

STANDARD of EXCELLENCE

General Appearance:

All animals **must** meet the frame score requirements of the Square Meaters breed, and should be well-balanced and proportionate displaying good length, width, spring of rib, adequate muscle and smoothness. Animals should have a straight top line, with minimal slope from hooks to pins and should express well defined muscle development overall and especially in the hindquarters. Undue deposits of fat must be avoided.

Animals should be free moving with balanced tracking and gait. Bulls should be masculine with breed character and capable of natural service, displaying adequate reproductive organs with a minimum scrotal circumference of not less than 280 mm at 18 months of age or 320mm at 24 months of age. Females should be of feminine disposition with breed character, showing adequate feminine reproductive characteristic, enabling them to be prolific and capable in rearing their progeny.

Colour:

Animal colour shall be any solid shade of grey, namely silver, silver grey, grey, dark grey (Dark Grey includes a colour spectrum of various shades of brown) Black animals may occasionally occur, Black females are only eligible for Class B registration and therefore cannot be exhibited. Black bulls cannot be registered and black steers may not be exhibited as Square Meaters. In respect to the term "solid shade" it requires that the animal's colour is consistent over the animal allowing for characteristic dappling or classical "mulberry" appearance over the back of darker animals. Rarely small, irregularly shaped patches of coloured hair can appear on the body called birth marks. Birthmarks are never white (Pink Pigmentation) and although not desirable shall not be discriminated against.

Skin:

Skin should be dark coloured, loose and supple. Some pink skin (white hair) **although not desirable**, is acceptable only on the underbody which can include on the testis or udder. It is preferred that there be no pink skin on the underbody forward of the naval scar (for females) or forward of the pizzle (for bulls), however, if pink skin (white hair) is further forward on the underbody it must not be visible with the animal in a standing position. Pink Pigmentation (white hair) is highly discouraged and is not acceptable on any other part of the body.

Head:

Animals must be naturally polled with good length from eye to muzzle. Animals born with scurs or showing signs of surgical removal of scurs are not eligible for registration. The muzzle and area around the eyes must be dark in colour, denoting dark skin pigmentation. The eyes should be clear, alert and set wide apart. The ears should be well placed. The jaw must be strong, neither undershot nor overshot.

Legs:

The legs must be well placed. The animal should stand square, i.e. equally on all parts of the foot and the feet should be dark in colour and well formed. Cow hocks and sickle hocks are not desirable. White hooves are not acceptable.

Temperament:

All animals should be of a quiet disposition and docile temperament.

Constitution:

All animals should be of good constitution reflecting good health and high productivity.