



# Official Handbook

The American Savanna Registry was created to give Savanna breeders the opportunity to register and track their genetics through an independent, professionally run livestock registry. The American Savanna Registry's mission is to move a unified Savanna industry into the future with a seamless registry for Savannas from all breeders.

The American Savanna Registry is a registry service only. ASR provides bills of sale, sire service memos and other documents on its website that breeders might want for their personal records, but these are not needed for registrations or transfers. All warranties are between individual breeders and are not the responsibility of ASR.

---

It is easy to use the services of the American Savanna Registry. Simply fill out a Breeder Application form and forward to our office with your annual maintenance fee. The ASR will enter your herd prefix, herd name and other information into its database. The American Savanna Registry reserves the right to accept or decline a breeder client without cause. All decisions by ASR are final.

American Savanna Registry recognizes and accepts certificate transfers from the following registering organizations:

- North American Savannah Association
- World Wide Sheep & Goat Archives
- Pedigree International

ASR reserves the right to revoke a Certificate of Registration if it is determined that the certificate was issued based upon incorrect, false or misleading information or documentation. Any client proven to have committed fraud will no longer be allowed to use ASR services.

---

## **BREED STANDARDS**

*As soon as breeders start to farm with a breed, breed standards are laid down and animals are selected for traits which mostly have no or very little economic value in order to obtain uniformity. Traits such as colour, shape of the head and horns, length of leg, straight back and type are paid a lot of attention to in the selection programme of the breeder. Not only do a number of these traits have very little economic value but some of these traits can also adversely influence the adaptability of goats.”*

— Dr. Q. P. Campbell

*“Performance Testing and Adaptability of Boer Goats”*

With the limited gene pool in the United States, it is difficult to produce the “perfect” Savanna goat. However, breeders should always strive to produce and register only those goats that will thrive and function in a satisfactory manner with the focus on maximizing economic performance. An American Savanna goat’s functional traits should outweigh aesthetic considerations.

The South African Breed Standards (available for viewing at <http://www.boergoataus.com.au/the-savannah-goat/>) note that the Savanna’s Characteristic Breed Traits include:

Easy care, parasite tolerant, exceptional hardiness. Lively alert appearance, with an even temperament. Symmetrical conformation, with legs and body not too long or too short. A thick pliable skin and a short smooth white coat, during the winter months the goats do develop extra cashmere undercoat hair for protection. The goats should have strong jaws and strong long-lasting well-developed teeth. Exhibit a long and highly productive breeding life.

American Savanna breeders also should cull for the following defects and refrain from registering any Savanna goats with these traits:

Undershot jaw. Knock knees, bandy legs, cow hocked or post legged or sickle hocked. Legs too thin or too fleshy. Weak pasterns and hoofs pointing outwards or inwards. Faulty sexual organs and udders. Any deviation from the normal body structure that will harm the functional effectiveness of the Savanna.

### **Hair Color**

The preferred Savanna hair color is white but can range from an off-white to gray. Black or brown speckles may appear on the ears. Also, most breeders with original South African import stock have seen red heads appear — with no chance of Boer crossbreeding. Solid red offspring also have been documented. Because of these occasional deviations from the norm, the color of a Savanna is not a consideration for registration purposes. Hair color will be noted on ASR certificates of registration.

### **Skin Pigment**

Dark gray or black skin pigmentation is preferred. However, because this pigmentation trait was not dominant in some imported South African Savanna genetics, many of today’s American Savannas lack complete or partial pigmentation. For this reason, skin pigmentation is not a consideration for registration purposes.

## REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

I. **HERD BOOKS** — Each animal registered with the American Savanna Registry will be registered in one of the following herd books:

A. **Fullblood** — All animals designated as Fullblood must be the offspring of Fullblood goats that can trace their pedigrees to the original imports. 100% breed purity of the sire or dam will be used when calculating the breed purity of offspring.

B. **Purebred** — All male and female Savannas designated as Purebred must be at least 15/16 (94%-rounded up) Savanna blood. The exact breed purity of the sire and dam will be used when calculating the breed purity of offspring.

C. **Percentage** — All goats with a breed purity of 93% or less will be registered in the Percentage Herd Book. The exact breed purity of the sire and dam will be used when calculating the breed purity of offspring. Bucks and does may be registered in the Percentage Herd Book.

II. **DOCUMENTATION FOR REGISTRATION** — All required information must be submitted with the application to register an animal in any of the American Savanna Registry Herd Books. An **ASR Animal Registration Application** form must be submitted with the appropriate fees.

To dual-register a goat that you own from another Savanna registry, copies of the front and back of the original registration certificate from the other registry must accompany the **ASR Certificate Transfer Application**, along with the appropriate fees.

To register an offspring from parents from another Savanna registry, copies of the sire's and dam's registration certificates from an approved organization must accompany the **ASR Animal Registration Application**, along with the appropriate fees.

ASR certificates of registration are issued using information provided to the American Savanna Registry by its breeder clients. Information utilized from certificates of other registries is accepted at face value and is intended for documentation only. Neither American Savanna Registry nor its owners, officers or agents accept liability nor shall they be answerable in damages for the issuance of any certificate based on inaccurate information furnished by the applicant. ASR has no obligation or responsibility to independently investigate or determine whether the information provided in any application for registration or transfer is correct.

III. **TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP** — Transfers can be submitted by either the buyer or seller. An **Ownership Transfer Form** should be completed, signed and dated by the seller. The original ASR registration certificate and transfer of ownership form must be submitted with the appropriate fees.

IV. **RESPONSIBILITY** — All contracts, agreements and verification are between buyer and seller. American Savanna Registry is a pedigree tracking and registry service only. Responsibility for documentation of each transaction or procedure (natural breeding, artificial insemination, semen transactions, embryo harvest and transfer, etc.) remains with the parties involved. All agreements made are strictly between those parties. American Savanna Registry is not responsible for determining the validity of any claims or outcome of any grievances.

V. **IDENTIFICATION** — All animals should be identified with both permanent and external identification. Acceptable forms of permanent identification are tattoos in the ear or tail web and microchips. Ear tags are not considered permanent. Animals that are permanently identified must also have some form of external identification such as a tag in the ear or on a neck chain.

**Tattoos.** The herd prefix should be in the right ear; the left ear should be tattooed with a letter to indicate the year the animal was born and a unique identifying number (usually the ear tag number).

**Year Indicator.** ASR uses the meat goat industry standard alphabet identifiers to indicate the year in which a goat was born. These are:

2012 — B  
2013 — C  
2014 — D  
2015 — E  
2016 — F  
2017 — G  
2018 — H  
2019 — J  
2020 — K  
2021 — L  
2022 — M  
2023 — N  
2024 — P  
2025 — R

The letters I, O, Q and U are not used.

VI. **NAMING OF ANIMALS** — All animals registered in the Fullblood, Purebred or Percentage Herd Books must be named. Names must be preceded by the breeder's farm name or herd prefix. Ear tag numbers or other identifiers can be used as names.

VII. **OFFICIAL ASR FORMS** — Forms for all ASR transactions are available for download on the company website ([www.americansavanna.com](http://www.americansavanna.com)).

**Client Application.** All persons wishing to do business with ASR must complete and sign a Client Application. The registrar will assign a Client File Number and create a database file for future transactions. The applicant also uses this form to register a herd prefix. The herd prefix is a series of numbers and/or letters that is unique and identifies each individual herd in the database. Once assigned, the prefix is used for animal identification by tattooing the herd prefix in the right ear of each animal registered by the applicant. The American Savanna Registry reserves the right to accept or decline clients without cause.

**Animal Registration Application.** This form is used when applying for a certificate of registration for an animal. A new owner's information can be included if the animal was sold prior to registration. Fees for both registration and transfer must be included if both transactions are desired.

**Ownership Transfer Form.** Use this form to transfer an ASR-registered goat to a new owner. This form, the original certificate of registration and the correct fee can be submitted by either the buyer or seller. The application must be signed by the seller.

**Certificate Transfer (Dual Registration).** Use this form to transfer registered goats that you own from another Savanna registry to ASR. Copies of the front and back of the original registration certificates from the other registry must accompany the application.

**DNA Request.** Use this form when requesting a DNA test for an ASR-registered animal. A hair sample and the animal's original certificate of registration must be submitted at the time of application. Instructions for collecting a DNA hair sample are printed on the bottom of the form. The sire's DNA information (UC-Davis VGL#) must be in the ASR database or a breeder's personal VGL file for an animal to be sire-verified. The sire's and dam's DNA must be in the database for an animal to be parentage verified. If the sire and dam are registered with another registry, their registration numbers and UC-Davis VGL numbers must be included on the application. If the sire's and dam's DNA information is not available, the animal will be genotyped and its DNA information will be filed in the ASR database for reference. The animal's DNA status (SV, PV or GT) will be printed on the certificate of registration and the certificate will be returned to the owner.

**Order Form/Fee List.** Complete and mail this form with each order. Attach check or money order. Customer must be a registered ASR client. View the form online for current pricing. ***If you prefer, we can e-mail an invoice with a secure link for entering your credit card information.***

# How to read our registration numbers

Our numbers tell a story if you know how to read them.

Fullblood and Purebred Example: **A15M705ABC7**

A = ASR  
15 = Year born (2015)  
M = Male  
705 = Eartag number  
ABC = Breeder's herd prefix  
7 = computer-generated security code

Crossbred Example: **A16F604ABC18X**

A = ASR  
16 = year born (2016)  
F = female  
604 = eartag number  
ABC = breeder's herd prefix  
18 = computer-generated security code  
X = 93% or less breed purity

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**American Savanna Registry  
457 Hankins Road  
Sarah MS 38665**

**americansavanna@gmail.com • 662-519-9697**

**www.americansavanna.com**