



The PEI breed



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Characteristic :

Weight of the female : 25 à 40 kg

Maternal qualities :

Prolificacy : 2.28 kid/farrowing
Annual productivity : 2.57 kid/female/year
Fertility : 96 %

Meat qualities :

Birth weight : 2.3 kg
Weight at 30 days : 5.3 kg
Weight at 90 days : 10.2 kg
Weight at 7 months : 20 kg

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Origin and breeding area.....

The cultural use of animals for meat production, coupled with a mixing of races from various import and an adaptation of animals to the pedoclimatic context of the Island of Reunion, have contributed to the appearance of a Reunion breed : The Pei breed. The primary population of this breed is characterized by a wide variety of phenotypes.

Ability and characteristics.....

Pei breed goats are part of the cultural and historical heritage of Reunion. Its three centuries of adaptation enabled it to gain strong characteristics. This breed has a very good maternal ability. Its body must have harmonious and symmetric shapes with a strong and excavated arched back. The female should have a wide pelvis characteristic for giving birth.

Current methods of recovery.....

Pei goat is an animal of small size used for meat production. Characterized by its hardiness, the breed presents reduced energy requirements. The nutritional effectiveness of this goat, which puts natural grazing forage to good use in frequented areas, reduces the costs for the production of kids. The meat of this animal has a particular taste appreciated and sought after by consumers.

Selection program

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The integration at the late twentieth century of the Boer breed, which has superior meat qualities, has contributed to the absorption of a large part of the herd Pei. The fear of seeing the disappearance of this breed, which is part of the cultural heritage of the Reunion, justifies today the establishment of preventative measures in order to conserve it. The first step in the recognition of this breed at the national level as a low actual race was the establishment of a breed standard. A census of the population of Pei must be made in respect with

the Sectorial Goat Programme financed by the ODEADOM. It is essential to keep the goat as Pei gene pool for its resistance to diseases and its maternal qualities.

