

Texel Sheep Breeders Society
Breed Scorecard

The following breed scorecard is considered a description of the ideal Texel in the United States. Not all Texel sheep will initially conform completely to this ideal, but they are goals to which we can aspire.

Texel sheep are shown “slick sheared” and it is recommended that they be shorn within 10 days of the show. Since muscling is a primary attribute of the Texel breed, no wool should hide the conformation of the sheep.

Scorecard values are for the use of judges at Texel shows.

General Appearance: 15 points

- Medium sized, well-muscled with an overall balance
 - Mature rams should not exceed 34” in height at the shoulder.
 - Mature ewes should not exceed 30” in height at the shoulder.

- Mature body weights:
 - Yearling rams 160-235 lbs.
 - Yearling ewes 150-170 lbs.

Head: 10 points

- Strong, triangular head
- No white wool on head; only short, white hairs
- Wide, correct mouth
- Black, wide nose
- Ears horizontal, somewhat thick, with some black spots tolerated (but not desirable)
- Black eye lids and tear ducts

Neck: 5 points

- A thickly muscled neck that blends well into shoulders (Ewes will have a more refined neck than rams)
- Slight wrinkling on neck tolerated

Shoulders and Chest: 20 points

- Front quarter is broad and deep, smoothly blending into the ribcage. The hips should be wider than the shoulders.

Back, Loin, and Rump: 25 points

- Back is wide, straight, long and well-muscled
- Loin is solid, thickly muscled, long, wide and deep (ultrasound evaluation preferred)
- Rump is wide, well-rounded, and level with a good depth of twist
- A sloping tail head is recognized as a Texel trait

Feet and Legs: 20 points

- Wide set and square under the animal, standing well on all four corners
- No wool on legs below the knees and hocks- only short, white hair
- Correct, strong and straight pasterns and legs with a correct set of hocks
- Black Hooves

Scrotum and Udder: 5 points

- Testicles should be uniform and adequate size for age, well-descended from the body, and free from abnormalities. Scrotum should be free from splits.
- Brood ewes should not have a broken udder

Undesirable Qualities

- Wrinkles on body
- Black or brown wool
- Dewlaps on neck
- Spots on the hide that do not extend into the wool are acceptable.

Disqualifications:

- Testicular abnormalities or one testicle
- One teat on ewe, or broken udder
- Pink or brown nose or feet
- Black or brown spots larger than a quarter that extend into the fleece.

General Comment

The TSBS supports AVMA recommendations for docking and we discourage surgical alterations that are not performed under the recommendation by a veterinarian for the sole purpose to benefit the health of the individual animal.