

We will start with the abbreviations of the main goat associations:

·NDGA- is the Nigerian Dairy Goat Association

·AGS- American Goat Society

·ADGA- American Dairy Goat Association

Your goats can be registered with just one or all three.

·Doe that has a minimum of three wins CH- (Finished Champion)

·NDGA shows this as PGCH- Permanent Grand Champion

·AGS shows this as MCH- Master Champion

·ADGA shows this as CH- Champion / CH with milk star (1*M) is considered GCH

·Bucks are the same except NDGA needs four show wins to be PGCH

·Advanced Registry (AR) awards are given to qualifying does participating in the Dairy Herd Improvement Registry (DHIR). Both the AR title and the star title are awarded. For instance , a qualifying doe will be called an AR star doe.

·A doe may have multiple stars. If her dam is a *D, she is a 2*D. If her daughter earns a star, the daughter is a 3*D. If one generation missed it would go back to just *D.

·Doe that meets 1 day milk requirement- *D for AGS, *M for ADGA (or 1*M), NDGA is also *D

·Doe that meets 305 days milk requirement DHIR – AR (same with all three goat associations)

·Doe that meets 305 days milk requirement and has made MCH would be ARMCH

·Doe that meets milk requirements but did not go a full 305 days- NDGA is *DAR, perhaps she finished at 304, or 289 days. Then she earns her *D and AR. If she finishes at 305 and earns her star in either lbs of milk or lbs of butterfat she earns a *D and LT (long term). Now if she finishes 305 days and makes the requirements in both lbs of milk and lbs of butterfat, the Doe earns a +D and LT. Basically, if you see a *DLT or *DAR it just means she met the requirements for either milk or butterfat. If you see a +DAR or +DLT the doe met the requirements in both milk and butterfat.

·If you see AGS listed before a name it is because of a re-registration with ADGA, having already been registered with AGS prior. That's hoe ADGA did all the newly registered animals, after Nigerians were accepted into the registry.

·BU- is an award for Best Udder

Bucks

·Qualifying sires earn a plus sire (+S) title. For instance, a qualifying sire will be called +S (AR Herd Sire) A buck earns the title of *S (AR herd sire) through his progeny under one of the following circumstances:

1. Three AR daughters (must be out of three different dams).
2. Or two sons who are AR herd sire (not necessarily out of different dams).
3. Or two AR daughters and one AR herd sire son (not necessarily out of different dams).

·He can earn the title of ++S by qualifying with three AR daughters and two AR herd sires.

·Bucks are limited to two pluses

·A buck can also qualify for a *S title by birth through one of the following circumstances:

1. His dam is a *D and his sire is either a *S or +S
2. Both his dam and his sire's dam are *D's and both of these does qualified for both milk and butterfat.

·A buck is limited to one *S

Therefore, if a buck's dam is a *D and his sire is either a *S or a +S, and the buck himself has qualified for two pluses through his progeny, his title is ++*S.

SG- SGCH

Superior Genetics and Elite awards are both given out by ADGA to does and bucks who have participated in the Linear Appraisal and (bucks through their progeny) 305 DHI.

Does who earn higher than 85 on their Linears and their */AR are eligible for SG while does who earn 90 + on their Linears are thrown into Elite status - that means they are in either the top 15% of their breed or top 10% of their breed.

Linear Appraisal is a program that basically compares your animals to what would be considered perfect or ideal in a dairy goat.

They are given scores based on many things (conformation, mammary and the like) as to how they measure up.

It is basically a breeding tool that will help you to make good breeding decisions based on your scores and the strengths and weaknesses of each individual animal and what your herd goals are.