

Nigerian Dwarves shown for the first time at an ADGA National Show

The Nigerian Dwarf breed accomplished another milestone in its history when it was shown for the first time at an American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA) National Show. ADGA, the largest dairy goat registry in the nation, recognized the Nigerian Dwarf breed several years ago. Since that time, it has surpassed registration numbers of several of the other recognized breeds in ADGAs registry, as well as qualifying for acceptance into the National Show.

This year's inaugural show, held in Louisville, Kentucky in June was judged by Jennifer Lohman Peterson of Wisconsin, with Ed Cavanagh of Ontario serving as the consulting judge. A total of 190 Nigerian Dwarves were shown (81 junior does and 109 senior does), surpassing both Oberhasli and Recorded Grades in entry size.

Rosasharn Farm from Massachusetts dominated the show and won the honor of exhibiting the first-ever ADGA National Champion and Reserve Champion Nigerians: Rosasharn Haiku and AGS Rosasharn Buckwheat Honey, respectively. The herd is owned by Anne Petersen and her daughter Margiana Petersen-Rockney. The Rosasharn Herd was also named Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor in the Nigerian Dwarf breed, owned the Premier Sire (AGS Rosasharn's Tiger L) and the Total Performer (AGS Rosasharn's Buckwheat Honey).

The top five placements in each age class were as follows:

Junior Kids: 1. Rosasharn BB Poetry In Motion, Petersen; 2. NC Promisedland Sharp Tempest, Harrell; 3. Elmwood Columbine's Sunflower, Elmwood; 4. Ashaway Farms TW Almond Joy, Gallaway.

Intermediate Kids: 1. Rosasharn BB Honey Moon, Petersen; 2. Elmwood Hennessey's Gardenia, Stauffer; 3. Rosasharn BB Blakmadonna Honey, Petersen; 4. NC Promisedland RC Mardis Gras, Harrell; 5. Ashaway Farms BS Bambi, Gallaway.

Senior Kids: 1. Little Tots Estate Melica, Repp; 2. Urban Acres PP Summer Poppy, Williams; 3. Agape Oaks GHR Tiramisu, Agape Oaks; 4. Wood & Stream AA Sugar Cookie, Kitchen; 5. Urban Acres PP Gold Soul, Williams.

Junior Yearlings: 1. NC Promisedland RC Bella, Heaven's Hollow (Junior Champion); 2. Little Tots Estate Camellia, Repp (Res. Junior Champion); 3. Dill's BH Happy Birthday, Dorsey; 4. Little Tots estate Cerastium, Repp; 5. Rosasharn Carolina Silver Bell, Petersen.

Senior Yearlings: 1. Dill's XM Pantastic, Dorsey; 2. Piddlin Acres BD Prima Dona, Ciesynski; 3. Kaco Yellow Rose Spirit O Love, Kaco Yellow Rose; 4. Elmwood Rose's Daisy, Stauffer; 5. NC Promisedland RC Zenith, Harrell.

Milking Yearlings: 1. The W.H. Esther, Wren Farm; 2. Little Tots Estate Leucothoe, Repp; 3. Little Tots Estate Peach, Sweet Blossom; 4. NC Promisedland RB Moonshine, Harrell; 5. Pholia Farm HJ Hera, Caldwell.

Two Year Olds: 1. GCH NC Promisedland Pal Macarena, Harrell; 2. AGS TX Twincreaks SEM Windswept, Sweet Blossom; 3. CH Dill's XM Keena, Dorsey; 4. AGS Dill's XM Shimmer, Dorsey; 5. Rosasharn TL Justice, Rosasharn.

Three Year Olds: 1. Buttin' Heads Hall Pass, Jones 5; 2. AGS Dill's TG Brand New Girlfriend, Dorsey; 3. Agape Oaks CK Hope, Agape Oaks; 4. Velvet Acres Hennessey, Elmwood; 5. Atwood Acres FT

Mayflower, Brown.

Four Year Olds: 1. Rosasharn P Haiku, Petersen (Grand Champion); 2. Wood Bridge Farm Wisabella, Ausman; 3. CH AGS Dill's FH Doo Wop, Dorsey; 4. CH Wood Bridge Farm Well Honeybun, Ausman; 5. GCH NC Promisedland Rain-Beau, Harrell.

Five/Six Year Olds: 1. Rosasharn TL Almond Joy, Petersen; 2. AGS Dill's AC Tranquility, Dorsey; 3. GCH AGS Jobi Deana, Caldwell; 4. AGS Rosasharn TL Bewitched, Petersen; 5. AGS Buffalo Clover Princess, Nelson.

Aged Does: 1. AGS Rosasharn's Buckwheat Honey, Petersen (Reserve Grand Champion); 2. GCH AGS Piddlin Acres PV Feeltherythm, My Kids Farm; 3. CH AGS Sugar Creek PT Ring-Neck Dove, Wood Bridge Farm; 4. GCH AGS Little Tot's Estate Bambusa, Repp; 5. GCH AGS Sm3pines Juren's Sugar Glider, Repp.

Congratulations to all the 2010 ADGA National Show Nigerian Dwarf exhibitors who made the first Nigerian Dwarf show a

big success. They were:

Agape Oaks, TX; Ashaway Farm, OH; Atwood Acres, KY.

Body Shops, MN; Buffalo Clover, TX; Dill's, OK; Dreams Come True, AZ.

Elmwood, CO.

Gravel Ends, KS.

Heaven's Hollow, CO.

IK Caprines, AR.

J-Nels, NC; Jones 5, IN.

Kaco Yellow Rose, GA.

Little Tots Estate, GA.

M&M Hobby, WI; Musemark, MS; My Kids Farm, AK.

NC Promisedland, NC.

Pholia Farm, OR; Piddlin Acres, TX.

Rainbow Ridge, WI; Rockspring, PA;

Rosasharn, MA.

Sweet Blossom, TX.

Tiny Tales Farm, KS.

Urban Acres, CA.

Victorian Hill, MO.

White Rock Farm, WV; Wood & Stream,

MN; Wood Bridge Farm, OH; Wren Farm,

MN.

Nigerian Dwarf Breed Standard (ADGA)

The Nigerian Dwarf is a miniature breed of dairy goat originating in West Africa and developed in the United States. The balanced proportions of the Nigerian Dwarf give it the appearance of the larger breeds of dairy goats, but does stand no more than 22.5" (57 cm) and bucks no more than 23.5" (60 cm). Any color or combination of colors is acceptable. The medium length ears are erect and alert. The face is either straight or dishd, and the hair is short and fine.

Faults:

Moderate: Mature does less than 17 inches and mature bucks less than 17 inches.

Moderate to serious: Roman nose.

Disqualifications: Pendulous ears. LaMancha type ears. Mature does over 22.5" and mature bucks over 23.5".

Measuring:

Dairy goats are to be measured at the highest point of their withers. The front legs shall be set as squarely as possible underneath the withers. The rear legs shall be set so that when an imaginary is drawn

from the pin bone to the ground, it passes through the hock. The handler shall have one hand on the goat's collar and the other hand not touching the goat. The head shall be held alertly, but not stretched up to artificially reach a minimum height or pushed down to artificially remain under a maximum height. The goat shall be measured on a solid, level surface.

The herdbook:

The ADGA Nigerian Dwarf herdbook is a closed herdbook, meaning that only purebred animals originating from the ADGA and AGS herdbooks can be registered. There is no provision for the recordation of grade animals with Nigerian Dwarf breeding. In fact, crossbred animals with Nigerian Dwarf breeding are not eligible for recordation with ADGA or AGS. Some breeders who are crossbreeding Nigerian Dwarves with the standard sized dairy breeds are recording their animals as "Miniatures" through other registries such as the Miniature Dairy Goat Association.

As of 2009, the Nigerian Dwarf ranked as the fourth of the eight breeds registered with the American Dairy Goat Association.

England

pie in full drag!

Even at Stonehenge, Hilary kept to her schedule: "Chop, chop, time to move on!" We were to be dinner guests in Guildford, Surrey, just south of London. Our hosts were Nick Parr and Michael Ackroyd, breeders of Ashdene Saanens and Theban Toggenburgs. Both are BGS judges; Nick is Vice-Chair of BGS and Honorary Solicitor. As well, Nick is a second generation breeder of Toggenburgs, known for a sequence of nine continuous generations of British champions. Some believe the three greatest BGS Saanens of all time are Didgemere Dream, Mostyn Daphne and Ashdene Metaphor. The latter is not only a champion with 69 challenge certificates, but also broke the World Record for lifetime milk production. Nick and Michael have been together since their school days and have won the prestigious Breeders Cup 14 times. Michael had prepared an elaborate spread of roasted lamb and a wide variety of vegetables. Dessert was fresh berries with creme fraiche. The latter is alright, but not Devon cream. I was leaving England the next morning to fly on to Geneva, and none too soon. Any more cream tea and my clothes would not have fit!