

Judge Along



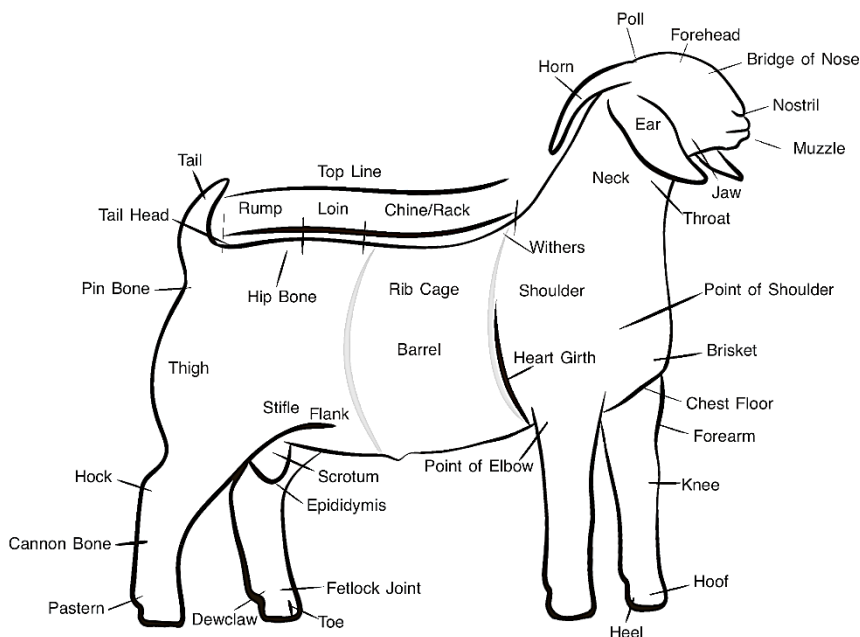
◆ BOER GOAT

What a Judge might look for in Boer Goats:

- ◆ Strong meat characteristics. Since Boer Goats are raised for meat muscling on the neck, shoulders, loin, and hindquarters is very important.
- ◆ A proper conformation of straight legs and feet, a straight topline, and a good set to the hocks.
- ◆ A relatively large body in proportion to the animal's size and age. Boer Goats should be lean and trim.
- ◆ Boer Goats are rectangular-bodied, and level topped.
- ◆ Animals that are healthy and alert, with no defects.

What a Judge might look for in the show ring:

- ◆ Showmanship includes general appearance, especially cleanliness of the animal and the exhibitor's ability to lead and pose the animal in the ring.
- ◆ The goats are led around the ring and are kept between the exhibitor and judges at all times.
- ◆ When the animal is standing still, its legs are positioned squarely under its body to show off the best advantages.
- ◆ You might see goats in the barns wearing "covers". These are to keep the animal clean prior to a show.
- ◆ A good showman is polite and courteous to other exhibitors and pays attention to both the animals and to the judge.



<u>Your Choice:</u>	<u>Judge's Decision:</u>
1st _____	1st _____
2nd _____	2nd _____
3rd _____	3rd _____
4th _____	4th _____
5th _____	5th _____

Did you know...

- * Boer is a Dutch word meaning farmer.
- * The US states with the most meat goats include Texas, Tennessee, Georgia, Oklahoma, and Kentucky.
- * There are about six common breeds of meat goats in the U.S. The Boer, Kiko, Myotonic, Savanna, Spanish and Texmaster.
- * Goat meat is called either cabrito (Spanish) or chevon (French).
- * The first full-blood Boers were brought into the United States in 1993.
- * The Boer Goat originated from South Africa.
- * Bucks rear and butt each other to establish dominance for the formation of flock hierarchy.
- * Boer goats come in a variety of colors, including solid red, white, brown, and black, as well as dappled and spotted patterns. The traditional color pattern for Boer goats is a solid red head with a white body.

Test Your Knowledge

Match the following selection criteria descriptions for meat goats.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Muscle | A. Length and depth of the goat. |
| _____ 2. Volume | B. Ability to grow at the pace best for goals. |
| _____ 3. Style and Balance | C. The chest/forearm are best indicators of this. |
| _____ 4. Structural Correctness | D. Evaluation of skeletal system/bone structure |
| _____ 5. Growth Potential | E. How all parts of the goat blend together. |

1.C 2.A 3.E 4.D 5.B

Judging Terminology

- ♦ **Tracks well** - walks structurally correct.
- ♦ **Lacks scale and size** - not big enough for its age or sex.
- ♦ **Parrot mouthed** - bottom jaw is shorter than the top jaw causing an incorrect bite.
- ♦ **Steep rumped** - too much angle between the hook and pin bones.
- ♦ **Pinched through the withers/behind the shoulders or sharp through the rack** - the rack narrows behind the withers. Usually this can be seen all the way down the ribs & behind the front legs.
- ♦ **Deep through the twist** - long between the bottom of the anus & where the legs split.
- ♦ **Well balanced** - the goat is well put together. All the parts match & tie in correctly. Symmetrical - not real wide & powerful in the front and narrow through the hips.
- ♦ **Hocks in** - Hocks turn in when the goat stands or walks.
- ♦ **Stylish** - is well balanced and pretty to look at. Exhibits the characteristics of the type of animal you are judging.