



**CANADIAN
MEAT GOAT
Association**

**Association
CANADIENNE
de la CHÈVRE
de BOUCHERIE**

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PRODUCTION COMMITTEE REPORT AGM 2009

2008 marked the first year for CMGA's new Type Evaluation Program being made available to our CMGA members.

Development of the program was made possible through grant monies under the Sustaining the Genetic Quality of Ruminants Grant as part of Ag Canada's post BSE recovery strategy funding and began in 2006.

Development of the program began in 2006, training the classifiers and trialing the program took place in 2007, and the program was officially offered to members in the summer of 2008.

Type Evaluation utilizes a linear appraisal system to "score" an animal (and its respective parts) against the "ideal" for the breed. Type Evaluation offers breeders an opportunity to have an objective evaluation performed on their animals by a trained CMGA classifier.

The CMGA Type Evaluation system was modeled along the lines of similar programs offered by other breeds of livestock (ie. Cattle, dairy goats, etc), keeping in mind the traits that are considered economically and conformationally desired in the Boer breed.

Both registered Purebred does and bucks, and registered percentage does are eligible for Type Evaluation. In order to be evaluated, does must have kidded at least once and within one year of the evaluation, and bucks must be at least 1 year old at the time of evaluation.

Animals are given an overall total score (out of 100), and are placed as follows:

Excellent	90+
Very Good	85-89
Good +	80-84
Good	75-79
Fair	70-74

In order to be evaluated as Excellent, does must be at least 3 years old and have kidded at least twice. Bucks must be at least 3 years old in order to score Excellent and have at least one registered offspring.

Does that have kidded only once can only achieve a maximum score of VG 89 and bucks under the age of 3 can achieve a maximum score of VG 89 as well.

2008 saw a number of animals scoring very well under the Type Evaluation Program. Six animals in total scored Excellent. Considering the relatively small number of animals evaluated out of the National Herd, this served to tell us what we know already – Canada has some great genetics and some great animals out there!

Initially, three individuals were trained under CMGA Classifier's program – Karen Kolkman, Ian Clark and Barbie Clark.

The current qualifications for CMGA Evaluators include:

1. Be a licensed CMGA judge and have judged at least 2 CMGA sanctioned shows.
2. Successfully pass the CMGA Evaluation training, led by at least one qualified CMGA Evaluator, which includes:
 - trial evaluating a minimum of 15 animals (must include both male and female) of varying quality (scoring from Fair to Very Good)
 - training in scoring and forms
 - training in software

A successful candidate must demonstrate competency in all these areas before being considered for apprenticeship.

3. Successfully complete at least 20 evaluations at a minimum of 2 different farms, accompanying a qualified CMGA evaluator (ie. apprenticeship).
4. Follow CMGA Biosecurity Protocol.
5. Agree to adhere to CMGA Evaluator's Code of Ethics.
6. The CMGA Board of Directors will make the final decision whether or not to hire or certify future Evaluators.

In its inaugural year, the CMGA Type Evaluation Program saw herds evaluated from Alberta to Quebec, with the breakdown as follows:

Alberta: 1 farm

Saskatchewan: 3 farms

Ontario: 3 farms

Quebec: 2 farms

A total of 125 does and 9 bucks were evaluated with both Purebred registered and Percentage animals being represented.

The program saw a small deficit in 2008, with CMGA absorbing appx \$600.00 in costs above income.

For 2009, CMGA hopes that costs to interested breeders will remain comparable with 2008. The goal of CMGA is to offer the program in a manner that is cost effective for both breeders and the Association. CMGA does not wish to utilize the Type Evaluation

program as a profit generating venture for the Association. Conversely, we do not wish to incur high costs at the Association's expense either.

As an Association, we were encouraged by the uptake in the program in its first year, and are hopeful that breeder interest and participation will grow in future years.

In 2009, the production committee plans to further refine the program, encourage further uptake of the program, and continue to work on the process of defining the criteria to Certify more Classifiers.

Congratulations to the following breeders/owners of the following animals who classified Excellent in 2008:

Darlyne and Jerry Hoberg (North Eden)	J5 Santana	Purebred Buck
Bonnie and Adrian Laman (South Coast Boers)	Ram H Mbwana	Purebred Buck
Kerry O'Donnell Kae Ronne	Ram H Rani 413R Ram H Rowena 472R Kae Ronne Promise Kolkman Michelle	Purebred Doe Purebred Doe Percentage Doe Percentage Doe

The Production committee can always use new volunteers to sit on this committee. Since 2005, the Production committee has researched, successfully obtained grants, organized and ran 3 consecutive years of Buck Test Centres in Western Canada as well as initiating and developing the Type Evaluation program.

Both the Buck Test Centres and the Type Evaluation Programs have been fairly large projects that have consumed a vast number of hours on the parts of those organizing these programs for our members.

If you are interested in the current production programs CMGA offers, or have ideas, and the time to assist with new programs, we would love to hear from you!