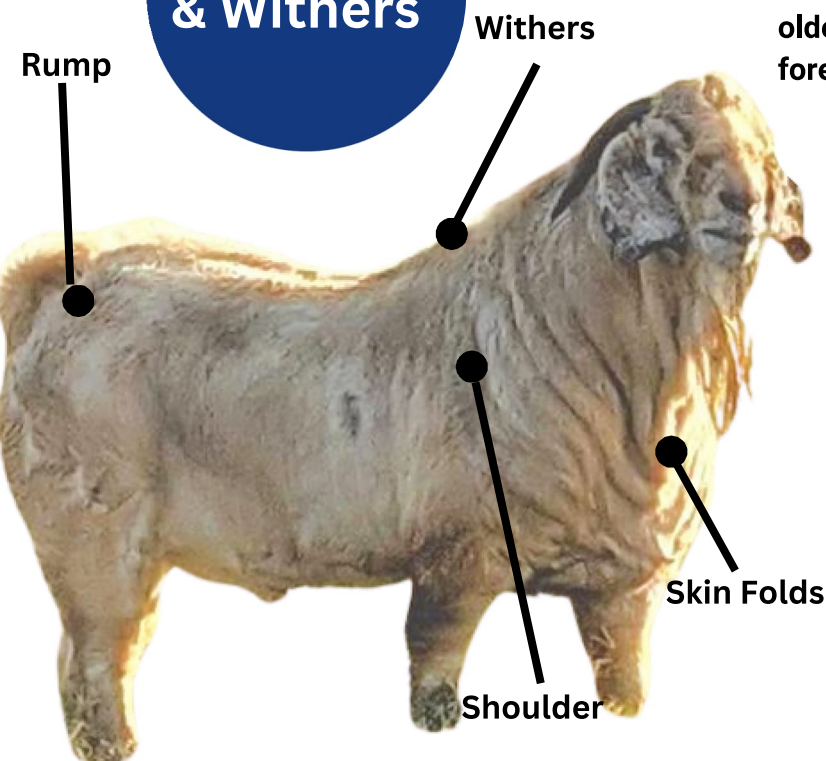


INCORRECT



Correct

Shoulders & Withers



- The scapulas or shoulder-blades must be strongly attached to the forequarter and withers.

- The processes spinosus and withers should be somewhat higher than the back and rump. In the case of older rams, medium sized skinfolds are found on the forequarter.

Note:

Think of the withers 'common ground'. The neck slopes into the wither. The loin springs off the wither and the top of the shoulders rise up toward the withers. You want to see smoothness as well as a firmly fitted shoulder. I have seen some goats with shoulders so loose that I could put my fingers under the shoulder and actually lift it, that is not what you want. Tight, smooth, and well-blended as these components come together is the goal. This allows for smooth function, allowing for travel that is comfortable and efficient.

The slope of the rump is a strong evaluation point. Does too steep, or too flat, of a rump often tend to have more delivery issues? Strive for the moderation of a gentle slope. As bucks age, they often develop folds in the chest skin. Overly deep folds can harbor external parasites, but appropriate folds help to keep the skin loose, allowing the buck to move more comfortably through dense thickets.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD BACK AND CENTRE PIECE

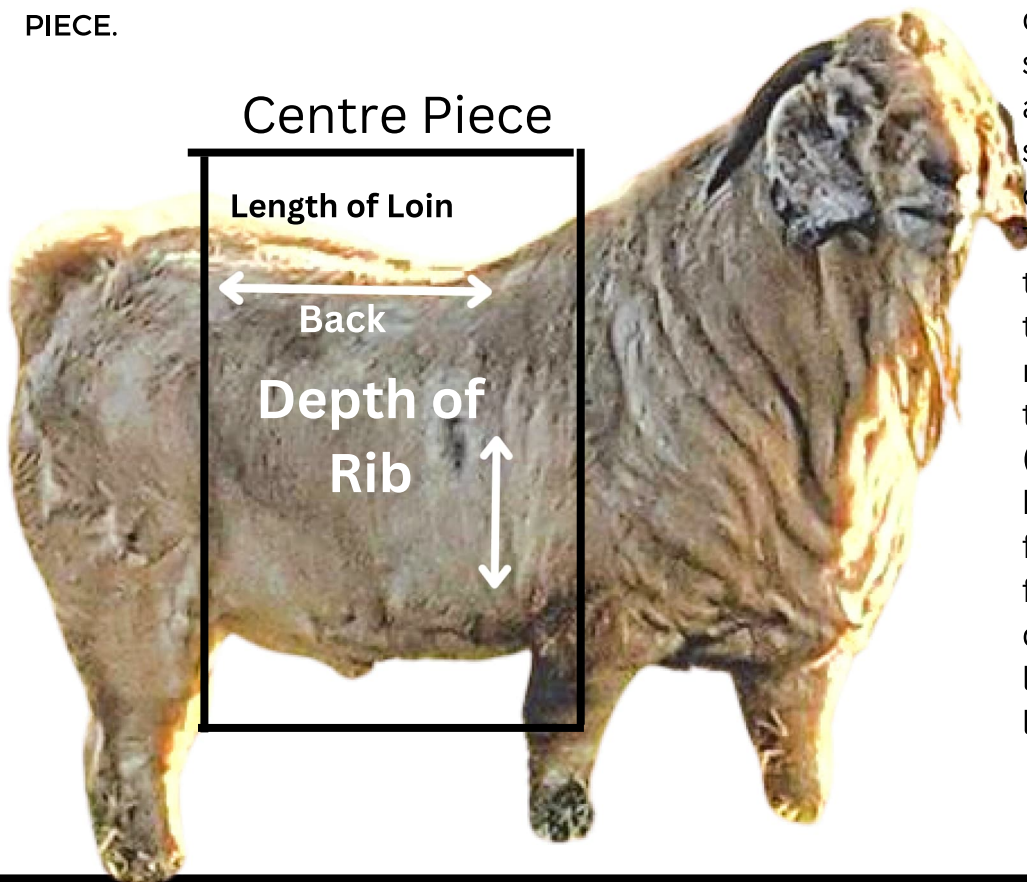
INSTALLMENT 8

"Paving the road to excellence"

- THE CENTRE PIECE SHOULD BE REASONABLY LONG AND DEEP ON THE GOAT AND MUST POSSESS ENOUGH CAPACITY TO EAT SUFFICIENT ROUGHAGE AND TO CONVERT IT INTO MEAT AND ENERGY.
- THE BACK AND EYE MUSCLE (MUSCULUS LONGISSIMUS DORSI) MUST BE STRONG AND WIDE AND NOT BE STRAIGHT, BUT SHOULD NOT BE WEAK.
- THE CENTRE PIECE OF OLDER ANIMALS MUST NOT BE CYLINDRICAL OR LACK DEPTH.
- THE SAVANNAH GOAT HAS WELL SPRUNG RIBS AND AN OVAL RESPIRATORY CENTRE PIECE.

NOTE*

The center of the goat is where we look for the depth of the body and the eye of the loin. This is a good start on productivity. A large rumen area means more forage is eaten to process into muscle. In does it also means more room for the growing fetus. Lack of depth lessens overall capacity. Along with depth you also are looking for 'spring of rib'. Looking down on the goat from above you should see the rib cage arching out and providing an obvious barrel shape. Again, aiding in forage consumption and lung capacity. The width of the back corresponds to the width throughout, including the chest. A wide chest means more lung/organ capacity. Across the back makes for a wider loin (prime cuts). A slight dip in the back (behind shoulders) aids in flexibility for more efficient foraging but be careful here, you do not want a 'saddle'. We are looking for a nice strong and wide loin.



FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 9

HIND QUARTERS AND HINDLEGS

"Paving the road to excellence"

- THE HINDQUARTERS SHOULD BE WIDE AND THE HIND LEGS MUST BE WELL APART AND STRAIGHT.

- THE RUMP MUST SHOW A REASONABLE SLOPE JUST LIKE THAT OF THE GEMSBOK (ORYX GAZELLA).

- THE HINDQUARTERS MUST BE WELL MUSCLED AND CARRY A LOT OF MEAT.

- THE HOCKS MUST BE STRONG AND MUSCULAR AND THE TENDONS OF THE HOCKS MUST BE PROMINENT AND EASILY SEEN. THE HOCKS SHOULD NOT TURN IN OR OUT AND THE GOAT MUST BE ABLE TO STAND EASILY ON ITS HIND LEGS.

- THE TAIL OF THE SAVANNAH WHITE GOAT MUST BE STRAIGHT UP AND BE WELL COVERED WITH HAIR AND SHOULD BE VERY MOBILE. THE BARE SKIN OF THE TAIL SHOULD ALSO HAVE BLACK PIGMENTATION.



NOTE:

The hind quarters are so important to the goat's mobility. We want to always remember that mobility equates to profitability. Wide-set rear legs give the goat a strong foundation and power. Proper sloping of the rump is passed on to the offspring. Does with too steep of a rump often have kidding issues. This is where you want to see MEAT MUSCLE. Especially when selecting a herd sire look for well-muscled hind quarters. Bucks weak in the hindquarters are not going to advance your herd. The hocks are easy to observe from the rear. They should be even and straight. If you can not see the tendons of the hock the goat may be over-conditioned. The question to ask as you watch the goat is 'does it stand firm and square', if not, move on. The tail is a very helpful indicator of the goat's health. A healthy goat will have a high tail carriage which is very mobile. A goat that drops its tail should be assessed for health issues. The quickest way to assess the goat's degree of pigment is to look at the tail web. Then you can move on to looking at the hoofs, horns, and pigment on the body, ears, and udder.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



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BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 10

COLOR, PIGMENT, AND HAIR

"Paving the road to excellence"

- The Savannah Goat is totally white. A limited amount of black and red hair is acceptable, but red or black hair must be eliminated.



Hair

NOTE:

The hair standard is quite straightforward. The Savanna is a white goat. How much is a 'limited amount' of roaning? That is a bit abstract. The standard also says red or black hair must be eliminated tells us our goal is for a 'totally' white goat. Along with color you want to work for a 'short and smooth' hair coat. This allows for less opportunity for harboring external parasites.

Pigment

- Pigmentation must be dark grey to black. Light spots may not appear on Elite ewes and rams. Any shade of pink is a cull defect.

NOTE:

Pigmentation is a 'tool' the body uses to protect the goat from the harmful effects of the sun. There is a range of 'color' of pigment we see in the Savanna from light reddish brown to black. The breed standard mentions Dark Black several times. The darker the pigment the greater the protection it affords. We have seen from the example that the buying public is leaning more and more toward the fullest extent of the breed standard, desiring darker pigment. Though we do accept a range of tan to black as we develop this breed within our industry breeders are seeing greater profits as they breed for deeper color in pigmentation. The pink or spotted pigment is considered a cull factor.



FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 11

SEXUAL ORGANS & TEAT STRUCTURE

"Paving the road to excellence"

SEXUAL ORGANS

● **EWES: WELL-FORMED UDDER FIRMLY ATTACHED WITH TEATS AS ON PAGE 10.**

● **RAMS: TWO REASONABLY LARGE, WELL-FORMED, HEALTHY AND EQUAL SIZED TESTES IN ONE SCROTUM. A SCROTUM WITH A SPLIT NO LARGER THAN 2 CM IS PERMISSIBLE. THE SCROTUM MUST BE AT LEAST 26 CM IN CIRCUMFERENCE.**

● **A TWISTED SCROTUM, OR A SCROTUM OF WHICH THE POINTS ARE TWISTED IS A CULL DEFECT.**



NOTE:

Scrotums are right up there in many heated discussions. The breed standard is very specific on what is acceptable. The scrotum should be solid and large. It should hang squarely down and only a very minimal split is accepted. Just like keeping the udder safe the design of the scrotum keeps that testes safe. High splits are a place to harbor external parasites. Scrotums that are not securely attached to the bucks body will swing around when roaming and running. Select accordingly.

NOTE:

Teats: one, two, two/one. Splits, blind teats, and more ruin the gamete of teat presentation. The Standard is specific. ONE per side is desired. Two on one or both sides are acceptable. All teats must be separated from one another. We can argue functionality all day, and some folks don't see why all the hoopla on teats. When you are talking elite breeding stock the standard sets the bar.

Teat Structure

● **Rams: One teat on each side of the scrotum is ideal**

● **Ewes: 2 Functional teats are ideal. Double teats are not acceptable, but one teat with 2 wholes is acceptable but must be eliminated. Teats with a small blind teat are acceptable. The maximum teats on a side are 3: 2 functional and one small and blind, OR 1 functional and 2 small and blind. Functional teats with a small blind teat are acceptable. ALL TEATS MUST BE SEPARATE FROM EACH OTHER.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 12A

CULL DEFECTS

"Paving the road to excellence"

- **OVER- OR UNDERSHOT JAW**
- **KNOCK KNEES, BANDY LEGS, COW HOKED OR POST LEGGED OR SICKLE HOKED. LEGS ARE TOO THIN OR TOO FLESHY. WEAK PASTERNS AND HOOFS POINTING OUTWARDS OR INWARDS.**
- **FAULTY SEXUAL ORGANS AND UDDERS.**
- **ANY DEVIATION FROM THE NORMAL BODY STRUCTURE THAT WILL HARM THE FUNCTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SAVANNAH.**
- **INCOMPLETE OR TOO LIGHT SKIN PIGMENTATION.**

NOTE:

The more the agricultural public gets to know and love the Savanna goat the more consistency will matter. We can debate the breed standard all day, but in the end, the buyer will choose. We must take the lead of some other livestock species in agriculture. IE: Registered Black Angus buyers won't touch an animal with any white on it. Dairy goat people shun weak udder attachments. The list can go on. We are not suggesting breeders go 'slap happy' and 'wholesale culling'. We must develop a plan and be strategic. Start culling for the hardest traits to correct first, don't make it harder than it has to be. Always look for a balance. Let the Breed Standard be our road map to the future of your herd.

Get the image of 'your perfect goat' in your mind and keep working toward that. The advancement of the industry will continue. Buyers will become more educated and selective. The time to set your place in the Savanna Industry is now. Culling is seldom easy, but it is the one tool that will move your herd ahead the fastest. Your buck is your 'rabbit in the hat'. He can make or break your kid crop and then your entire herd. Keeping questionable doe kids back just because 'it is a female' will slowly eat your bottom line down the road. The goal of every herd should be that we come to the place where all Savanna goats look alike, horns, heads, legs, bodies, sexual organs, and color. This will happen if we take control of our breeding practices now. There is an adage that reads "Pay me now, or pay me later". When we pay later we pay with interest. So the new axiom for Savanna breeders might be Cull me now, or cull more later.

Koenie Kotze

He is really nice. Strong head and front quarter. Very long body. I like the masculinity in his face. He is a real sire, with good eye protection.



FOR MORE INFORMATION



BREED STANDARD INSTALLMENT 12B

CULL DEFECTS

"Paving the road to excellence"

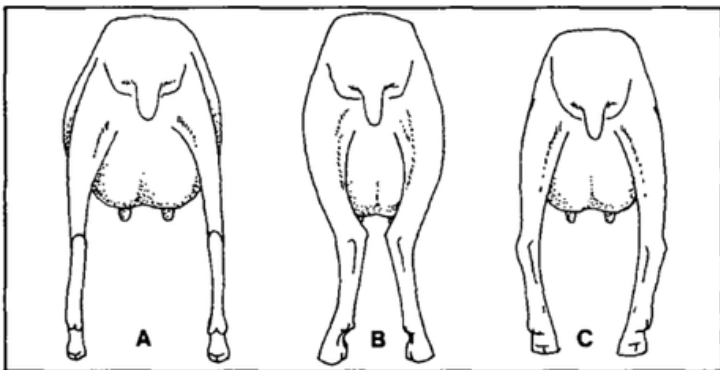
Over or under shot Jaw



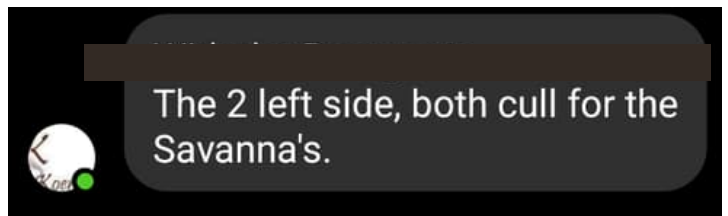
Faulty sexual organs and udders.



Knock knees, bandy legs, cow hocked or post legged or sickle hocked. Legs are too thin or too fleshy. Weak pasterns and hoofs pointing outwards or inwards.



Incomplete or too light skin pigmentation.



The 2 left side, both cull for the Savanna's.

-Koenie Kotze

FOR MORE INFORMATION