

SPANISH GOAT CONFORMATION GUIDELINES

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Straight nose and good ear set

Head. Usually the profile is straight or slightly convex. On most the lines of the head are relatively straight, leading to a “wedge shaped” appearance. The ears are moderately long, and usually fall horizontally but parallel and close to the head and alongside the face, rather than straight out to the side. Long, broad ears out to the side are more typical of Nubian or Boer crosses – which are common crosses with these goats. Horns are usually long. On bucks they usually flare up, out laterally, and then twist at the tips. The large size and lateral twist are very typical.



A southeastern strain of Spanish on the left and excellent meat type Spanish goats from Texas strains in the center and on the right.



Body. Spanish goats are usually somewhat rangy and large-framed rather than compact and cobby. In selected lines the rangy frame is well-filled so that meat conformation is good on those lines.

Feet and legs. Usually the feet are strong with upright, strong pasterns. Legs are generally straight from front and rear view, with some tendency toward low grades of “cow hocks” in some animals.



Long and short coated bucks

Hair coat. Usually short, some have longer hair, especially on lower body and thighs. Some lines produce heavy cashmere coats.

Color. All colors are acceptable. Some colors that occur in pure examples can resemble the colors of other breeds, but are no indication of crossbreeding unless accompanied by other conformational evidence of crossbreeding.

Evidence of Crossbreeding. This varies with the type of goat introduced.



Nubian – Large horizontal or drooped ears straight out to side of head. Thick heavy but short horns.

Boer & Kiko– Similar to Nubian. Typically thick compact bodies

Angora – Ears similar to Nubian crosses, excess hair.

Alpine or other Swiss dairy goats - Shorter ears, usually upright rather than horizontal. Heavy long horns with less twist than pure ones.



A Spanish-Alpine cross



Spanish-Boer cross kids



A Spanish-Kiko cross