SA Mohair Growers' Association
SA Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging

Why farm with Angora goats.....

1. The profit from Angora goat farming consistently outperforms that of other small livestock breeds over a period of time;
2. The goats are shorn twice a year; hence, an income is derived twice a year;
3. Best grazing capacity of all small stock breeds as it browses rather than grazes;
4. Complements other small stock farming operations;
5. The only agricultural sector in South Africa that has a support mechanism in place to assist producers in times of slow or no demand for certain types of mohair. This support is in the form of a pool scheme for qualifying producers;
6. The industry conforms to strict classing standards, which ensures best prices
7. Relevant industry structures are in place to support producers;
8. Mohair, the fibre of the Angora goat, has diverse uses and is not dependent on a single use or country to take up the fibre; and
9. Great emphasis is placed on research in order to improve genetics..

INTRODUCTION

The Angora goat arrived in South Africa in 1838 by sail boat from Turkey. The breeding began with one ewe and a ram kid, and strict selection processes have produced a high quality fiber producing animal. The fiber produced by an Angora goat is called mohair. It is widely used, but is particularly desirable in the fashion industry. Currently South Africa produces more than 50% of total world production.

SOUTH AFRICAN MOHAIR GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

The South African Mohair Growers' Association (SAMGA) is the producer organization that supports and lobbies for Angora goat farmers. SAMGA is responsible for promoting the production of mohair, and general farming of Angora goats and does so in a number of ways. For example, SAMGA is continuously negotiating with government and non-governmental organizations about issues at producer level.

ANGORA RAM BREEDERS' SOCIETY

The Angora Ram Breeders' Society (ARBS) is the genetic custodian of the mohair industry. These producers are stud breeders and their animals are all registered with the society to control the breeding standards for Angora goats. They produce high quality rams for breeding purposes, and these rams are used by Angora goat flock farmers to maintain or better their flocks.

ANGORA GOAT REGIONS

The Eastern Cape is the most important production area followed by the Western and Northern Cape. The following towns fall under these regions:

Aberdeen, Willowmore, Jansenville, Steytlerville, Uitenhage, Pearston, Somerset East, Bedford, Adelaide, Cradock, Middelburg, Graaff-Reinet, Murraysburg, Victoria-West, Beaufort-West, Prince Albert and Heroldt.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The Angora goat can survive extreme temperatures, but it is very sensitive to cold weather after shearing, especially a combination of cold weather with wind and/or rain. The most sensitive period is the first six weeks after a goat has been shorn. Goats are well suited to warm conditions.

VELD TYPES SUITED FOR ANGORAS

The animals have adapted to a wide variety of veld types and can thrive in almost any area. However, the following are preferable types:

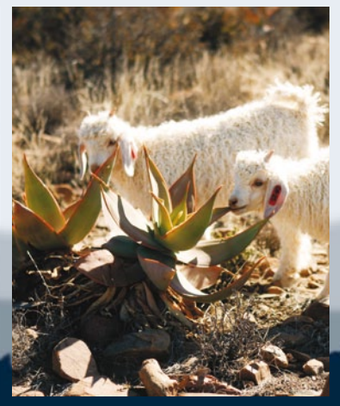
- Karoo plains: A mixture of dwarf Karoo and shrubs in low rainfall areas.
- Mountain-grass and shrub vegetations: Mountainous areas are not entirely suitable because of cold conditions but goats can effectively utilize the vegetation.
- Mixed succulent bush: Closed or semi-closed conditions of long succulent shrub "spekboom", varied and mixed with various species of dwarf trees such as wild plum, shepherd's tree, various types of acacias and sweet hedgehog (noorsdoring) (Euphorbia coerulescens).
- Mixed Karoo and grass: Best grazing for all breeds in South Africa.
- Hedgehog (noorsdoring) veld: Dominated by euphorbia coerulescens as well aselephant's food (spekboom), shepherd's tree (Boscia albutrunca) and plum tree.

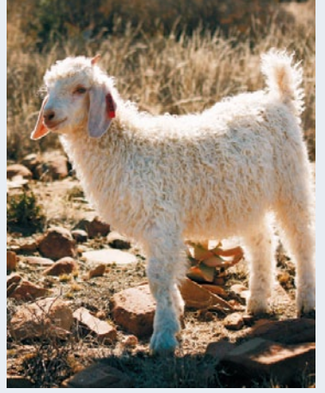
ANGORA CARRYING CAPACITY

The Angora goat is the mildest user of all small stock breeds. According to the Meissner table, the Angora goat's GVE is 6.9. This is a 6-tooth ewe with a kid. A sheep grazes approximately 30 cm above the ground, whereas a goat grazes from 30 cm to 1,6 meters above the ground.

BREEDING STANDARDS

The production of maximum quantity mohair, together with maximum kid production, will receive a high price. However, prevailing environmental conditions must be taken into consideration





CONFORMATION

A goat with a balanced conformation is necessary for fertility, reproduction, hair production and the promotion of sound general breeding. It is commonly known that bigger ewes are more valuable breeders and mothers.

Head: This is the mirror of the body. A strong, well formed head with a developed mouth is desirable. The horns of the ewe must be thick but not too masculine. The horns must grow upwards, back and away from the point where they come out of the head. A soft, silky face and ears are preferable.

Body: Good length, depth and width of the body are desirable, coupled with well developed bounce of ribs.

Hindquarters and legs: The legs must be strong, thick and correctly placed, and good connection with the lower back is important. The lower back must be as wide as possible, and must be more or less in a straight line with the shoulder and lower back. A prominent space between the aitchbone is necessary. The inside and outside of the leg and thighs must be as fleshy as possible. Hind legs should be strong and straight, with solid Knuckle-bones. Hoofs must be well formed, and the tail should have hair of a good quality.

FLEECE (hair covering)

Characteristics of good quality mohair: Soft to touch; contains the correct quantity of yolk; bright and radiant and forms a wavy twist (style and character); solid staple of the same form over the full body.

Length: Hair should ideally grow approximately 2.5 cm per month. The ideal is an even length throughout, i.e. from the neck up to the lower back.

Density: The density of mohair is the percentage of skin area which is covered with fibers, and is determined by the amount of fibers per unit area and the fineness of the fibers. There are a variety of factors which should be taken into consideration such as oil yield, style, character, fineness and length.

Study groups of small stock breeds have found that Angora goat farming is the most profitable of all small stock farming.

Fineness: As the goat gets older, the hair also becomes stronger. It is therefore essential that the age of the animal must be taken into consideration when selecting stock. Neck and britch areas tend to be stronger than the rest of the fleece. The fineness of the hair is measured in micron. For example, the micron of kids' hair is 20 – 30, young goats 27 – 34 and adults 30-38+ and could overlap across the various age groups.

Style and character: To protect fibers against ageing, style and character is essential. Style and-character are actually two different traits which together, present a good balance. Style is the turn (spiral of the staple) whilst character is the wave or curl. Too little of both shall result in straight and open hair. Too much character and too little style will result in flat curly staples and in extreme cases, even rising hair. Style alone is also unwanted because such a staple loses its elasticity.

UNWANTED CHARACTERISTICS

Kemp and coloured fibers: Mohair must be free from kemp and any other strange fibers such as black, brown, grey and red fibers. Kemp does not absorb colouring matter and is therefore very clearly seen in the end product when material is woven.

Kemp is clearly visible on the goat's ears, face (chalky) and back. A soft head and ear covering usually indicates the absence of kemp.

MATING AND KIDDING PERIOD

The Angora goat ovulates every 19 days and the oestrual period lasts for approximately 33 hours. For successful mating, the pairing season must stretch over at least 3 oestrual periods i.e. a period of approximately 60 days.

At least 3 weeks before mating, ewes must preferably be given supplements so that their body weight can show an upward curve. An Angora ewe's oestrual cycle stretches from approximately the beginning of February to the end of May. Rams are put with ewes in a ratio of 1:30. After mating, ewes must be given high quality food.

The gestation period lasts approximately 152 days or 5 months. An Angora ewe is an animal which normally lambs (kids) easily but special attention must be given if the ewe is still young - such as a 2-tooth ewe.

The kidding process is simplified by making use of kidding paddocks or kidding pens. It is important that the ewe and the kid must form a close bond, because the kid can be an easy prey for vermin. For the first 18 months of a kid's life it must receive special attention such as good nutrients, protection against vermin (jackals, lynxes and baboons), and sound management practices must be applied.

SHEARING

The average shearing period of an Angora goat is every 4-6 months. Depending on the age, the average fleece weight is 500 g – 2,5 kg. Shearing preparation is essential because it can simplify the shearing process. Goats can be dipped in a washing agent to remove all small branches in the fleece prior to shearing. Precautions must be taken so that the floor and areas of the shearing shed are free from strong fibers and objects. Different age groups must be shorn separately. During shearing, the hair is classed and packed according to stipulated classing standards.

MARKETING

The mohair is mostly presented and sold by brokers at public scheduled auctions. Ninety-five percent of the world's locally produced and imported mohair is again exported via Port Elizabeth harbor.

COMBATING OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARASITES

The combating of parasites is essential. Biting and sucking lice can disturb the animal's grazing and sleeping patterns and can lead to poor hair production and loss of body mass. The fleece is also damaged by the continuous scratching and irritation. Ticks can limit the animal's movement and cause irritation at the base of the tail. Furthermore, the animal can develop a fever which can lead to shedding.

General internal parasites are as follows:
Lice: Red-brown biting lice and blue sucking lice.
Ticks: "Bont" tick (heartwater tick). Karoo paralysis tick, ear tick, brown tick, blue tick and "bont" tick (Hyalomma species).

Infection with lice and ticks results in annual losses of Angora goats, but liquid poison agent and dipping material are specially created to ease infection. A strict dipping regimen must be part of management practices.

Internal Parasites

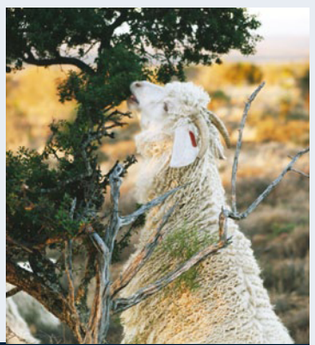
Internal parasites affect the ability of the animal to absorb nutritious substances and can cause the animal to lose body mass. This results in the animal getting weaker and disrupts normal grazing patterns. It therefore influences the production of mohair because the fiber grows more slowly and is lower in mass.

Tapeworm, brown stomach-worm, long neck bankrupt worm and hair worm are all internal parasites, and the animals must be treated with a regular dosing program. Highly efficient agents are available to control these internal parasites.

SMALL STOCK DISEASES

Angora goats must be injected at a young age to protect them against pneumonia. This injection must preferably be given between two to four weeks before the first shearing takes place.

Small stocks, including Angora goats, do not have strong resistance against heartwater. This disease is caused by the "bont" tick. Efficient vaccines and a regular dipping program protect and control against this disease.



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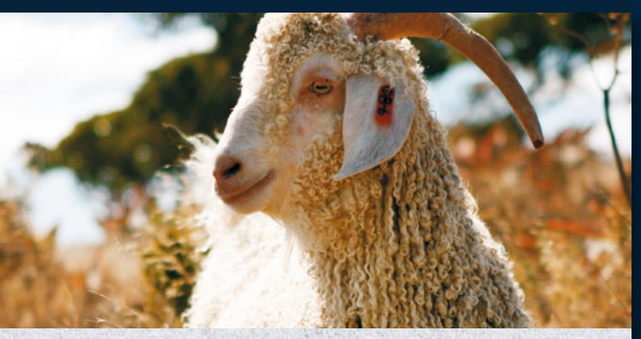

Waarom met angorabokke boer.....

1. Die wins uit 'n angorabok-boerdery is oor 'n tydperk konsekwent beter as dié uit ander kleinveerasse.
2. Die bokke word twee maal per jaar geskeer; daar is dus twee maal per jaar 'n inkomste.
3. Beste weidings benutting van alle kleinveerasse omdat die bok hoog en laag eet knibbel eerder as om te wei.
4. Vul ander kleinvee-boerderybedrywighede aan.
5. Die enigste landbousektor in Suid-Afrika wat 'n ondersteuningsmeganisme het om produsente by te staan in tye waar daar min of geen vraag na seker soorte bokhaar is. Die ondersteuning neem die vorm van 'n poelskema vir kwalifiserende produsente
6. Die bedryf verbind hom tot streng klasseringstandaarde wat die beste moontlike pryse verseker.
7. Daar is relevante bedryfstrukture wat produsente kan ondersteun.
8. Daar is verskeie uiteenlopende gebruike vir bokhaar, die angoravesel; die produsent se inkomste hang dus nie van 'n enkele gebruik of 'n enkele land af nie.
9. Daar word groot klem op navorsing geplaas, ten einde genetiese eienskappe te verbeter.

INLEIDING

Die angorabok het in 1838 per seilboot vanaf Turkye in Suid-Afrika aangeland. Die eerste boerdery is met een ooi en 'n rammetjie begin. Streng keuringsprosesse is deur die jare deur boere toegepas, en dit het gelei tot 'n dier wat sybokhaar van 'n hoë gehalte produseer (die haar vesel wat deur 'n angorabok geproduseer word, staan as sybokhaar bekend). Daar is verskeie gebruike vir sybokhaar, maar die grootste aanvraag is in die modewêreld. SA produseer tans meer as 50% van die wêreld se sybokhaar.

SUID-AFRIKAANSE SYBOKHAARKWEKERSVERENIGING

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging (SASKV) is die produsente organisasie wat angoraboere ondersteun en onderhandelings namens die produsente hanteer. Die SASKV is verantwoordelik vir die bevordering van sybokhaarproduksie, angorabokboerdery en verskeie ander aktiwiteite, byvoorbeeld onderhandelings met die regering en nie-regeringsinstansies oor aangeleenthede op produksievlak.

ANGORA-RAMTELERSVERENIGING

Die Angora-ramtelersvereniging is die genetiese bewaarders van die sybokhaarbedryf. Hierdie groep produsente is stoettelers en hulle diere is by die vereniging geregistreer om die teelstandaarde van angorabokke te beheer. Die telers teel angoraramme van 'n hoë gehalte vir teeldoeleindes. Hierdie diere word deur die angora-kuddeboere gebruik om hul kuddes te verbeter of die kwaliteit daarvan te behou.

GEBIEDE WAAR ANGORAS VOORKOM

Die Oos-Kaap is die belangrikste produksiegebied, gevolg deur die Wes-Kaap en die Noord-Kaap. Die dorpe wat hierdie gebiede insluit, is die volgende:

Aberdeen, Willowmore, Jansenville, Steytlerville, Uitenhage, Pearston, Somerset-Oos, Bedford, Adelaide, Cradock, Middelburg, Graaff-Reinet, Murraysburg, Victoria-Wes, Beaufort-Wes, Prins-Albert en Heroldt.

KLIMAATSTOESTANDE

Angorabokke kan in uiterste temperature oorleef, maar is kort nadat hulle geskeer is baie sensitief vir koue weerstoestande. Die mees sensitiewe tydperk is die eerste ses weke nadat 'n bok geskeer is.

Die dier is baie sensitief vir koue toestande, veral as dit met wind en reën gepaardgaan. Bokke kan warm toestande baie goed hanteer..

VELDTIPES GESKIK VIR ANGORAS

Die diere is aanpasbaar by 'n groot verskeidenheid van veldtipes en kan in byna enige area aard. Die volgende is egter voorkeurtipes:

- Karoovlaktes: Mengsel van dwergkaroo en struike – laereënvalgebiede
- Berggras en Struikgewasse: Bergagtige gebiede nie heeltemal geskik weens koue, maar bokke kan wel plantegroei benut.
- Gemengde Sappige Bos: Geslote of semi-geslote stande van lang, sappige, struikagtige spekboom, afgewissel en vermeng met ver skeie spesies dwergbome, soos wildepruim, witgat, verskeie soorte doringbome en soet noorsdoring (euphorbia coerulescens)
- Gemengde Karoo en Gras: Beste weiding vir alle rasse in SA.
- Noorsdoringveld – Word oorheers deur euphorbia coerulescens, asook spekboom, witgatboom en pruim.

DRAKRAG EN ANGORA'S

Die angorabok is die ligste veldbenutter van alle kleinveerasse. Volgens die Meissner-tabel is 'n angorabok se GVE 6,9. Dit is 'n 6-tand-ooi met 'n bokkie 'n Skaap wei ongeveer 30 cm bo die grond, waar 'n bok vanaf 30 cm tot 1.6 meter bo die grond wei.

RASSTANDAARDE

By angorabokke is dit, breedweg beskou, die produksie van 'n maksimum hoeveelheid haar van 'n tipe wat 'n hoë prys sal behaal, tesame met maksimum lamproduksie, alles met inagneming van heersende omgewingstoestande.

BOUVORM

'n Bok met 'n goeie en gebalanseerde bouvorm is noodsaaklik vir vrugbaarheid, reproduksie, haarproduksie en goeie algemene boerderybevordering. Dit is 'n onomwonde feit dat die groter ooie beter telers en moeders is.

Kop: Hierdie is inderwaarheid die spieël van die liggaam. 'n Sterk ontwikkelde kop met 'n goed ontwikkelde bek is verkieslik. Die horings van 'n ooi moet dik wees, maar ook nie te manlik nie. Die horings moet opwaarts terug en weg groei van die punt waar dit uit die kop kom. 'n Sagte syagtige gesig en ore is verkieslik.

Lyf: Goeie diepte en breedte van liggaam word verlang, wat gepaardgaan met goeie sprong van ribbes en goeie lengte van lyf.

Agterkwart en Bene: Die bene moet sterk en dik en goed geplaas wees; 'n goeie aansluiting met die kruis is belangrik. Die kruis moet so breed moontlik wees en min of meer 'n reguit lyn met die skof en rug vorm. 'n Goeie ruimte tussen die ysbene is noodsaaklik. Binne- en buiteboud en dye so goed gevlees as moontlik. Agterbene sterk en reguit. Kootgewrigte stewig. Hoewe goed gevorm. Stert ook goed gevorm, met hare van 'n goeie gehalte.

VAG (haarbedekking)

Eienskappe van goeie bokhaar: Sagte aanvoeling, bevat die regte hoeveelheid vetsweet, is helder en glansryk en vorm 'n golwende gedraaide (styl en karakter) soliede stapel van dieselfde vorm dwarsoor die liggaam.

Lengte: Hair should ideally grow approximately 2.5 cm per month. The ideal is an even length throughout, i.e. fro[illegible] neck up to the lower back.

Digtheid: Die digtheid van bokhaar is die persentasie veloppervlakte wat met vesels bedek is en word bepaal deur die getal vesels per eenheid oppervlakte en die fynheid van die vesels. Daar is 'n verskeidenheid faktore wat hier in aanmerking geneem moet word, soos olievloei, styl, karakter, fynheid en lengte.

PAAR- EN LAMTYD

Die angora-ooi ovuleer elke 19 dae en die bronstyd duur ongeveer 33 uur. Vir suksesvolle paring moet paartyd oor ten minste drie bronstye strek, d.w.s. 'n tydperk van ongeveer 60 dae.

Ongeveer 3 weke voor paring moet 'n ooi verkieslik prikkelvoeding gegee word, sodat haar liggaamsgewig 'n opwaartse kurwe toon.

Bemarking

Die sybokhaar word meestal op geskeduleerde openbare veilings aangebied en verkoop. 95% van die ingevoerde en plaaslik geproduseerde haar word weer uitgevoer.

BESTRYDING VAN INWENDIGE EN UITWENDIGE PARASIETE

Bestryding van parasiete is van uiterste belang. Bytende en suigende luise kan veroorsaak dat die dier se wei- en slaappatrone versteur word en kan lei tot swak haarproduksie en verlies aan liggaamsmassa. Die vag word beskadig deur die konstante gekrap en irritasie wat die dier ondervind. Bosluise kan die dier se beweging beperk asook 'n irritasie onder die stertwortel veroorsaak. Verder kan die dier koors ontwikkel, wat verharing kan veroorsaak.

Algemene uitwendige parasiete is soos volg:
Luise: Rooibruin bytluis en blou suigluis.
Bosluise: Bontbosluis (hartwaterbosluis), karoo-verlammingsbosluis, oorbosluis, bruin bosluise, blou bosluis en bontpootbosluis.

Besmetting met luise en bosluise veroorsaak jaarliks verliese onder angorabokke, maar opgiet-gifmiddels en dipstowwe is spesiaal saamgestel om die beheer daarvan te vergemaklik. 'n Streng dipprogram moet deel wees van bestuur.

Inwendige Parasiete

Inwendige parasiete beïnvloed die dier se vermoë om voedingstowwe op te neem en daarom verloor die dier liggaamsmassa. Dit veroorsaak dat die dier swak word en nie normale weipatrone kan volg nie. Dit beïnvloed die produksie van sybokhaar deurdat die vesel stadiger groei en laer in massa is.

Lintwurm, bruin maagwurm, bankrotwurm, langnek-bankrotwurm en haarwurm is inwendige parasiete waarteen die diere met 'n goeie doseerprogram behandel moet word. Hoogs effektiewe middels is beskikbaar om hierdie inwendige parasiete doeltreffend te beheer.

Kleinveesiektes

Angorabokkies moet op 'n jong ouderdom ingeënt word teen longontsteking. Hierdie inenting moet verkieslik tussen twee en vier weke voor die eerste skeer plaasvind om te verhoed dat koue weer ná die skeer tot longontsteking lei.

Kleinvee, waaronder angorabokke, het nie 'n goeie weerstandigheid teen Hartwater nie. Hierdie siekte word veroorsaak deur die bontbosluis. Doeltreffende entstowwe en 'n streng dipprogram word gebruik vir die beheer van hierdie siekte.

Studiegroepe het bevind dat angorabokboerdery die winsgewendste is van alle kleinveeboerderye.

Fynheid: Dit is 'n bekende feit dat soos die bok ouer raak die haar ook sterker word. Dit is daarom noodsaaklik dat die ouderdom van die dier in aanmerking geneem moet word by seleksie. Die hare by die nek en broek neig om sterker te wees as die res van die vag. Die fynheid van die haar word in mikron gemeet. Kleinbokkiehaar se mikron is bv. 20 – 30, by jong bokke is dit 27 -34, groot bokke 30-38+ en ouderdomsgroepe kan oorvleuel.

Styl en Karakter: Om vesels te beskerm teen verwering is styl en karakter noodsaaklik. Styl en karakter is eintlik twee afsonderlike eienskappe wat saam goeie balans verteenwoordig. Styl is die draai (spiraal van die stapel) terwyl karakter die kartel of krul is. Te min van albei sal reguit en oop haar tot gevolg hê. Te veel karakter en te min styl sal plat gekartelde stapels tot gevolg hê en in uiterste gevalle selfs oprys haar. Styl alleen is ook ongewens, want so 'n stapel verloor sy elastisiteit.

ONWENSLIKE EIENSKAPPE

Kemp en Gekleurde Vesels: Sybokhaar moet vry wees van steekhaar (kemp) en enige ander vreemde vesels, soos swart, bruin, grys en rooi vesels. Kemp absorbeer nie kleurstof nie en daarom is dit in die eindproduk, wanneer materiaal geweef word, baie duidelik waarneembaar.
Kemp is duidelik sigbaar op die bok se ore, gesig (vertoon kalkagtig) en rug. 'n Sagte kop- en oorbedekking dui gewoonlik op die afwesigheid van kemp.

'n Angora-ooi se estrussiklus strek van ongeveer Februarie tot einde Mei. Ramme word by ooie geplaas in verhouding van 1:30. Ná paring moet ooie goeie voeding kry. Die dragtigheidstydperk strek oor ongeveer 152 dae of vyf maande. 'n Angora-ooi is 'n dier wat gewoonlik maklik lam, maar spesiale aandag moet geskenk word indien die ooi nog jonk is, soos 'n twee-tandooitjie.

Die lamproses word vergemaklik deur gebruik te maak van lamkampies of lamhokke. Dit is belangrik dat die ooi en die bokkie 'n hegte band vorm, omdat die bokkie 'n maklike prooi kan wees vir ongediertes. Vir die eerste 18 maande van 'n bokkie se lewe moet dit spesiale aandag kry, soos byvoorbeeld goeie voeding, beskerming teen ongediertes soos jakkalse, rooikatte en bobbejane, en moet goeie bestuurspraktyke toegepas word.

SKEER

Gemiddelde skeertydperk van 'n angorabok is elke 4-6 maande. Afhangende van die ouderdom is die gemiddelde vaggewig 500 g - 2.5 kg. Skeervoorbereiding is noodsaaklik aangesien dit die skeerproses baie vergemaklik. Dit kan gedoen word deur alle takkies in die vag te verwyder en die bokke in 'n wasmiddel te dip. Voorsorg moet getref word dat die skeerhuis se vloer en oppervlaktes vry is van vreemde vesels en voorwerpe.

Ouderdomsgroepe moet afsonderlik geskeer word. Tydens die skeer word hare deeglik geklas en verpak volgens vasgestelde klasseringstandaarde.