

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Santa Gertrudis Standard of Excellence is measured under 4 categories

- Breed character
- Functional efficiency
- Conformation
- Colour

Individual animals may be rejected when presented for classification due to an absence of "Desirable" characteristics and shall be rejected for manifestations of "Undesirable" characteristics considered to be extreme or for hereditary or non-hereditary deformities and/or abnormalities and/or objectionable characteristics, examples of which (not intended to be exclusive) are set out in the "Disqualification" column below.

ITEM	DESIRABLE	UNDESIRABLE	DISQUALIFICATION
A. BREED CHARACTER			
	Showing true Santa Gertrudis type	Lacking Santa Gertrudis type	
B. FUNCTIONAL EFFICIENCY			
1. Fertility	Longevity Cows - feminine, regular calving Bulls - masculine, virile, high libido	Irregular calving Cows - lacking femininity Bulls lacking masculinity	Hernia, malformed genitalia. Abnormal reproductive organs.
2. Sheath & Navel	Retracted prepuce, small orifice, flat medium sized navel flap. Less than 45 degree angle from the horizontal.	Loose, parietal prepuce. Large navel flap. Open Orifice.	Bulls with sheaths extending below the H to K line (the imaginary line between the break in the rear (lower) Hock and the break in the Knee). Non-retractable prepuce. Abnormal or excessive sheath and/or navel structure.
3. Testicles	Adequate size. Good conformation and tone.	Too small or too large. Pendulous. Tied. Permanently retracted. Unsatisfactory conformation and/or tone.	TEST
4. Udder & Teats	Well attached, balanced. Fine teats of moderate length.	Meaty and/or loosely attached udder. Large teats. Large supernumerary teats.	Very large or bottle teats. Excessive udder.
5. Disposition	Alert, easily managed.	Nervous	Extremely nervous and/or aggressive
6. Size	Well grown for age, fast gaining.	Lacking growth or weight for age.	

7. Hair (dependent on environment)	Short, straight, slick coat.	Excessive curly or coarse hair.	
8. Hide	Loose, vascular, moveable.	Tight, thick. Excessive skin folds.	
9. Legs	Squarely set, sound joints.		Bow legged. Post legged. Calf kneed. Straight hind pasterns that don't flex. Straight and/or Sickie hocked. Cow hocked. Low pasterns.
10. Feet and Hoofs	Even claws, solid dark pigment.	pigment. Turned out. Pigeon toed. Uneven claws. Light or multi-coloured pigmentation. Low heels.	
C. CONFIRMATION			
1. General Form or Type	Symmetrical, balanced, thick, long and deep bodied, well sprung ribs, muscular. Good bone, strong legs with free movement; males thicker and well muscled; females refined in forequarter	Flat sided, coarse and rough. Light boned. Lack of free movement.	
2. Head	Showing masculinity or femininity according to sex; broad, slightly convex forehead, straight profile.	Long and narrow, dish face. Short.	Wry
a. Horns	Horned or Polled		
b. Ears	Medium to large size, slightly drooping, open forward.	Small upward pointing.	Vestigial ears.
c. Eyes	Clear, moderately hooded, strongly pigmented.	Recessed. prominent. Fat polyps.	Entropion
d. Muzzle	Broad and large	Narrow, smutty nose	Wry nose Black - Overshot or undershot jaw
3. Neck	Smooth attachment Good extension	U neck, very short	
4. Shoulder	Free moving, smooth and well-muscled. Bulls - thick, well defined, heavy muscling. Cows - smooth, with moderate muscling.	Open or prominent. Straight, high	
5. Brisket	Moderately broad	Excessive fat, downward sloping. Narrow	
6. Heart Girth	Deep, broad, full.	Pinched	
7. Back	Broad, strong	Sway back	Roach back. Fish back.
8. Loin	Broad, full	Narrow, weak	

9. Ribs	Well sprung	Flat sided	
10. Hips	Broad, somewhat rounded on top	Prominent	
11. Rump	Long, broad, moderate slope - hip to pin -	Square. High sacral bone. Recessed tail insertion.	Short, narrow, droopy
12. Tail	Smooth insertion, good switch, thick and long.	Short, thin.	Tail deformities eg. wry.
13. Hind Quarters	Broad, muscular, wide between pins. Bulls - thick and well muscled Cows - deep with moderate muscling.	Narrow, high twist.	Double muscling.
D. COLOUR			
1. Coat	Solid Santa Gertrudis Red (Light or dark)	Occasional white hairs falling short of roan condition. Dilution, light or dark spots in other areas. Very light red. Blackish red. Birth marks.	White spots out of underline. White underline exceeding 25% of the total area. Fawn or cream colour. Brindling or roan condition. Black hair.
2. Skin	Red pigmentation	Some black	Solid black