

AGENDA ITEM SUBMISSION FORM

Proposal

I propose that:

The NPGA create a program so that does and bucks of unknown or unregistered ancestry and those of pet quality that breeders may not wish to sell as breeding animals can be certified in the same way as wethers. These would have coding in their registry number (such as R for restricted or NB for non-breeding) to indicate these are not to be allowed as the parents of registered animals.

Reasons:

It has become increasingly difficult to show unregistered does and bucks and non-certified wethers at state fairs or to legally transport them across state lines to a show. This is due to the USDA Scrapie Program and NAIS requirements for ear tags to actually be applied to these goats. Many owners do not wish to punch their goats' ears. Wethers have a means to get around this problem by participating in the Wether Certification Program. I propose we make available a way for these does and bucks to be recorded in our registry so that they may be identified legally with a tattoo or RFID. This would be the equivalent of a restricted registration in the AKC.

These does and bucks would not be recorded in our on-line herd book. They could have a separate sub-registry so that they would be completely separate.

Advantages

This could make some money for the NPGA. This might encourage more participation in NPGA sanctioned shows. This would provide a way for the NPGA members who raise non-registered pygmy goats to easily identify their non-registered goats for these programs and thus avoid the need for ear tags.

Disadvantages

There may be some misunderstanding between a fully registered pygmy and one that has a restricted registration when it comes to using that animal for breeding.

Financial Implications

Whatever the cost is for producing the necessary paper application and certificate.

As a corollary to this dilemma the NPGA may wish to clarify with the National Scrapie Program and the NAIS that the NPGA tattoos and/or RFID numbers as noted on a pygmy goat's registration papers are acceptable means to identify NPGA registered pygmy goats. Ear tags are not required. Finding the actual rule regarding the identification requirements in each program and making that available to members would be helpful when they are confronted by a misinformed veterinarian or state vet official.

Submitted by Maggie Leman