



INSPECTOR TRAINING AND INSPECTION MANUAL

Updated: August 2024

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HISTORY

The Colored Angora Goat Breeders Association began in 1992 as the “Colored Angora Goat Record” to record colored Angora goat pedigrees. In 1999, the Colored Angora Goat Breeders Association was established and expanded the purpose of the organization.

“The CAGBA is a non-profit organization whose purpose shall be the development and promotion of the colored Angora goat; breeder education; colored mohair promotion; the encouragement of closer fellowship among the members through meetings, correspondence, circulation of useful information, news and ideas and in the cooperation with other organizations in the development of the colored Angora goat in general.”

The first set of inspectors was trained in the summer of 1999 and, as a result, the first colored Angora goats were inspected and entered the CAGBA registry at that time. Early inspection and breed standards recognized that colored Angora goats were a “work in progress.” Outcrossing to other goat breeds, which was done to introduce and set color, also introduced traits that were not predominantly characteristic of Angora goats. It was recognized at the time the original Inspection Manual was written that most colored Angora goats still retained some undesirable characteristics from out-crossing.

THE CAGBA REGISTRY

Disqualifications include:

FLEECE—Double coated fleeces, excessive kemp and/or medullated fibers, “sheepy” or non-mohair type fleeces or inadequate coverage.

BODY—Deformed, unthrifty, overly small or narrow goats, missing testicles, crooked legs, back, collapsed pasterns, wattles, overshot upper jaw/undershot lower jaw, or a goat that does not exhibit an Angora breed type including non-Angora ears or horns.

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Disqualified animals can be recorded but not registered. Disqualifications are traits that are undesirable in an Angora goat and breeders should strive to eliminate these traits in their breeding programs.*

Registry Classifications:

The animal’s color and pattern shall be recorded on the registration or record paper issued for that animal, as appropriate.

1. Animals must be more than 12 months old to be eligible for registration by inspection.
2. Offspring of both a CAGBA registered sire and dam may be registered at any age based on a breeder’s assurance that the animals are free of any disqualifying traits and, therefore, do not require inspection.
3. Offspring of both an AAGBA (USA) or CLRC (Canada) white registered Angora sire and dam may be registered with CAGBA without inspection based on a breeder’s assurance that they are free of any disqualifying traits, and if AAGBA and/or CLRC numbers are provided.
4. Offspring with one CAGBA registered parent and one AAGBA (USA) or CLRC (Canada) parent may be registered with CAGBA without inspection based on a breeder’s assurance that they are free of any disqualifying traits, and if AAGBA and/or CLRC numbers are provided.
5. Offspring with only one registered parent (CAGBA, AAGBA or CLRC) must be inspected.
6. Proven Pedigree: Breeders may apply for registration without inspection of:
 - A **doe** that has **three** or more CAGBA registered offspring from at least two different sires; or
 - A **buck** that has **five** or more CAGBA registered offspring from three or more different dams.
7. Registered goats must be identified with a tattoo, or ear tag, or ear notch, or microchip.
8. The CAGBA registry will remain open until such time as sufficient animals exist in the registry to warrant consideration of establishing a closed registry.

THE INSPECTION

The CAGBA registration process includes a physical inspection. There are 14 points to be considered in the inspection process. A goat can have only one “minimal fault” and no “disqualifying faults” to pass inspection.

Inspectors are bound by the following principles:

1. Inspectors must follow the criteria established by CAGBA even when not personally in agreement with those criteria.
2. Inspectors must use the inspection process to ensure that minimum standards are met, rather than “optimum” or judging requirements applied.
3. Goats must look like Angora goats and meet CAGBA’s definition of a “purebred type” Angora goat. No matter how valuable a single trait may be, if the animal does not meet the CAGBA inspection standards, it is not eligible for the registry.
4. Inspectors should strive to keep any personal preferences from influencing the CAGBA-defined inspection process.
5. Inspectors should look for all **14 criteria** in each goat. Following a pattern when inspecting will help ensure that all criteria are covered. As a courtesy to breeders, feedback should be provided on all **14 criteria**, even if the animal has failed the inspection before the inspector has completed his/her evaluation of all criteria.
6. Inspectors may not inspect goats they have bred or have a financial or ownership interest. Inspectors should not knowingly inspect goats of close associates.
7. Inspectors should avoid discussions, and should not attempt to reach compromises on criteria, during an inspection. Each inspector’s opinion should be equally valued and stand on its own merit.
8. Anonymity of the goat owner should be observed.

THE INSPECTION PATTERN

Begin by looking at the overall appearance of the goat. Consider the whole animal looking for adequate size, a strong vigorous body, a quality fleece and correct Angora breed type. In this first look, you may notice areas that will require closer attention during your inspection.

COLOR

CAGBA registration does **not** require goats show distinct color. The goat shall be inspected based on the following traits. The owner shall record the animal’s color on the application.

BREED TRAITS/14 CRITERIA

The Angora goat possesses specific traits that apply to the following:

HEAD

1. Ears

2. Horns

CONFORMATION TRAITS

These traits are indicative of the physical strength, correctness of body type, and long-term production potential of the animal.

3. Constitution
4. Back
5. Legs and Feet
6. Mouth
7. Reproduction

FLEECE TRAITS

These traits reflect the usability and quality of the goat's mohair.

8. Belly Cover
9. Leg Cover
10. Topknot
11. Chin and Neck Cover
12. Lock Definition
13. Uniformity
14. Freedom from Kemp and Medullated Fibers

DESCRIPTION OF AN IDEAL COLORED ANGORA GOAT

The “ideal” colored Angora goat has a long stapled, uniform mohair fleece with good style, character and ample luster. They have a mohair topknot and are well covered with mohair over their entire body, neck, face, belly, legs and tail. The mohair has well-defined locks growing approximately one inch, or more, per month. The fleece has a moderate amount of grease to protect its luster, is of a uniform fiber diameter, free of kemp, and comes in a variety of colors and patterns. The “ideal” colored Angora possess a strong, healthy, well-built body that is likely to contribute to longevity, long-term health, and ease of breeding and/or kidding. The goat exhibits good Angora characteristics, is of adequate size for its age, and is both vigorous and in good body condition.

Color

Specific color patterns are recognized, as described in the CAGBA color and pattern index (<https://cagba.org/cagba-recommended-show-etiquette/breeding-for-color/>). Colors include white, shades of tan, red, and browns as well as silver, grey, and black. Combinations of these colors with white are expressed in a variety of CAGBA-identified patterns.

Fleece

Mohair is in the range of 20 to 50 microns with the finer fleeces generally grown by kids. Most animals coarsen with age. The fiber on an individual goat should be of a uniform fiber diameter and lock type over the whole body. Kemp fibers are coarse, hollow and short. Kemp fibers are also stiff and opaque and may be deeply pigmented. Kemp fibers are highly undesirable because they stick out of yarns and finished garments, causing them to be scratchy. Medullated fibers are slightly coarser than true mohair fibers. They have an interrupted or partially hollow core and are often as long as true mohair fibers. Although medullated fibers are undesirable, because they are the same length as mohair fibers, they are less problematic as they do not stick out causing the same degree of scratchiness as kemp fibers.

Horns

Horns should curve back and have a space of 1½ inches between them at the base of the horn.

Ears

Ears should be pendulous.

Legs

Legs should be straight with adequate size of bone, well covered with mohair at least to the knee or hock.

Belly

The belly and insides of the legs should be covered in mohair.

Body

The back should be straight and strong. The pelvis should have a slight downward tilt. The body should be deep, with good width between the front legs and with a good spring of rib. The skin should be loose and pliable.

DETAILED INSPECTION CRITERIA BREED TRAITS

Breed traits distinguish individuals of one specific breed from another. Identified traits that define a breed to the extent that all members of that breed possess those traits. The Angora goat possesses three identifying traits:

- Horns that curve gently back and away from the head.
- Pendulous ears.
- A mohair fleece.

1. EARS

Ears are representative of breed type. Angoras are well known for their pendulous ears. Angora goats may lift their ears or may be born with folded ears and those are acceptable. Short, pendulous, round ears (gopher type) or upright dairy-type ears are a disqualification.

Standard

Pendulous. Goats may lift their ears when curious; folds are acceptable.

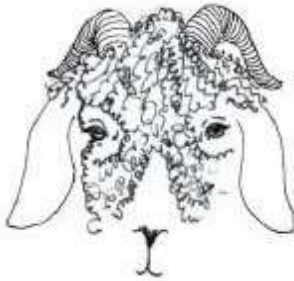


Fig. 1: Pendulous ears

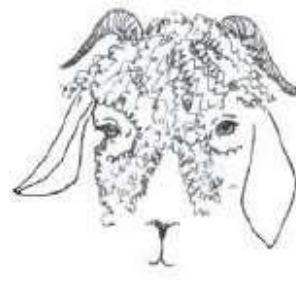


Fig. 2: Folded, pendulous ears

Minimal

Long, pendulous ears that are kept lifted, i.e., “flying” ears. Ears that are kept raised at all times but which have a long pendulous shape are considered a minimal fault.

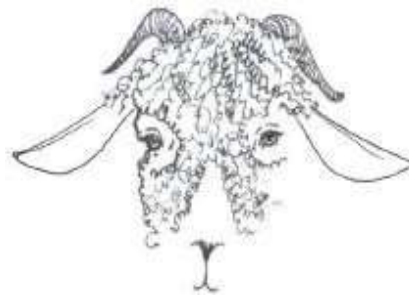


Fig. 3: “Flying” ears—long pendulous ears that are kept raised

Disqualifying

Short, pendulous round (gopher) ears; short, upright ears.

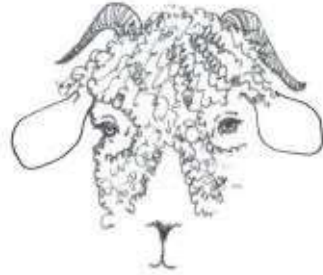


Fig. 4: "Gopher" ears—short, round pendulous ears



Fig. 5: Short, upright ears

2. HORNS

Horns are a mark of breed type. Horns are well spaced and curve gently back and away from the head. There is a wide acceptable range of horn types, but horns placed close together can be dangerous to other goats as they may allow another goat's hoof or leg to be caught between them. Horns which grow close to the head of the goat are minimally acceptable, as they may need to be trimmed to prevent injury to the goat. High "Cashmere-type" horns, no horns, and asymmetrical horns are poor breed type.

Standard

- Horns are well spaced; at least 1½ inches (generally about 2 fingers width) between them at the base of the horn.
- Horns are symmetrical.
- Horns curve gently back and away from the head.



Fig. 6 : Acceptable horns

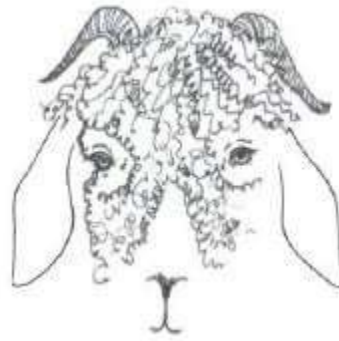


Fig. 7: Acceptable horns

Minimal

- Too close together, i.e., less than 1½ inches between them at the base of the horn.
- Close to head, such that they are irritating or rubbing eyes or skin.



Fig. 8: Too close together



Fig. 9: Too close to head

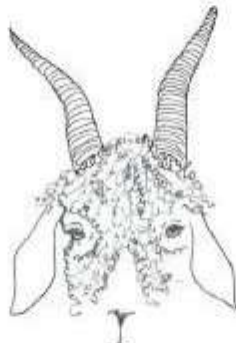


Fig. 10: Too high



Fig. 11: Asymmetrical



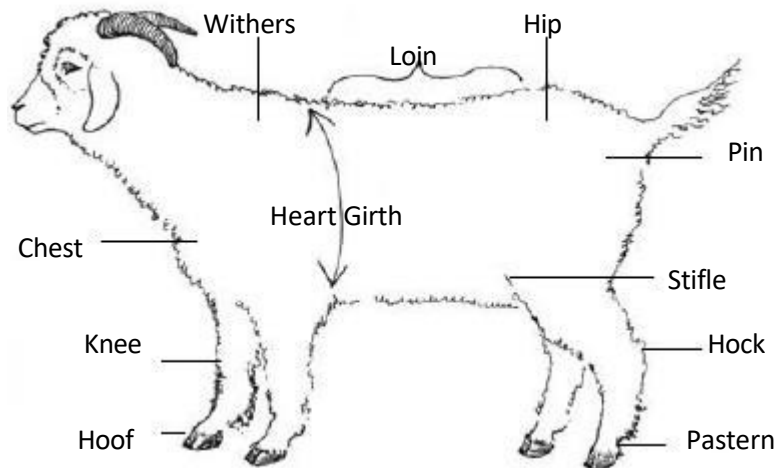
Fig. 12: Naturally polled or dehorned

Disqualification

- High “Cashmere-type” horns.
- Asymmetrical horns (when not due to injury).
- No horns—naturally polled or dehorned.

CONFORMATION TRAITS

Look for a strong, healthy, well-built body that will not wear out too young or have health or breeding problems. The goat needs to have adequate size for its age; should be vigorous and in good condition. Check teats or scrotum and testicles for reproductive capabilities. The goat should have a long straight back, straight good-sized legs and feet and a wide chest and deep body for robust health.



3. CONSTITUTION

Inspectors should check for overall vigor and acceptable size and weight for age as these characteristics are particularly important for general health and reproductive success. Narrow, shallow, or thin goats are delicate and hard to keep in condition. The goat should exhibit good body capacity including a wide chest, deep body and well-sprung ribs.

Standard

- Substantial size and weight for age. The reproductive rate in Angora goats is strongly linked to body weight. Goats should be in good condition, not too bony along the topline, nor too fat.
- **Does** should be at least approximately 80 pounds by breeding age.
- **Bucks** should be at least approximately 125 pounds by breeding age. (Note: Bucklings may be less than this if used for breeding.)
- There should be good width between front legs to provide ample room for a strong heart and lungs. Similarly, there should be good width between rear legs, as well as good substance of bone in all legs.
- The goat should possess well-sprung ribs, providing optimal room for the lungs and rumen. Well-sprung ribs have the greatest curvature at the bottom with a moderate curve at the top near the spine and are flat in the middle. This structure allows for tight shoulder attachment and easier movement of the front legs.
- A deep body which is lower towards the rear legs than near the chest.



Fig. 13: Wide chest, well-sprung ribs



Fig. 14: Rear view, good width, well-sprung ribs



Fig. 15: Top view; well-sprung ribs

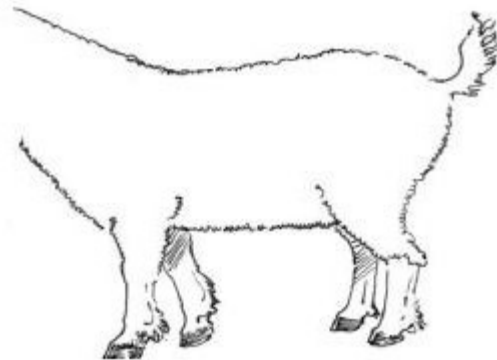


Fig. 16: Side view, good deep body

Minimal

- Small size or underweight
- Tight narrow chest or legs placed close together, indicating a delicate constitution
- Flat ribs indicating the goat is too thin with little room for lungs and reduced body capacity.
- Shallow body, lacking in capacity.

Disqualifying

- A very small, delicate goat lacking in vigor. Under sized for age: under 50 pounds for yearling or older does; under 70 pounds for yearling or older bucks.



Fig. 17: Good chest width, flat ribs

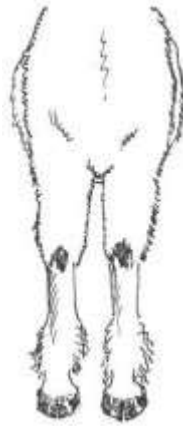


Fig. 18: Narrow chest, well-sprung ribs



Fig. 19: Narrow rear

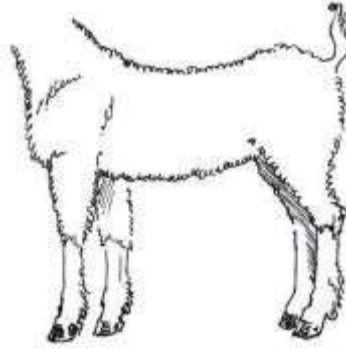


Fig. 20: Shallow body

4. BACK

A goat should have a straight back through the loin, with a gently sloping rump from hip to pin. A straight back allows proper alignment of bone and provides adequate support to the body organs. A gentle slope to the rump helps birthing and draining of the womb and provides correct alignment of the rear legs.

Standard

- Straight back from withers to hips
- Gentle slope to rump

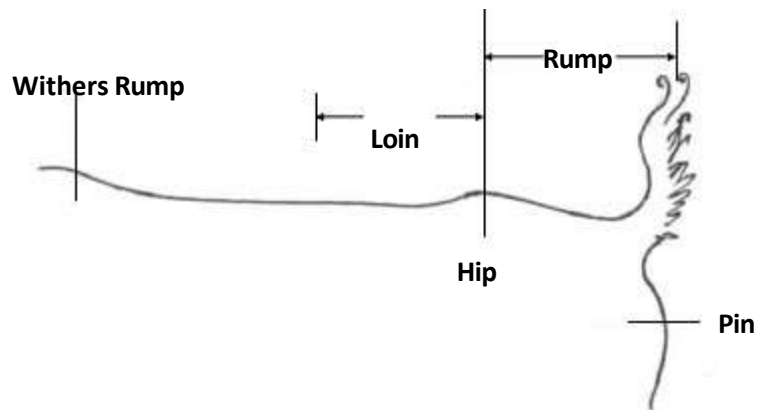


Fig. 21: Strong, straight back with gently sloping rump

Minimal

- A sway in the back, which puts strain on the back muscles and tends to worsen with age. A sway is often seen on a "long" goat and tends to weaken the back legs by forcing them further back. A roached spine, which pulls the back legs under the goat and steepens the slope of the rump. A steep rump, which shortens the birth canal and can make kidding difficult. Leg alignment is thrown off and pasterns are often strained and weakened.

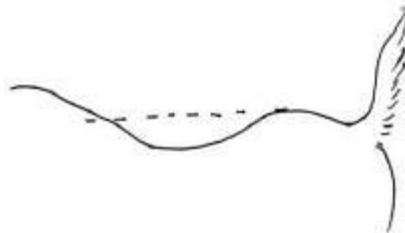


Fig. 22: Swayed back

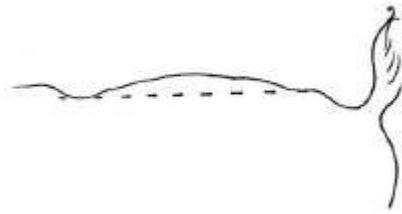


Fig. 23: Roached back.



Fig. 24: Steeply sloped rump

Disqualifying

- Any of the above conditions that are extreme.

5. LEGS AND FEET

Straight legs and strong feet are important to a goat in obtaining food, carrying kids, breeding and long-term health. Crooked or weak joints are vulnerable to arthritis with age. These conditions are highly heritable and reduce a goat's lifetime productivity and health.

Standard

- **Front:** Knee pads and toes face forward, and shoulders lie close to the body.
- **Rear:** Rear legs are set apart and are straight down from hips. Hocks and dewclaws face straight back. Toes face forward. Hocks are not touching.
- **Side:** Good angulation to hip and hock. Hock to the pastern is nearly perpendicular.
- **Feet:** The foot has a level sole, and the toes are close together. Toes should not be malformed or splayed. Pasterns are strong, with good spring.

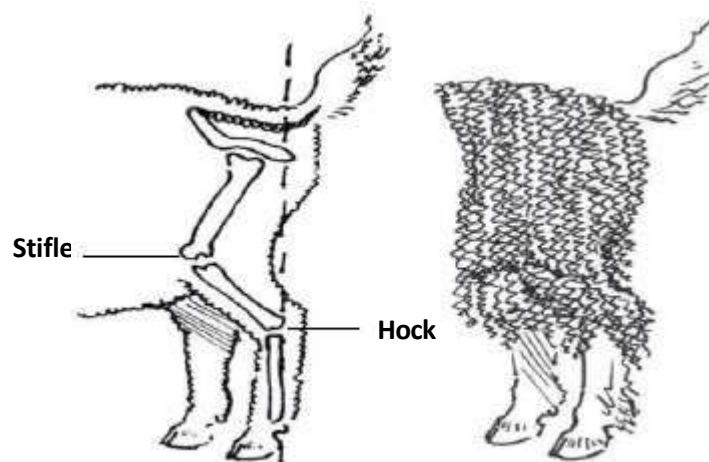


Fig. 25: Side. Good angulation

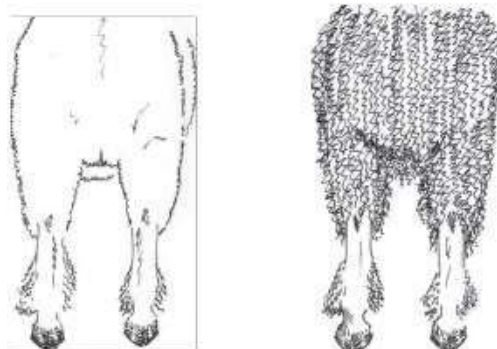


Fig. 26: Front. Straight, strong front legs; well-placed feet

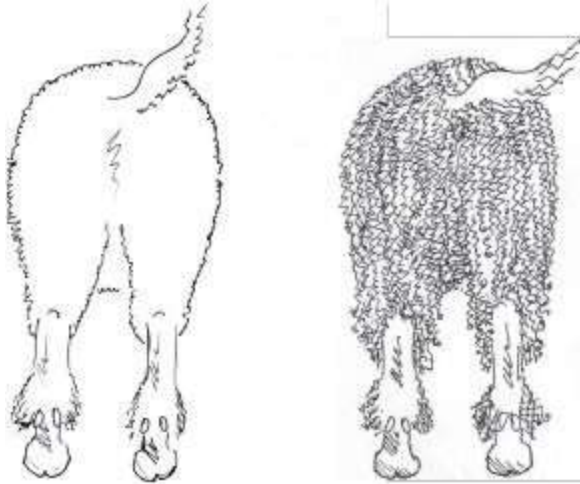


Fig. 27: Rear. Straight, strong rear legs

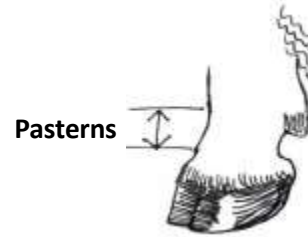


Fig. 28: Feet. Strong pasterns

Minimal

- **Front:** Toes or knees point inwards or outwards, rather than straight forward.
- **Rear:** Close hocks; Angoras are often narrow in the rear with the hocks and lower canons turned inwards and feet outwards.
- **Side:** Posty; legs too straight in stifle; no spring in legs. Feet develop short toes and long heels. This condition contributes to arthritis commonly with aging. Sickle: pushes the feet forward so the hocks carry too much weight and the hock, pasterns and back of heels are strained. Feet develop long toes and short heels.
- **Feet:** Weak pasterns: legs settle too far back straining leg muscles and pasterns. Condition worsens with age. Malformed or splayed toes are vulnerable to injury.

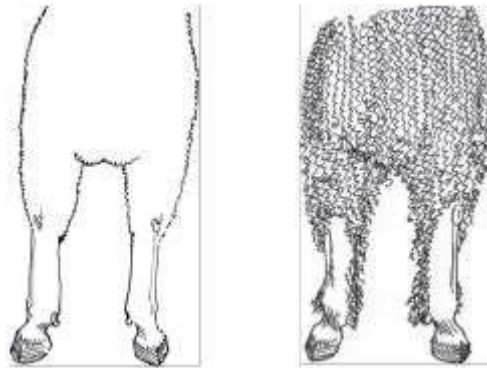


Fig. 29: Front. Knees and toes turned outward

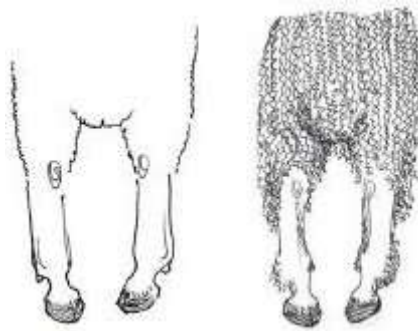


Fig. 30: Front. Knees and toes turned inward; can throw out shoulder

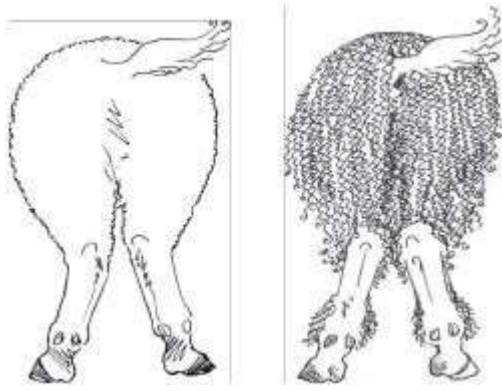


Fig. 31: Rear. Hocks close and turned inward; toes out

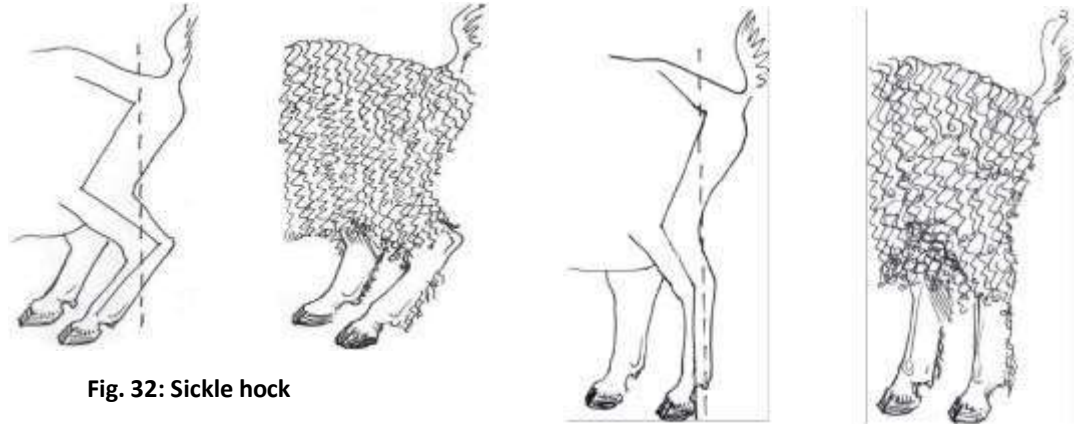


Fig. 32: Sickle hock

Fig. 33: Posty leg



Fig. 34: Splayed toe



Fig. 35: Weak pastern

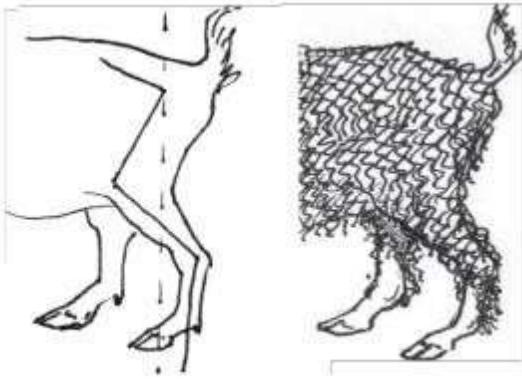


Fig. 36: Weak pastern; legs too far back

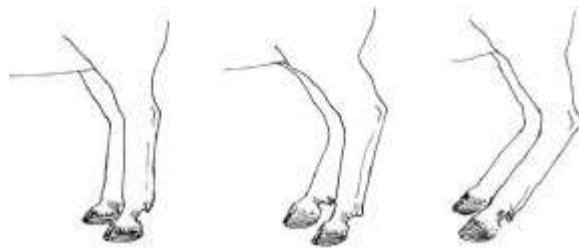


Fig. 37: Comparison. Posty (too straight) legs, well-angulated legs, and sickle hocks

Disqualifying

- Hocks that touch each other when the goat walks.
- Shoulders that spring out from the side of the body.
- Pasterns touch the ground when the goat walks.



Fig. 38: Comparison. Strong pastern, weak pastern (minimal fault), extremely weak pastern (disqualifying)

6. MOUTH

Goats need a decent mouth to be able to consume enough food to be productive.

Standard

- Inspectors should examine the dental pads to see if the leading edge of the upper dental pad is positioned slightly forward of the leading edge of the lower dental pad to confirm adequate dentition.



Fig. 39: Good mouth



Fig. 40: Long teeth; good jaw

Minimal – None

Disqualification

- Twisted jaw (not due to injury).
- Overshot—upper jaw longer than lower jaw.
- Undershot – lower jaw longer than upper jaw.



Fig. 41: Undershot jaw



Fig. 42: Overshot jaw

7. REPRODUCTION

It is important for goats to be able to reproduce themselves. For this, a buck needs two testicles and the doe needs two functioning teats.

Standard

- **Bucks:** Two firm testicles in a scrotum; two teats.
- **Does:** Two well-formed teats with a balanced udder.

Minimal

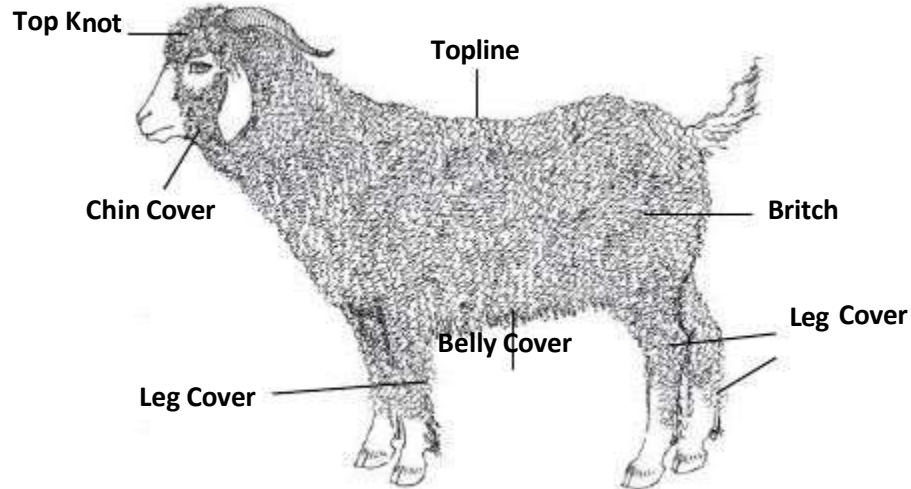
- **Bucks/Does:** Extra teats or missing teats (unless missing due to injury).

Disqualification

- **Bucks:** Missing testicle(s) from birth (not due to injury).
- Evidence of both male and female reproductive parts (intersex or hermaphrodite).

FLEECE TRAITS

Inspectors should consider what a fleece will look like once shorn from the goat. How much will have to be skirted out or sorted into more than one grade because it is too short, coarse, or dull? Are the locks well-formed or is the fleece downy or sheepy? Ultimately, how much prime fleece will be left compared to the size and age of the goat? Prime fleece should be beautiful and clean, with shiny locks of mohair, which are well defined, of a uniform type, and all of one grade.



8. BELLY COVER

The mohair fleece should extend to and cover the belly. Approximately 17% of the fleece grows on the belly. The extent of mohair coverage of the belly is related to overall mohair production.

Standard

- Full belly coverage with good mohair.

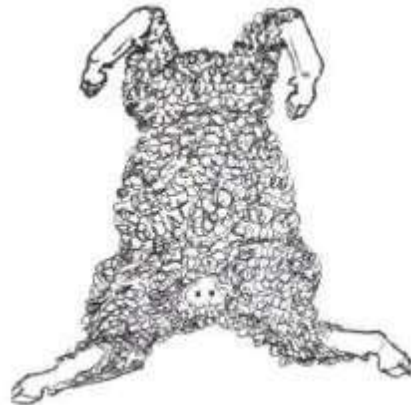
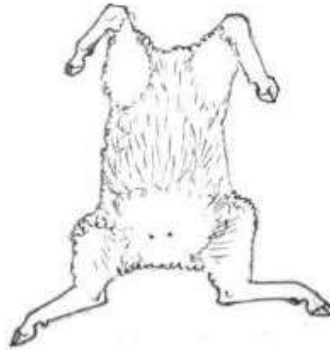


Fig. 43: Full belly cover

Minimal

- Moderate belly coverage with lighter coverage in armpits and around udder/testicles.

Fig. 44: Moderate belly cover



Disqualifying

- Light coverage or fuzzy fleece over belly indicating poor productivity and inadequate degree of Angora breeding.

Fig. 45: Inadequate belly cover



9. LEG COVER

The mohair fleece should extend down the legs to the knees and hocks, including the insides of the legs. The extent of leg coverage is closely related to belly coverage and overall productivity.

Standard

- Mohair coverage to knees and hocks and on insides of legs.

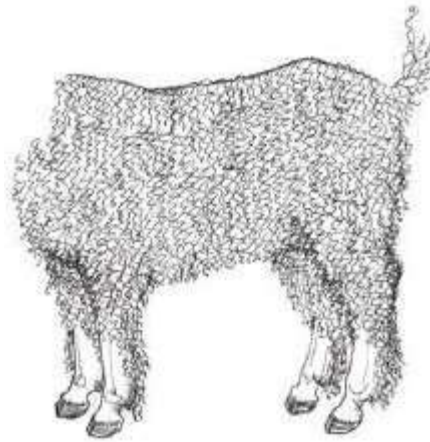


Fig. 46: Good leg cover

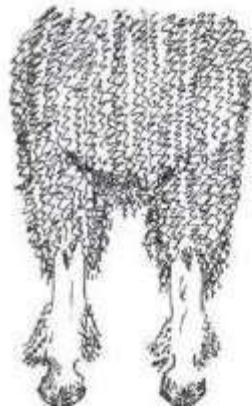


Fig. 47: Good leg cover

Minimal

- Light coverage outside of legs.
- Bare inside of front or rear legs.

Fig. 48: Light cover on insides of legs



Disqualifying

- Mohair coverage that does not extend to knees and hocks.
- Bare inside both front and rear legs.

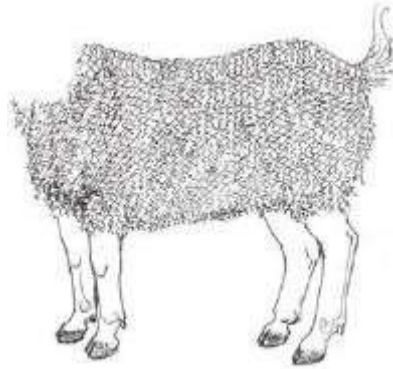
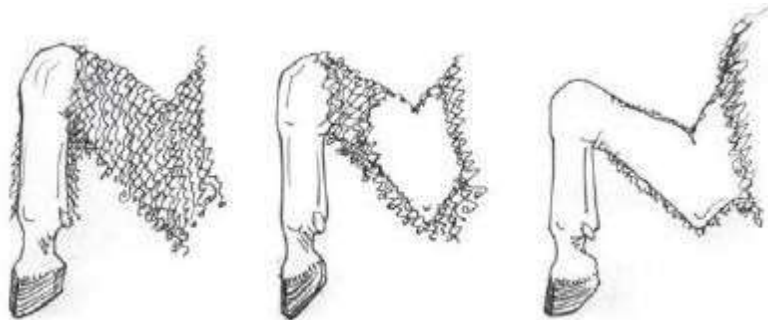


Fig. 49: No mohair coverage to knees or hocks

LEG COVER—comparison



Example "A"

Example "B"

Example "C"

Fig. 50:

"A" Standard. Mohair grows all the way around both front and rear legs although the upper insides of the legs may be bare.

"B" Marginal. The insides of the forelegs are bare of mohair, the insides of the rear legs are covered. In rare instances, the front legs will be covered and the rear will not.

"C" Disqualify. Insides of the front and rear legs are bare of mohair.

10. TOPKNOT

Angoras should have a mohair topknot, as it is indicative of an animal's overall fiber bearing potential.

Standard

- Angoras should have a full mohair topknot.



Fig. 51: Mohair topknot

Minimal

- Animal does not exhibit a fully developed mohair top knot (e.g., fuzzy topknot), or the topknot is hairy or kempy.



Fig. 52: No topknot



Fig. 54 Fuzzy or hairy topknot



Fig. 53: Kempy topknot

Disqualifying

- No disqualification.

11. CHIN AND NECK COVER

The extent of cover of the chin with mohair is indicative of the overall mohair production of the goat. The mohair fleece should extend to and cover the lower jaw. Generally, twenty-five percent of the mohair fleece grows forward of the shoulder. A prominent dewlap is desirable as it is an indication of greater fiber producing areas on the goat. The dewlap in the Angora goat is the loose, pliable fold of skin which starts under the chin and can extend downward to the brisket of the goat. Development of wattles is an undesirable characteristic in Angora goats. Wattles are small hanging tabs of skin, found on the sides of the head or upper neck, and are common on Pygmy and dairy goat breeds. Wattles make shearing more difficult and are not an Angora breed characteristic.

Standard

- Full mohair coverage of the chin and neck.



Fig. 55: Full chin coverage



Fig. 56: Developed dewlap

Minimal

- Bare jaw-line, with little or no mohair coverage.



Fig. 57: Bare jawline

Disqualifying

- Bare jaw-line extending down the neck.
- Presence of wattles.



Fig. 58: Bare jawline extending down neck



Fig. 59: Wattles

12. LOCK DEFINITION

Good mohair grows in distinct, well-defined locks. The terms STYLE and CHARACTER define the curl and crimp of the lock. All types of lock structure, including ringlet, web or flat, are acceptable, if the individual locks are distinct locks and uniform throughout the fleece. (See Uniformity) Fuzzy, fluffy, sheepy and open fleeces (i.e., those lacking good lock structure) are undesirable.

Standard

- Well-defined locks with good luster.

Minimal

- Open fleeces with poor lock definition, as they are prone to felting and damage from sun, wind and rain.
- Loose, as opposed to tight, lock formation.
- Low luster.

Disqualifying

- Undefined lock formation.
- Open, characterless fleece.
- No luster.
- Double coat

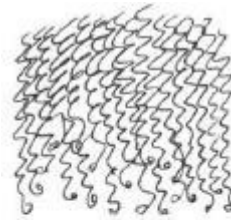


Fig. 60: Well-defined locks

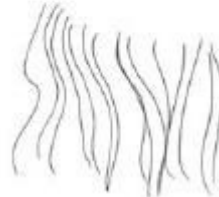


Fig. 61: Undefined locks

13. UNIFORMITY

Uniformity of fleece characteristics across the animal is very important. Inspectors should look for uniformity of lock type, whether ringlet, web or flat lock, along with good length of lock and overall fineness. Fleece character refers to wave or crimp and style or twist of individual locks.

Standard

- Fleece is uniform in style, length, fineness, and lock type across the animal.

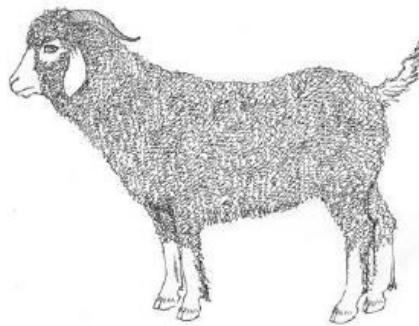


Fig. 62: Uniform fleece across the body

Minimal

- Neck fleece that is no more than one grade coarser than fleece across the body.
- Short or coarse britch.

Disqualifying

- Fleece that is irregular in style, character, length, or fineness, when there are more than two irregularities within the fleece.

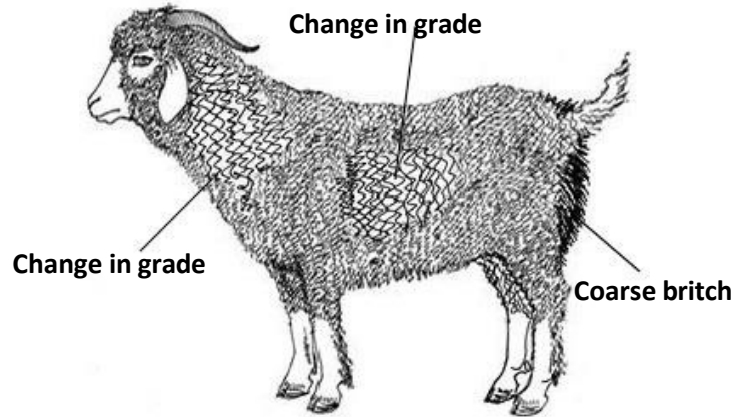


Fig. 63: Fleece lacking uniformity

14. FREEDOM FROM KEMP AND MEDULLATED FIBERS

Kemp fibers and excessive medullated fibers are undesirable in a mohair fleece. Reduction of these fibers should be a goal for colored Angora goat breeders. Kemp fibers are coarse, stiff, short fibers, which have a hollow core and are chalky white on a white goat and often heavily pigmented on a colored goat. Kemp fibers are scratchy and stick out of yarns when worked up into finished products. Medullated fibers are finer than kemp, with a smaller or partially hollow core. They are typically as long and flexible as true mohair fibers and are, therefore, not as problematic for finished fabrics and yarns. Look for kemp along the topline (**A**), down the britch (**B**), under the tail (**C**), in the body of the fleece (**D**), in the topknot (**E**) and under the chin or beard (**F**). If kemp is not readily found in these locations, it is not likely to appear in the fleece.

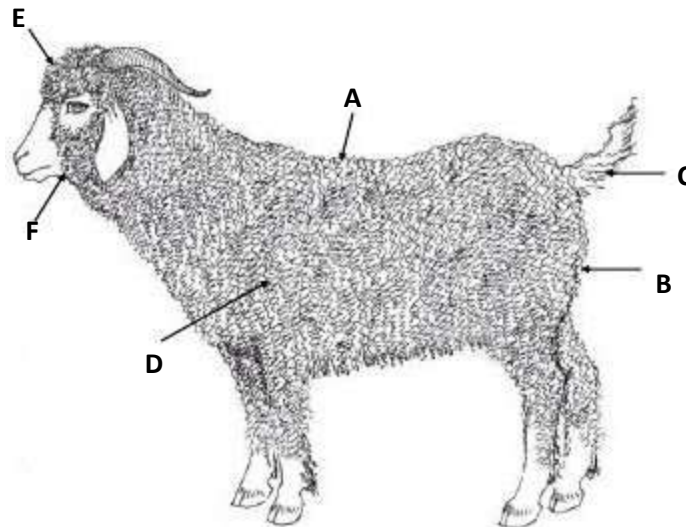


Fig. 64: Distribution of kemp and medullated fibers

Standard

- No visible kemp.
- Minimal medullated fibers, present in less than 1.5% of the fleece.

Minimal

- A sprinkling of kemp either along the topline OR through the britch area but not in both. No more than 1.5% of kemp throughout the fleece.
- Greater than 2% medullated fibers throughout the fleece.

Disqualifying

- Kemp fibers throughout the fleece.

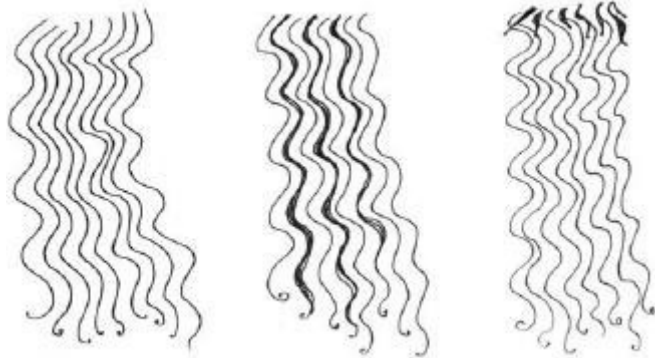


Fig. 65: Well-defined locks

Fig. 66: Well-defined locks

Fig. 67: Well-defined locks

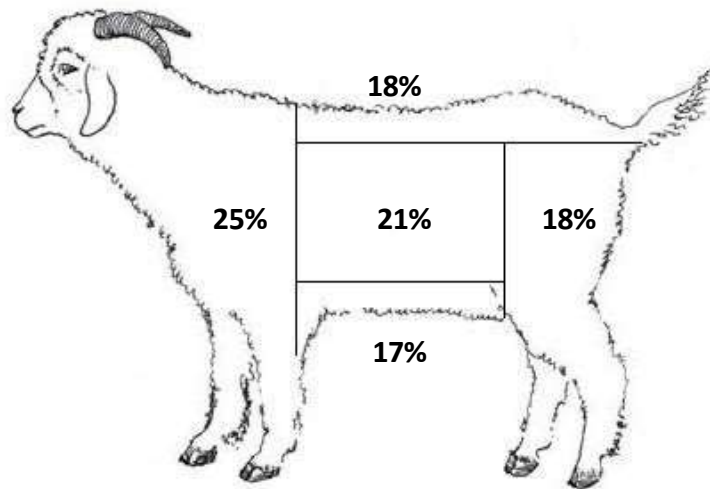


Fig. 68: Distribution of mohair on a goat