

AGENDA ITEM SUBMISSION FORM

Proposal: I move that the color pattern or random markings of the offspring of NPGA registered parents not be used to delay or deny the registration and/or wether certificate of ancestry for those offspring with DNA proof of parentage by registered NPGA animals. The purpose of a registry is to certify lineage, not necessarily quality or the presence or absence of faults.

Reasons:

Advantages: Allows owners/breeders the assurance of being able to record the offspring of all breeding animals without fear of genetic color variation forcing removal of other productive and structural strengths from the gene pool. Judging guidelines and the scorecard have commonly been used to assess deviations from the ideal standard, including color pattern and marking deviations.

Allows for color pattern designations to be assigned to animals for more effective tracking and research in the breed. Allows for identification in the herdbook thus allowing members to introduce or avoid these patterns or markings in their breeding program.

Prevents the exclusionary position of two NPGA registered animals bred in good faith which produce offspring possessing only cosmetic faults not impacting the health or structural breed character of the animal.

Allows for more education of the membership and pygmy goat breeders in general as to the heritability and genetic probability of color pattern or marking deviations appearing in the limited gene pool. "One very serious or disqualifying fault (in the show ring) in and animal may be offset by the many good features displayed that are needed in a herd." (The Illustrated Standard of the Pygmy Goat, Forward, p. v). "Every goat has its faults, and the perfect goat will probably never exist. But we can strive for perfection and we should keep in mind that the reasons for the breed standard are not just good looks." (The Illustrated Standard of the Pygmy Goat, Introduction, p.6)

Disadvantages: None.

Financial Implications: Increase memberships and registrations due to reversal or recent exclusionary rules being adopted which has reduced those numbers. Possible increased cost to breeders due to DNA testing requirements at the option of the NPGA.

Submitted by: Stettler

