

## CANADIAN SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

### “GRADING UP” REGULATIONS”

The CSBA Constitution makes provision for grading up as covered in the following article:

Article 21 Rules of Eligibility, section 2(j)

GRADING-UP – That CSBA implement a grading-up program for the registration of sheep in Canada. The grading-up of any breed of sheep will only be done from the ram side. (Only registered full blood or purebred rams can be used in the grading-up program). The registration paper for graded-up animals will always be indicated by colour or other designation.

The 50%, 75%, 87.5%, and 93.75% animals will be identified with flock letters tattooed in the right ear and a number and year letter tattooed in the left ear, or tagged using a double tagging system with two tags approved and bearing the official identification number under the Canadian Sheep Identification program. Ewes are recorded at 50% or more and are considered as domestic purebred when they are 15/16 purebred (93.75%). Rams will only be recorded as domestic purebred if they are 31/32 pure or more. Both rams and ewes will be identified with flock letters tattooed in the right ear and a number and year letter tattooed in the left ear.

Animals may only be registered as purebred if they meet breed characteristics. Otherwise graded-up animals shall be registered and certified with their graded-up percentage but not designated as purebred.

Parentage testing shall be done on the basis of one test per breeder per 50 head graded up, with minimum of one test per year. Animals to be tested shall be determined randomly by Canadian Livestock Records Corporation. All testing is to be done at the breeders' expense. Once animals have attained the domestic purebred status, they fall under the regular one in 500 status for parentage testing.

The breeders involved must authorize the implementation of the grading-up program on a breed by breed basis. Requests for approval may be made by at least five CSBA members (in writing) who have registered animals of the breed within the past two years, or by an organized breed association. (The board may, at their discretion, accept an application from fewer than five members.) Following receipt of the request by the Board of Directors, CSBA will poll by mail all CSBA members who have registered animals of that breed within the past two calendar years to determine their wishes. A simple majority of breeders returning the ballot voting in favour shall constitute approval. Only animals born at least 6 months after the date of final approval for a specific breed will be eligible. Grading-up done in other jurisdictions will not be recognized by the CSBA.

The Dorper, Texel, Karakul and Blackface breeds have previously been approved for grading-up.

For breeds approved for grading up, animals being registered as purebreds shall meet the minimum percentage makeup requirements and also comply with the following breed characteristics:

Texel:

- 1) Black nose and hooves with white hair on face and legs.
- 1) Head must be flat topped. No wool of any kind on top of head, hocks, knees or cannon bones.

- 2) Rump is wide. Hindquarters are full and well muscled.
- 3) Wool is white with no black fibre.

Karakul:

- 1) Fat tail (somewhat round, not long and triangular)
- 2) Newborn lambs have a tight, curly pattern (flower-shaped) in their wool.
- 3) Coarse wool
- 4) Black, grey or brown in colour. No spotted animals.

Blackface:

- 1) Nostrils are black. No pink noses.
- 2) Both sexes are horned. Rams have two thick horns, which curl back over the head, then up towards the face. Horns spiral outwards, in a relatively open fashion, as the animal ages. Ewes have two fine, symmetrical horns curling back over the head and then slightly forward at the tip. There are no polled animals.
- 3) Face and leg markings are black, or black and white. No white faces.
- 4) Fleece is fairly open with some variation in micron, but mostly a coarser, long staple wool.

In addition to the above, the following regulations set by the Board of Directors will apply:

A. Approval by breed:

Grading up must be approved on an individual breed by breed basis. Requests for approval may be made by at least five CSBA members (in writing) who have registered animals of the breed within the past two years, or by an organized breed association. (The board may, at their discretion, accept an application from fewer than five members.) Following receipt of the request by the Board of Directors, CSBA will poll by mail all CSBA members who have registered animals of that breed within the past two calendar years to determine their wishes. A simple majority of breeders returning the ballot voting in favour shall constitute approval.

B. Parentage Testing:

Parentage testing shall be done on the basis of one test per breeder per 50 head graded up, with a minimum of one test per year. Animals to be tested shall be determined randomly by Canadian Livestock Records Corporation. All testing to be done at the breeders' expense. Once animals have attained the domestic purebred status, they fall under the regular one in 500 status for parentage testing.

C. Timing: Only animals born at least 6 months after the date of final approval of the program for a specific breed will be eligible. Grading up done in other jurisdictions will not be recognized at this time by CSBA.

D. All aspects of management, record keeping, animal identification, etc. are on the same basis as registration of purebred sheep.