



The Rove goat

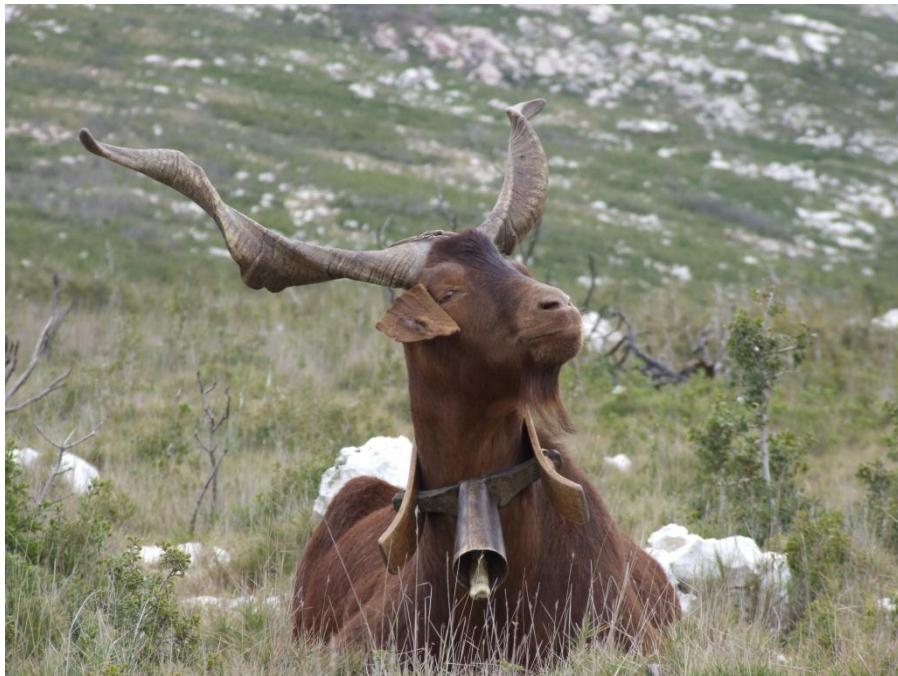


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Origin and breeding area.....

It is over time, under the effects of natural selection in the hills of the Mediterranean hinterlands, that the Rove goat is born and takes the name of its birthplace.

Currently, the Alps Provence Côte d'Azur condenses more than 60 % of the population and nearly half of the breeders. More generally, the great South East gathers about 90 % of the farms.

History and ability.....

This breed is often encountered in the large sheep herd in Provence. They seasonally move to summer pastures in the Alps. They had many roles: lead the flock of sheep, feeding the lamb twins or orphans, provide some food subsistence for the farmer with milk and meat.

After almost extinction, the population of Rove goats made good progress to reach nearly 6000 goats today .

It is currently one of the most local goat breeds represented.

Current methods of valorisation.....

With its cheese yielding capacity, its meat qualities and its performance to enhance poor pastures, this breed is more and more preferred in the pastoral installation projects in the Mediterranean region.

Long hunted for its slightly too intense appetite for young trees, the Rove goat gradually found favour with many elected officials and even forest keepers. Many installations have been realized through the provision of lands to clear in a hurry.

Characteristic.....

The Rove goat is a stocky animal with thick and solid members, and large roofs supporting a well balanced muscular mass. These characters represent a selection objective for meat, compared to other french goat breeds selected for milk.

Population :

5 500 goats in 2007,
150 farms

Weight of the male : 70 to 90 kg
Weight of the Female : 45 to 55 kg

Qualities :

Hardiness, adaptation to dry climate.
Values very poor pastures.
Prolificacy, cheese yielding capacity (rate).
Mixed race with a good meat yield (nearly 50%).

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Conservation program.....

The Association for Defence of the Rove Goats aims: to establish the breed standard and to safeguard it, to ensure the development of the breed and promote the products, to carry out studies and actions needed to achieve these objectives, to gather the breeders, the passion and anyone interested in the breed and its herd management.

