



British dairy goat breed identification sheet

There are seven main dairy breeds of goat in the UK: Saanen, British Saanen, Toggenburg, British Toggenburg, British Alpine, Anglo-Nubian and Golden Guernsey. Additionally the British Goat Society (BGS) recognises the British Guernsey and the British goat



British Saanen

British Saanen. This is a white goat, developed in the UK and largely influenced by imported Saanen goats. The white coat is short and fine, but freckles and patches of colour are allowed on the skin.



Pure Saanen

The Saanen is the largest breed of Swiss goat. It has white skin and a short white coat; some small pigmented areas may be tolerated. It may be horned or hornless, and tassels may be present. The profile may be straight or somewhat concave; the ears are erect and point upwards and forwards.





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British Toggenburg

British Toggenburg. This is a brown and white goat with Swiss markings and developed in the UK. A medium brown colour is the ideal, but lighter and darker colours are acceptable.



Pure Toggenburg

The Toggenburg is the traditional goat breed of the Toggenburg in eastern Switzerland. The typical mouse-grey colour with white facial markings was fixed by selective breeding in the twentieth century



Anglo Nubian

The main identifying feature of this breed is the head, which has a pronounced "roman" nose and long drooping ears. The goat has a long deep body and an upright stance. The large number of colour variations, in the short silky coat, adds to the breeds' attractions.



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British Alpine

This goat is black with white Swiss markings and has been developed in the UK. The goat should be rangy with a short fine coat. The overall effect is a most impressive animal when the black coat acquires its summer gloss. The breed can be highly individual in character and tends to be a breed for enthusiasts who like a challenge.



Golden Guernsey

The breed is strong but fine-boned and generally smaller and less wedge-shaped than other breeds. The coat is long or short, and acceptable in both forms by the breed society. Colours vary from very light to very dark gold, with occasional white markings



British Guernsey

The British Guernsey should be larger and heavier boned than the Golden Guernsey .All shades of gold, ears erect with a slight upturn and the body should be wedge shaped.