



# THE INDIGENOUS VELD GOAT

## *and its eco types*

Eco-type	Distribution	Body Size	Legs	Colour	Head & Profile	Ears	Horns
<b>Nguni Type (Mbuzi's)</b>	<p>The Nguni type is probably the group that occurs more abundantly than the other distinct types of indigenous goats, in Southern Africa.</p> <p>They occur specifically in the higherrainfall area stretching from the Ciskei, Transkei, Kwa-Zulu Natal, Swaziland, Mpumalanga, Northern Province, Botswana, the Caprivi, and extreme northern, high rainfall area of Namibia.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• small frame,</li> <li>• compact, but well proportioned</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strong, but fine,</li> <li>• medium to long</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• multi colours,</li> <li>• uniform colours,</li> <li>• pied,</li> <li>• dappled,</li> <li>• speckled,</li> <li>• tendency for swiss markings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• concave (hollow) to flat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• small to medium,</li> <li>• semi-pendulous,</li> <li>• lateral (side-long and outwards) and slightly forward</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• upwards and outwards with many variations</li> </ul>
<b>Cape Lob-ears</b>	<p>As this type of goat was found in the regions that the Koi (hottentots) settled it can be assumed that they migrated down the drier west coast, this is born out by the respiratory frame type and droopy lob ears from which they obtained their name.</p> <p>Dr P Lombaard and other officials of the Irene Animal Production Institute started a project to collect indigenous Xhosa goats of the Ciskei, when it became apparent that they were in danger of being completely eliminated by the development of the Boer Goat. With the help of Mr Jim Hundlebee a limited number of the goats were obtained from 1988 to 1991 and transferred to Loskop South Research Station. Only a handful of breeders in South Africa preserved some of these original multi coloured, lob eared goats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• large frame,</li> <li>• robust,</li> <li>• well-muscled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strong,</li> <li>• medium to long</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• multi colours,</li> <li>• uniform colours,</li> <li>• dappled,</li> <li>• marble-and, flowery patterns and even speckled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flat to slightly convex,</li> <li>• strong &amp; slightly long</li> <li>• inclined to a more prominent convex part on forehead between eyes and horn basis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• large, droopy lob-ears</li> <li>• inclined to be more symmetrically shaped</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• upwards and outwards, large horns,</li> <li>• inclined to be longer than the skull</li> </ul>
<b>Cape Speckled</b>	<p>As in the case of the Cape Lobear, the Cape Speckled goats were found in the region that the Koi (hottentots) settled. The migration route would be the same as the Cape Lobear. However as pointed out by Barrow (1801), presumably tribal custom and other factors through selection they became a unique eco-type of their own differing slightly from the Cape Lobear in phenotype.</p> <p>The Speckled Goat has its origin in the dry Northern Cape, Karoo area, stretching from Sutherland to Upington. Barrow (1801) wrote that near the Hartbees river in the Northern Cape he encountered some "Namaqua Hottentots (Khoisan) who possessed a herd of small handsome goats that were spotted like the leopard."</p> <p>The Speckled Goat (previously known as Northern Cape Speckled Goat) went with pioneer farmers to Namibia, around World War 1 and the "Dorslandtrek" during the previous century. Here some Namibian farmers preserved them and kept them pure. Over time breeders in South Africa bought them from these farmers, and brought them back to various parts of South Africa.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• large frame,</li> <li>• well-muscled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strong,</li> <li>• medium to long,</li> <li>• colour on legs are concentrated - to almost solid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• body is white, with red, red-brown or black spots</li> <li>• concentration of spots vary,</li> <li>• pure bloodlines breeds true to colour,</li> <li>• colour pattern is a recessive gene</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• convex (bulging) to flat,</li> <li>• rather long,</li> <li>• inclined to a convex nose bridge, with a slight dip in front of eyes,</li> <li>• majority have a white blaze</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• long &amp; large droopy lob-ears,</li> <li>• inclined to be more asymmetrically shaped</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• upwards and outwards with tips curving in,</li> <li>• horns are more or less same length as skull</li> </ul>
<b>Kunene Type (Kaokoland)</b>	<p>This breed is found in the North Western Areas of Namibia, known as the Kunene Region. It is a very dry, mountainous area with low and variable rainfall. The vegetation is Mopani-Savanna veld.</p> <p>The Himba people live a semi-transhumance lifestyle, moving with their animals to where grazing is available.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• medium frame,</li> <li>• slender</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• finely boned,</li> <li>• lanky,</li> <li>• excellent walkers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• multi colours,</li> <li>• uniform colours,</li> <li>• two toned colours,</li> <li>• pied,</li> <li>• speckled and dappled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flat to slightly convex,</li> <li>• narrow face</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• inclined to long &amp; narrow, droopy lob-ears</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• slightly up, and a little outwards,</li> <li>• usually two thirds of head &amp; in line with profile,</li> <li>• base of horns is closely spaced</li> </ul>