



JACOB SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

INSPECTION COMMITTEE FACT SHEET

APPENDIX CERTIFIED (AC) REGISTRATION

March 2020

DEFINITION FROM THE GUIDEBOOK:

Appendix Certified (AC) Ewes: AC'd ewes are considered purebred but do not, for reasons such as color or marking, meet the breed standard. Ewe progeny (no rams) from **registered parents of any generation** which do not conform to the breed standard can be placed into the **AC** category. **All** progeny (male or female) from **AC'd** ewes, bred to registered rams, are eligible for inclusion into the **Foundation Flock (FF)** after passing inspection.

Rams cannot be recorded into the AC category. They can only be "passed" or "failed."

DISCUSSION AND ILLUSTRATIONS

The purpose of the Appendix Certified (AC) category is to provide a process for preserving the genetics of a ewe that fails to meet elements of the Jacob breed standard, but that is considered purebred by the inspection committee. Registry in the AC category means that a ewe's unseen genetics will not be lost to the gene pool if she has relatively marginal faults and her dam and sire are registered. Through this process, offspring of such a ewe may also be registered, provided that they are sired by a registered ram and pass inspection.

Breeders should understand that assigning a ewe to the AC category DOES NOT MEAN SHE HAS BEEN REJECTED FOR REGISTRATION. It does mean that her offspring will be more closely monitored when offered for inspection, and that future generations that also fail to meet the standard will not be registered. In other words, where the fault is corrected in the next generation – often by breeding to a ram that offsets the dam's fault(s) – those offspring would be registered. However, where unacceptable traits *are* passed along to her offspring, their registration is limited.

Some history Immediately after establishment of the JSBA registry, there was also a category that was applied when a ewe did not PASS inspection but that possessed sufficient Jacob traits to consider conservation of her genetics. These ewes were defined as "non-conforming," were not considered to be registered in the flock book/database, and were not generally issued an inspection certificate.¹

¹ Early in JSBA's history, there was not always consistency in the handling of non-conforming ewes, and some may have been listed in early flock books.

Female offspring of non-conforming ewes could be registered in the AC category if they passed inspection (meaning that the second generation of offspring could be registered in the FF category). Male offspring of non-conforming ewes were *not* eligible for registration. After several years - when a significant number of existing Jacobs had been registered - this category was no longer considered useful and was discontinued. The AC category was continued to preserve genetics of eligible ewes.

The current process JSBA now uses only the Appendix Certified category to retain purebred ewes that fail to meet the JSBA standard in the JSBA Registry. The inspection committee identifies a ewe that should be placed in the AC category during the inspection process. Note that a *ewe* may be passed, failed, or placed in the AC category. *Rams* must be either passed or failed. This is because of the greater influence of a single ram that presents an unacceptable trait on the breed as a whole.

Once a ewe is placed in the AC category, a certificate of inspection showing a registration number that begins in AC (**AC-XXXX-Year**) is issued. The certificate also includes a statement at the bottom indicating that the ewe fails to meet the breed standard and has been placed in the AC category. The AC- registration number will also appear in the pedigree section on registration certificates for her eligible progeny.

Both male and female offspring of an AC category ewe are eligible for registration, provided that:

- The AC ewe has been bred to a registered ram, and,
- The offspring of the AC'd ewe and the registered ram pass inspection.

Things to remember

- Acceptable offspring of an AC'd ewe will be placed in the FF (Foundation Flock) category in the flock book (JSBA database).
- Female lambs from an AC'd ewe can only pass or fail; they *cannot* be placed in the AC category. (That is, the AC category cannot extend through multiple generations.)
- A ewe that exhibits traits that are not consistent with basic Jacob character (e.g. a polled ewe), or one that exhibits signs of crossbreeding, will be failed rather than placed in the AC category. The AC category is intended to preserve the genetics of animals exhibiting relatively modest faults, but otherwise having sound Jacob character.

Examples of AC ewes *(note: all photos are used with permission of the sheep's owner)*

Following are examples of ewes exhibiting characteristics that are unacceptable under the standard on an otherwise sound/desirable/acceptable ewe. Each of these ewes has been placed in the AC category rather than FAILED.

Color that appears to be less than 15%



Figure1. This ewe lamb was AC'd given that she is less than 15% black.

Color that appears greater than 85% but not all black



Figure 2. This ewe lamb was placed in the AC category based on an estimate that she is 90% black.

Excessive freckling in young animals.



Figure 3. This ewe was placed in the AC category based on excessive freckling (at one year of age).

Freckling may not appear on lambs but can show up later in adults. Heavy freckling in a lamb is likely to increase with age.

Excessive quilting after the first shearing.



Figure 4. Excessive quilting in an adult fleece. This Jacob did not meet the standard and was assigned Appendix Certified status.

For additional information on excessive freckling and excessive quilting and determination of percent color, please see JSBA Inspection Committee fact sheets on those topics. If you have questions, please contact any member of the Inspection Committee.