

# Australis Blacks

Australis Black Goats are a uniquely Australian breed of goat that has been bred with the Australian landscape in mind. They have been developed through crossbreeding between Registered Black Kalahari, Boer and Rangeland Goats. A major focus has been on breeding an animal that is structurally sound, requires little to no inputs while having the hardiness of a Rangeland goat while yielding a high-quality carcass. The females have exceptional mothering ability.

The Australis Black Goat is known for its striking, jet-black coat colour and medium to large build. Their exceptional ability to forage on woody weeds and travel long distances in search of food and water make them an excellent choice for Rangeland producers and farmers alike.

In general, the Australis Black Goats are a resilient and adaptable breed that have shown to be well-suited to the Australian terrain.

## Upgrading

The process of upgrading an unregistered goat to a purebred Australis Black involves several steps, which are outlined below:

**Step 1:** The first step is to purchase a registered Australis Black/Kalahari Black or Standard Boer Goat and transfer its registration papers to your name/stud. This goat will be used to mate with your unregistered goat to produce F1 offspring. These kids will be the first generation in your grading up program. Class and register the F1 doelings/buckling with the KGAA as F1, and select the ones that best meet the Australis Black breed standard for future breeding.

**Step 2:** When your F1 doeling/bucklings has reached age and weight, mate them with another registered Australis Black/Kalahari Red/Red or Standard Boer Goat to produce F2 offspring. Class and register the F2 animals with the KGAA as F2, select the ones that best meet the breed standard for future breeding.

**Step 3:** Repeat the same process for producing F3 and F4 offspring, each time selecting the animals that best meet the breed standard for future breeding. Keep accurate records of your breeding program and register all animals with the KGAA.

**Step 4:** When your F4 doelings have been mated for the fifth time, select the ones that meet all the breed standards and register them with the KGAA as Australis Black. These animals will be considered purebred and can be used for future breeding to maintain the breed standard. F5 goats that don't meet all of the Australis Black Breed Standards will remain as F4.

It's important to note that this process requires patience and dedication, as it can take several years to achieve a purebred Australis Black. Starting with good quality goats and carefully selecting the best animals for breeding will help you achieve your goal more quickly.

**Breeders purpose is to produce a quality animal with the commercial producer in mind.**

ITEM	REGISTERED GOAT	UNDESIRABLE	Disqualification
<b>A. FUNCTIONAL EFFICIENCY</b>			
1. Fertility	Doe - feminine, regular kidding Bucks - masculine, virile, high libido	Doe - lacking femininity and/or irregular kidding Buck - lacking masculinity	Hernia, malformed genitalia. Abnormal reproductive organs. Does not getting into kid. Bucks not of high vigour
3. Testicles	Scrotum that is well-formed, healthy, functional, equal sized testes in the scrotum. Scrotum circumference should be at least 27cm in a mature buck.	A scrotum with a split less than 2cm	Cryptorchid, twisted scrotum. A scrotum with a split larger than 2cm and a circumference smaller than 25cm. Single testicle.
4. Udder & Teats	Well-formed udder firmly attached. Desirable she has 2 functional teats, will except 2 whole teats on each side with a separation between each teat. Maximum 2 teats on a side	More than 2 teats on a side	Double teats with no separation. Fish teats
5. Disposition	Alert, easily managed.	Nervous	Extremely nervous and/or aggressive
6. Size	Well grown for age.		Lacking growth or weight for age.
7. Hair	Short, glossy, slick coat	A limited amount of fur will be tolerated during winter	Covering too long and coarse or too furry
8. Hide	Loose, vascular, moveable.	Tight, thick. Excessive skin folds.	
9. Legs	Squarely set, sound joints.		Bow legged. Post legged. Calf kneed. Straight hind pasterns that don't flex. Straight and/or Sickle hocked. Cow hocked. Low pasterns.
10. Feet and Hoofs	Even claws, solid dark pigment. They must be strong and hard.	pigment. Turned out. Pigeon toed. Uneven claws.  multi-coloured pigmentation. Low heels.	Weak pasterns and hooves pointing outwards or inwards. Light pigmentation
<b>B. CONFIRMATION</b>			
1. General Form or Type	Symmetrical, balanced, thick, long, and deep bodied, well sprung ribs, muscular. Good bone, strong legs with free movement; males thicker and well-muscled; females refined in forequarter	Flat sided, coarse, and rough. Light boned.  Lack of free movement.	

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>REGISTERED GOAT</b>	<b>UNDESIRABLE</b>	<b>Disqualification</b>
2. Head	A strong head with large soft brown eyes. A strong, slightly curved nose, wide nostril	Long and narrow, dish face. Short.	Concaved for-head
2a. Horns	Horns are to grow backwards from the crown of the head. Strong and oval shaped. There should be a reasonable width between the horns at the base.	Horns that press against the neck	Horns too straight or too flat.
2b. Ears	Broad oval shaped ears. Smooth and of medium length hanging downwards from the head. Ears must be mobile in order to protect the goat from biting insects.	Ears folded across at the bottom. Too long of ear	Ears folded lengthwise, protruding ears, or too short
2c. Eyes	Clear, soft brown, moderately hooded, strongly pigmented	Recessed. prominent. Fat polyps.	An animal with an undomesticated wild look in their eyes, any eyes that have any blue colour to their eyes and entropion.
2d. Muzzle	Broad and wide nostrils, and strong well-formed mouth, with well-fitted jaws. Up to 6 teeth must show a perfect bite.	Narrow,	Wry nose, black - Overshot or undershot jaw.
3. Neck	Well-musclcd and in proportion to the length of the body		Too long, thin or short
4. Shoulder	Free moving, smooth and well-musclcd. Bucks - thick, well defined, heavy muscling. Does - smooth, with moderate muscling.	Open or prominent. Straight, high	Slabby, too cylindrical
5. Brisket	Broad and well fitted	.	Narrow
6. Heart Girth	Deep, broad, full.		Pinched
7. Back	Broad, strong	Sway back	Roach back. Fish back.
8. Loin	Broad, full	Narrow, weak	
9. Ribs	Well sprung, fleshed	Flat sided	
10. Hips	Broad, somewhat rounded on top	Prominent	
11. Rump	Long, broad, moderate slope - hip to pin -	Square. High sacral bone. Recessed tail insertion.	Short, flat buttocks
12. Tail	Straight up and well covered with hair. Very mobile. The bare skin should have dark pigmentation	Short, thin.	Tail deformities eg. Skin pink

ITEM	REGISTERED GOAT	UNDESIRABLE	Disqualification
13. Hind Quarters	Broad, muscular, wide between pins. Bucks - thick and well-muscled Does - deep with moderate muscling.	Narrow, high twist.	Double muscling.
<b>C. COLOUR</b>			
1. Coat	Total black in colour. A loose supple skin with sufficient chest and neck folds, especially in the case of buck. Short, glossy hair is desirable.	10% of white hair will be accepted – with the expectation the breeder will breed to eliminate the white hair. A limited amount of fur will be tolerated during winter months.	White spots out of underline. White underline exceeding 25%  Fawn or cream colour. Brindling or roan condition.  Coat too long and or coarse or too furry.
2. Skin	Dark pigmentation		Skin colour that is too light pigmentation - increased risk of skin cancer in the goat.

Australis Blacks will have a separate register in the Kalahari Goat Association of Australia in ABRI.