

Breed rules for the Kabulya Smallholders' Goat

Introduction

accessible to small-holder farmers. It is also designed to make selective breeding a natural part of the registration process.

In order to encourage uptake, it will include the issuing of certificates such as this

Certificate of Goat registration
Certificate Number: G3b

This is to Certify that:
Herd book:
Tag:
Name:
Sire:
Dam:
Date of Birth:

Qualifies as **Kabulya Smallholders' Goat**
Grade **Three** by birth

Date:

Certifying officer: Name Signature

Verified by: Name Signature

This document focuses on disease-resistant dairy goats suitable for smallholders (Kabulya Smallholders' Goat). Separate documents deal with milk goats having higher productivity, suitable for commercial milk production (Kabulya Commercial Goat), and for meat goats (Kabulya Meat Goats).

It is assumed that the starting point for the breed registration is goats of between 25% and 65% dairy genetics, but that detailed breeding records for this initial stock may not be available. It is also assumed that the breeding target is a type of goat that is well adapted to Ugandan conditions and diseases and also gives a suitable amount of milk. "Suitable" in this context means as much milk as can be obtained without needing to buy expensive feeds for the goat. In practice this sets an upper limit on the milk that could be obtained – a maximum peak production of around 2½ litres per day, dropping to 1½ litres per day six months after the start of lactation.

The emphasis of the selection needs to be on the length of lactation, not the amount produced at the peak. This is because the milk is mostly needed for infant feeding – so a continuous supply is advantageous. The length of lactation is also the factor which is least well expressed in indigenous Ugandan goats, and hence in crossbreeds derived from them. However, the farmers will also want to maximise the number of kids, which are an important source of income when sold for meat or breeding stock. As a result the goats will often be mated early, and the resulting pregnancy will limit the availability and usefulness of late-lactation data. As a compromise between these conflicting requirements, the period between 4 and 5 months from the start of lactation is the best for assessing useful milk production.

To make the breeding process available to the maximum number of people it is important that it is based on an "open herd book" – i.e. that it is possible to start from any goat and grade up.

Overview of the system

The registration will be a series of grades that depend purely on performance, not on percentage of dairy or Kabulya genetics:-

Grade 0	Milk recording unavailable, or less than required for grade 1 (Typical of almost all indigenous goats)
Grade 1	250 ml per day 4 months into the lactation (Typical of 25% crosses)
Grade 2	500 ml per day 4 months into the lactation (Typical of 50% crosses)
Grade 3	750 ml per day 4 months into the lactation (Observed in good 50% crosses)
Grade 4	1000 ml per day 4 months into the lactation (Very rarely observed in the very best 50% crosses)
Grade 5	1250 ml per day 4 months into the lactation
Grade 6	1500 ml per day 4 months into the lactation
(Grade 7)	1750 ml per day 4 months into the lactation (Only expected to be used in order to breed Grade 6 by implementing clause 7.b.i.; otherwise the normal maximum will be Grade 6)

Goats born to parents of graded goats will automatically receive a “birth grade” which is the lower of the grades of its parents. Subsequently, if the measured milk is high enough, it can be awarded a “performance grade” 1 or 2 grades higher than the birth grade.

Awarding of grades 1 or 2 can be done by the local farmers’ group to which the goat’s owner belongs. But higher grades will require checking by officials from independent groups.

There is no mechanism for male goats to receive a performance grade, so there are special rules in place to ensure that if no male of a particular grade is available, then it is possible to assign an “honorary grade” as appropriate.

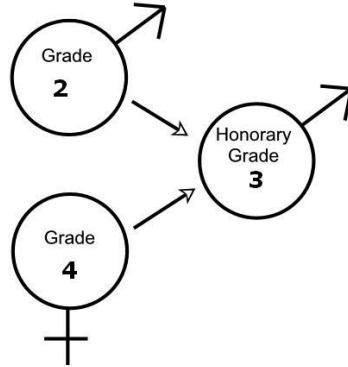
Detailed rules

1. Genetic background
 - a. Admission to the breed is only for goats with of non-East African ancestry not exceeding 63%.
 - b. There is no lower limit to exotic ancestry.
2. Certifying Officers for Performance Grades
 - a. For Grades 1 and 2, the certifying officer can be any official of the local Kabulya Breeders Group who has been appointed by the group.
 - b. For Grades 3 and 4, the certification must also be verified by an officer from a different sub-county who is recognised at sub-county level within his own sub-county.
 - c. For Grades 5 and 6, the certification must also be verified by an officer from a different sub-county who is recognised at district level within his own district

3. Status of other Kabulya Breeds
 - a. If one of the parents is a Kabulya Commercial Goat, it must be explicitly demonstrated that rule 1.a is not violated, before the offspring can be registered as a Kabulya Smallholders' Goat.
 - b. Subject to clause 3.a, the offspring of a Kabulya Commercial Goat mated with a Kabulya Smallholders' Goat may be registered as if both parents were Kabulya Smallholders' Goats.
 - c. Registration of a goat as a Kabulya Meat Goat has no bearing on its registration as a Kabulya Smallholders' Goat. There is no restriction on it being simultaneously registered as both.
4. Milk Measurement and calculation of Performance Grades
 - a. The evening before the milk measurement day, the goat must be milked out in the presence of the certifying officer.
 - b. The total milk produced in the following 24 hours will determine the Performance Grade
 - c. The assigned Performance Grade cannot exceed the Birth Grade by more than 2.
 - d. The assigned Performance Grade shall be calculated as the total milk divided by 250 and strictly rounded down, subject to the provision of 3.c.
 - e. The Performance Grade can be measured for any number of lactations, and new certificates may be issued if the performance improves, subject to the provision of 3.c.
5. Birth Grades
 - a. The Birth Grade of a male or female goat shall be the lower of the grades of the sire and dam.
6. Honorary Grades for males (Qualification by special permission) – Honorary Grades 1 & 2
 - a. If there is at least one Grade 1 female but no Grade 1 male within a village, the committee of the village breeders' group may assign an Honorary Grade 1 if:-
 - i. The male's dam is at least Grade 2
 - and*
 - ii. The male's sire has at least 25% dairy genetics
 - b. If there is at least one Grade 2 female in a village but there is no Grade 2 male within the village, the committee of the village breeders' group may assign an Honorary Grade 2 if:-
 - i. The male's sire is at least Grade 1 and its dam is at least grade 3
 - or*
 - ii. The male's sire has at least 50% dairy genetics
 - c. Honorary Grade 1 or 2 can also be applied using the systems described in rule 7.
7. Honorary Grades for males – Honorary Grades – Grades 3 and above
 - a. The relevant level of authority for the various grades is:
 - i. Honorary Grade 3 or 4: Parish
 - ii. Honorary Grade 5: Sub-County
 - iii. Honorary Grade 6: District

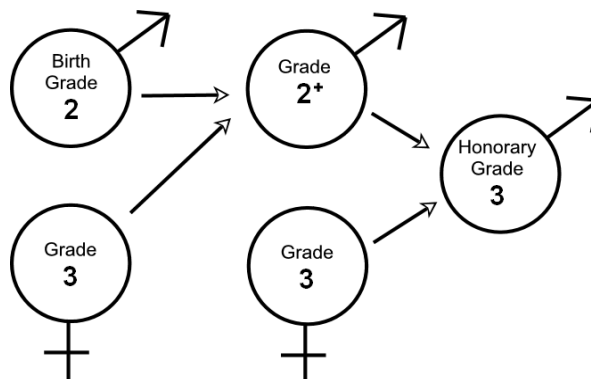
- b. If there is at least one female in of the respective grade at the level specified in clause 7.a, but there is no male with that Birth Grade in the administrative unit, the committee of the respective breeders' group may assign an Honorary Grade N if:-

- i. The male's sire is at least Grade N-1 and its dam is at least grade N+1 **by performance**, not just by birth. E.g.



or

- ii. The male's paternal grandsire is at least Birth Grade N-1 and its paternal granddam is at least grade N and its dam is at least grade N. E.g.



Both the dam and paternal granddam must be of the required grade N **by performance**, not just by birth.

8. Registration fees

- Registration for grades 1 & 2 is free
- Registration for grades 3 to 6 will be on a sliding scale, to be decided.

9. Certificates

- Certificates for grades 1 & 2 will be simple photocopied black & white
- Certificates for grades 3 to 6 will have distinct colours for each grade
- Different certificates will be given for Birth Grade, Performance Grade and Honorary Grade but the colour will follow the assigned colour for the grade.