

ALL AMERICAN SINCE 1941



SCORE CARD FOR JUDGING COLUMBIA SHEEP		
BODY		POINTS
GENERAL APPEARANCE	A large sheep, symmetrical in outline, head erect, legs squarely placed. Rams distinctly masculine. Ewes strong but feminine.	10
HEAD	Polled; open white face with wool covering that does not impair vision, even in full fleece; moderately long ears covered evenly with white hair or very short wool; eyes clear and bright; mouth neither overshot nor undershot.	6
NECK	Medium short, with smoothness from head to shoulders. No wrinkles.	2
BACK	Strong, level, long, with thick fleshing; withers smooth, well fleshed.	10
RIBS	Well sprung, deep underline, well fleshed.	6
CHEST	Broad and deep, providing ample width between forelegs, full in front, without skin folds.	4
RUMP	Level on top to dock; wide at dock; deep in twist.	4
LEGS	Medium long in proportion to size, heavy bone, straight feet, strong pasterns.	6
LEGS/THIGH	Full to shank, thick and plump, with deep and full twist.	6
SCROTUM/UDDER	Two well developed testicles in rams. Two teats with udder well developed and well balanced in ewes.	6
TOTAL POINTS—BODY		60

FLEECE		POINTS
OVERALL QUALITY	Dense, long staple of uniform fiber quality from shoulder to thigh and carrying with uniformity to underline, with heavy yield of clean wool.	25
LENGTH	Uniform length that meets or exceeds standards for grade for 12 months' growth (3.25 inches for 60–62 spin count, 3.50 inches for 56–58 spin count, 4.00 inches for 50–54 spin count).	5
GRADE/UNIFORMITY/PURITY/HANDLE	Spin count 62–50 (micron 22.05–30.99); not more than two spin count grades in one fleece; free of hair, kemp, medullated fiber; soft, elastic, white, clean.	5
CONDITION	Fibers free from breaks and strong throughout length. Yolk white or cream, not in excess, not dry or discolored. Free from matting or coting; free of contamination.	5
TOTAL POINTS—FLEECE		40

TOTAL	100
--------------	------------

COLUMBIA SHEEP BREED STANDARDS

SIZE - Rams should be superior, large, well-balanced, and show correct Columbia type that represents the breed at its finest. Ewes should be large, well-balanced, and show correct Columbia type.

FLEECE - Ewes should shear an annual fleece of at least 12 pounds. All fleeces should grade between 22.05 and 30.99 microns (62–50 spin count), should vary by no more than two spin count grades, and contain no colored or medullated fiber, hair, or kemp. Staple length should meet or exceed the standards for grade (3.25 inches for 60–62 spin count, 3.50 inches for 56–58 spin count, 4.00 inches for 50–54 spin count).

HEAD - Should be polled and free from wool blindness, with moderately long ears covered evenly with white hair or very short wool. Hair on face and ears should be white. Occasional black hairs and pigmented spots on ears permitted; pigmentation on eyelids, nose, and fringe or lacing of ears permitted.

NECK - Should be moderately short, neatly attached and full, and preferably free from wrinkles and folds.

SHOULDERS - Should be wide, meaty, tightly laid on top, and even with backline.

CHEST - Should be wide and deep, with forelegs set well apart.

BACK - Should be long, level, wide, and strongly muscled.

RUMP - Should be long and wide, with dock carried well up.

RIBS - Should be well-sprung, wide, and deep.

THIGHS - Should be thickly muscled and well-filled in the twist.

LEGS - Should be set squarely under sheep, heavily boned, and covered with white hair below the wool line.

PASTERNS - Should be moderately short and strong.

HOOVES - May be either white or black.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Sheep with the following traits should not be registered:

HORNS - Horns, scurs, or knobs on ewes and rams. (Small scurs permitted on outstanding rams that show promise for breed improvement in production and type.)

FOLDS - Excessive wrinkles or folds on neck. A slight fold on brisket shall not be discriminated against on superior animals.

LACK OF QUALITY - Poor constitution, low productive capacity, malformed weak pasterns, crooked feet, or crooked legs.

INVERTED EYELIDS

FAULTY TEETH/MOUTH - Any tendency toward overshot or undershot jaws.

DISCOLORATIONS - Colored hair on legs. (Refer to standards for pigmentation on ears, eyelids, nose.)

INADEQUATE HAIR/WOOL ON FACE & EARS - Covering should protect from sunburn.

WOOL BLINDNESS - Wool should not impair vision, even in full fleece.

FLEECE DEVIATIONS:

SHORT STAPLE - Staple length less than standard for wool grade for 12 months of growth (or as calculated to be proportional for periods less than or greater than 12 months).

UNEVENNESS - More than two spin count grades of wool.

IMPURITIES - Hair, kemp, or medullated fiber within fleece.

LIGHTNESS - Loose, lacking in density.

GRADE - Anything less than 22.05 microns or greater than 30.99 microns.

COLORATION - Any colored wool