

The following text was taken from the January, 2007 newsletter of the International Dairy Goat Registry—

SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND BREED STANDARD

Basic Description

The San Clemente Island goats are named for San Clemente Island, a small island about 65 miles off the coast of San Diego, California, where it is believed they had lived since the 1500's. During the 1970's and early 80's, the goats were all removed from San Clemente Island claiming that the goats were destroying endangered native plants and animals.

The general appearance is that of a deer-like and fine-boned animal. The head is long and lean with a dished face. Their eyes tend to have a relaxed appearance. The ears are narrow and carried horizontal to the head with a distinctive crimp in the middle. Kids ears are often floppy at birth, but become upright by age 2 weeks. The neck is long. The body is deep with fairly well sprung ribs. The back is straight with sloping to fairly steep rump. The legs are long and slender with small hooves that tend to toe outward.

San Clemente Island goat's color ranges from a light brown/tan to a dark red or amber (which may at times appear to be black but having a red tint) with ferral black markings as follows: Black head with two brown/tan stripes down face from above, or around the eyes to the muzzle, a patch on the cheek or jaw and small spot on chin. Black cape over shoulders, up the top of the neck and down the front legs. The underside of the neck is brown. Ears are black outside and brown inside. Black dorsal stripe down back and some black on back legs and flanks. A few white hairs are permitted.

Horns are light, airy, and open. The horn set should spread near the base and continue to spread outward with a light and airy look. The horn should twist a half to three quarters turn from base to tip, depending on the animals age. Bucks horns may make a full turn and often grow quite long, the spread may exceed 32 inches.

The height at the withers is 26 inches or more for does and 27 inches or more for bucks.

Evaluation of Defects

Part 1 -- Slight defects Broken or wry tail; Straight nose

Part 2 -- Defects that could be slight to serious depending on degree (These are all more serious in bucks than in does) Wry jaws or face on doe; Weak horns that break easily, or are circular in section; Non-symmetrical horns; Winged or loose, open shoulders; Bowed front legs; Swollen stifle joint/s; Touching hocks; Feet that turn in; Malformed feet--splayed, sloping, overgrown; Narrow, shallow, or short body; Poor udder attachment front, side, or rear; Udders uneven in the size of the two halves; Spur (non-functional) teats on does; Multiple teats on bucks.

Part 3 -- Moderate Defects: Ears that are not HORIZONTAL; Does less than 26 inches tall at withers; Bucks less than 27 inches tall at withers; Swollen hocks and/or enlarged knees, not sufficient to cause lameness;

Part 4 -- Serious Defects: Undershot or overshot jaws; White spot on does (A few hairs permissible); Lameness, especially combined with badly swollen knees and/or hocks; Leaking teats; Thin udder skin that allows seeping of milk or serum; Double orifices in teats; Double teats; Functional spur teats, and those close to-primary teats; Disproportionate bodily parts, such as a large head, or a thick body on short legs, especially in young animals; Lack of crimp in ear.

Part 5 -- Disqualifications: Pendulous or very upright ears; White spot on bucks (a few hairs are permitted, No white caps); Any color other than that described in breed standard; Roman nose; Blue eyes; Does less than 24 inches or bucks less than 26 inches; Cou Clair (reversed pattern); Crooked face on bucks; Blindness, unless the result of accident; Blind primary teat or teats on does; Lack of one or both primary teats (blind udder); Lack of half or functional half of udder, unless the result of accident mastectomy; Hermaphroditism or evidence thereof; failure to breed; Undescended testicle or testicles; Permanent physical defect such as navel hernia.