

BGBAA CLASSIFICATION

What is Classification?

Classification is the assessment of your animals by qualified Inspectors according to a system approved by the current BGBAA Board based on the Australian Boer Goat Breed Standard.

It is important to note that any Classification system, will be optional for members. The benefits are outlined further below however it will be up to the individual if they choose to classify their animals, it is Not Compulsory!

What is the purpose of Classification?

By “ranking” your animal against these standards you will have a clearer idea of whether or not it is suitable to be included in your stud to improve the quality of your breeding program. It will also help you decide on a “value” of your animal for sale purposes for the domestic or export markets. It therefore creates uniformity within the breed and offers buyers confidence they are buying an animal classified at a specific level.

What are the Advantages of Classification?

For the Breeder:

- Breeders learn the “true” standard of their herd benchmarked against the BGBAA breed standard.
- Breeders can add the information gained by Classification to other important considerations, such as breeding performance of individual animals, to make informed decisions about which animals to keep to improve their Stud, which to sell and which to cull.
- The breeding process/goals of a Stud can be “fast tracked” based on these decisions.
- The information could be used as a marketing tool.
- Buyers will be more confident they are buying animals of a quality which have been “bench marked” against the standard.

For the Buyer:

- It will save time, buyers can buy sight unseen and be confident they are getting an animal which meets their requirements.
- It will be easier for export buyers to purchase animals.
- New breeders can be confident they are getting animals of a specific quality.

For the Industry:

- The standard of assessed herd will be raised.
- There will be more uniformity across herds.
- There will be more credibility for buyers.
- It will reduce the danger of animals being sent overseas which do not represent the Breed standard.

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Wording & Explanation of 3-9.

9 – Exceptional elite stud animal with no obvious area for improvement.

8 – Exceptional stud animal requiring minor improvement. Highly recommended for breeding & showing.

7 – Stud quality animal which conforms to the breed standard.

6 – Average quality animals with no terminal faults. Recommended as breeding stock.

5 – Breeding stock animal (but with excessive colour (C) or with teats that are functional but with faults (T).

4 – Below average breeding Does with no terminal faults. Bucks to be culled from Score 4 & below.

3 – Cull faults according to the breed standard.

A (P) for Provisional, will be put before the Score number e.g. P7 with animals under 12mths of age or milk tooth.

Training & Certification:

- Application for Inspector Training to be submitted to the Federal Board, recommended level of Judges to apply for Inspectors Course being a minimum of Level 2.
- Inspectors Course to be presented by a minimum of two Level 3 judges who also currently hold BGBAA approved Inspectors Accreditation or 1 of the above plus a South African Judge/Inspector.
- Inspectors Days to be conducted annually, with all accredited inspectors required to attend. Any Inspector who fails to attend two consecutive annual days, will have their accreditation revoked.
- It is desirable for herd assessments to be carried out by 2 inspectors but not mandatory.

Record Keeping:

- Triplicate book to be held by Inspectors.
- Signed & dated by Breeder & Inspector.
- Original to be sent to ABRI by Inspector.
- Copy given to Breeder, Third copy remains in book with Inspector.
- Breeder then submits the "Application form for recording of Classification 2015" to ABRI, nominating which animals' scores, they would like permanently recorded on the animals registration.

Identification:

All animals presented for Classification by an inspector, must meet current BGBAA identification regulations.

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Costs:

Recommended charges (at Inspectors discretion) - \$250/day – 8hrs, \$150/half day – 4hrs, plus travel & accommodation where applicable, to be paid to the inspector.

Studs within close proximity may choose to combine inspection days to help reduce costs. This is to be arranged with the inspector prior to the inspection day.

Pricing of animal classification as follows payable direct to the BGBAA: This will be billed by ABRI to the breeder, on receipt of Classification Sheet sent to ABRI by the inspector.

Classification Prices	
0-25 animals	\$50.00
26-50 animals	\$75.00
51-100 animals	\$100.00
101-150 animals	\$125.00
151-200 animals	\$150.00
*Note: Prices do not include GST. Numbers exceeding 200 animals are charged \$25.00 per 50 animals (e.g. 243 animals costs \$175.00).	

Preparation For your Inspection/Classification day.

The Assessor will need to inspect each animal individually in order to check teat structure & mouth check & record the tag ID number for each individual animal. He /She will then also need to see the animal moving freely in a contained area, to assess gait, structure & leg placement e.g. pasterns & hocks. An area with firm flat ground is best. This is for the breeders benefit as well, as many animals can appear weak in the hocks or pasterns when walking on soft or uneven ground & pasterns cannot be assessed properly in long grass.

Enough people to easily manage the movement of the herd through the process of assessment, not only makes the day easier for all, but will save on precious time & all people present can benefit from listening & watching the assessment process.

Current Inspectors List:

Vicki Mitchell – Coomboona, Victoria, Contact: Home: (03) 58290693, Mobile: 0427290693

Geoff Mitchell – Coomboona, Victoria, Contact: Home: (03) 58290693, Mobile: 0400290693

Thomas Youlden – Cargo, NSW, Contact: Mobile: 0438541399

Peter Mitchell – Undera, Victoria, Contact: Mobile: 0458254268

Marlene (Marz) Andrew – Tallong NSW, Contact: Home 0248410769, Mobile 0416267552

Lynn Wickenden – Tallong NSW: Contact: Home 0248410769, Mobile 0427421064