



Breeding up to Canadian Purebred Status

Create a herd of purebred Boers at a lower initial cost with the added advantage of hybrid vigour.

The Canadian Meat Goat Association has made provisions for registering crossbred (or “percentage”) Boer goats. This allows breeders to upgrade the status of their existing domestic doe herds to “Canadian Purebred” in four generations.

Percentage Boer does can be registered as 1/2, 3/4, 7/8 and then 15/16 or “Canadian Purebred”. Bucks must be 31/32 pure (97%) before they can be registered as Canadian Purebred. Lower percentage bucks are not registerable.

So, how do you go about “breeding up”?

First you need a registered purebred Boer buck and some does. The does can be grade or registered goats of any other breed. Breed the does to the buck – the resulting kids will be 1/2 (50%) Boer. To register the female offspring (the males are not registerable), contact CMGA for an application form. The form is the same for purebreds and crossbreds.

When the 1/2 Boer does are bred to another registered purebred Boer buck, the resulting offspring will be 3/4 (75%) Boer. Again, only the doe kids can be registered.

The 3/4 (75%) does, bred to a registered purebred Boer buck, will produce progeny that are 7/8 (87%) Boer. As before, only does can be registered.

Another breeding of the 7/8 (87%) does to a purebred Boer buck will produce 15/16 (94%) Boer kids. Doe kids resulting from this cross are registerable

as Canadian Purebreds, providing they conform to the breed standards.

When a Canadian Purebred (94% or greater) doe is bred to a purebred registered Boer buck, the kids are 31/32 (97%) Boer, and both does and bucks may be registered as Canadian Purebred Boer.

Note that the process of breeding up can also be done with the opposite cross: non-registered males bred to purebred registered females. As before, only female offspring are registerable. Males can be registered once they reach 97% (31/32) pure Boer.

The term “Recorded Canadian Purebred” is used to identify a Canadian purebred Boer goat which qualifies as to pedigree, but does not conform to the breed standards, particularly in colour, markings, and ear structure. The offspring of Canadian Purebred Boers crossed with Traditional Purebred Boers will always be Canadian Purebred.

Canadian Purebred animals are eligible to show in all Purebred classes at shows, and are considered equivalent to Traditional Purebred Boers in all ways.

Why Breed up? Cost, Availability, & Genetic Potential!

The number of domestic goats in Canada is much higher than the number of purebred registered Boers, and the cost of these animals is generally lower. Breeding up allows the producer to create a herd of purebred Boers at a lower initial cost with the added advantage of hybrid vigour and the infusion of selected genetic traits such as: milk production, mothering ability, and hardiness.



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