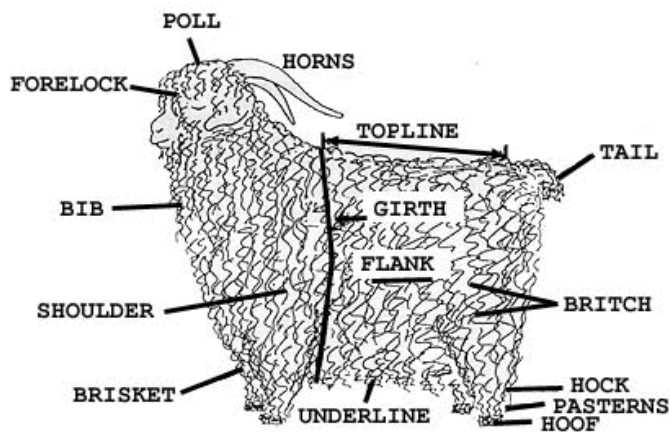




ANGORA GOAT BREED STANDARD AND YOUNG JUDGES TEACHING AID

Angora Goats are a dual purpose animal being fibre producers along with meat capability. Angora Goats must have the do- ability traits in later age groups with Body Size and Conformation are important because they relate to survival, reproduction and well-being of animals under paddock conditions.

Mohair qualities are important as well as meat production for value adding for the producer
Angora Bucks must display masculinity even at a young age.
Angora does must display femininity and ability to produce and rear offspring.



Parts of an Angora Goat

Standards of Excellence (Breed Standard).

Size. Large framed animals are significantly more fertile, robust and have a greater capacity to survive under a range of Australian conditions. While smaller animals may produce finer fibre and have greater levels of coverage, size should be considered of major importance;

Conformation. This refers to the physical structure and shape of the animal under the headings of Head, Forequarter, Barrel and Hindquarter.

The Head.

The head should be strong and neatly formed with the profile straight to slightly convex. The jaw should fit well, not being under or overshot. The ears should be of medium length and pendulous. The horns of the buck must be spaced apart, bending backwards and down, and spreading away from the neck. The horns of the doe should be lighter, well-spaced and curved gently downwards and away from the line of the neck. A polled angora goat is a naturally occurring polled goat, male or female, that has not been disbudded to remove horns.

The head should be covered with good quality mohair. The face and ears should be covered with fine soft fibre and should not be excessively pigmented in the skin. Pigmented fibre on the face and ears is a fault.

Buck Head



Doe Head



Major faults.

- Excessive overshoot or undershot jaw.
- Black fibre in spots.
- Straight, long, harsh hair on poll.
- Faults. Weak, narrow and angular head.
- Coarse kempy hair on the face and ears.
- Teeth failing to meet the dental pad squarely.
- Excessive pigmentation on the face, ears and horns.
- Folded ears.
- Muffled face.
- Curled or poorly shaped horns, especially if close to the neck which would interfere with shearing.
- Straight and closely spaced horns.

The Forequarter and legs.

The neck should be of medium depth, broad and fit neatly into the shoulders. The chest should be broad and deep. The withers should be broad and firm with good muscling. The foreleg should be strong and straight with good bone. The upper leg should be well muscled. The pasterns should be firm and well formed.

Major faults.

- Weak pasterns allowing the dewclaw to touch the ground.
- One or both hooves turned in or out more than 45 degrees.

Faults.

- Narrow chest.
- Hollow behind the shoulders.
- Loose shoulder blades.
- Crooked legs. Fine bone.
- Weak pasterns. Splayed hooves.

The Barrel.

The barrel should be long with the back strong and relatively level.

The loins should be broad and strong with good eye muscle.

The barrel should be large and deep with the ribs well sprung.

Faults.

- Short back.
- Back roached or hollow.
- Lack of depth of body.
- Narrow and slab-sided body.

Hind Quarters and legs.

The rump should be broad and reasonably level. There should be good space between the pin bones.

The thighs should be well fleshed. The hind legs should be strong and the animal standing square.

The pasterns should be firm, and the hooves well formed.

The tail should be straight, well-formed and covered with good quality mohair.

The sexual organs should be complete and well formed. The doe should have two functional teats.

Supernumerary teats not to be of a size or shape as to interfere with suckling.

The buck must have two testes of approximately equal size. The scrotum should not be excessively split.

Disqualification Faults.

- Missing testicles (cryptorchidism).
- Juvenile testes in mature bucks. Abnormal genitalia on does.

Faults.

- Excessive sloped or "Goose" rump.
- Narrow hindquarters.
- Cow hocks. Sickie hocks.
- Weak pasterns. Splayed hooves.
- Crooked tail or tail covered with coarse hair. Scrotum split more than one half.
- Uneven or small testes.

Mohair fleece on the animal



L Carter

General.

The Angora goat should be covered from head to tail (and down the points) with solid, attractive, lustrous, kemp free mohair of even length and quality. It should display a balance of character and style with good solid staples having a soft handle with maximum length for the six months growth period.

Disqualification faults.

- Coloured fibre on the fleece bearing parts of the body.
- Lice infestation.

Faults.

- Kemp and medullated fibre in the fleece or on the back-line or face.
- Dull and harsh handling fibre.
- Short length for the period of growth.
- Flat locks.
- Poor density.
- Excessive grease or dryness.
- Marked variation in fineness or length over body.
- Muffled face.

Coverage.

There is little doubt that coverage and quality are related but care is recommended in assuming that coverage on the points (head and legs) is indicative of overall animal quality.

Quality. Good quality mohair is free from medullated fibre and is even in length and fineness over the entire body. Quality mohair has a balance of character (crimp) and style (twist) and has a balance of density and fleece

Resource:

Fact sheet 1 [How to critic your wether](#) - for body faults

Mohair Australia Ltd - Breed standard

Photos and drawings: L Carter

ANGORA GOATS GROW MOHAIR