KARAKUL SHEPHERDS ALLIANCE ~ *where the flocks gather*
LAMB BARN WORKSHEET

The Barn Worksheet was created as a tool to help breeders observe and record information from new born lambs, which can be used for breeding decisions, completing registry applications, and to help the Alliance track the best birth coat producers.

Traits in *italics* are undesirable and animals with these are discouraged for breeding.

BEST AGE at assessment: At birth when dry, and within 6 days.

RAM   EWE   WETHER   Tag#/Name _____ Date of Birth_____ Birthweight_____

SINGLE   TWIN   TRIP   Color(s)_____Sire_____Dam_____

Color(s) Nose & Eye Rims: _____Mouth-Tongue:_____ **Mouth** normal *overbite *underbite

Horn nubs none   present   **Wattles**: none   2   1   R   L   **Poll hair** straight   wavy   woolly

Conformation classic   average   *poor

	(past mouth)	(~to mouth)	(half-way)	(~past eyes)	(1-2")				
Ears	very long	long	medium	short	elf	**Bone**	fine	average	*heavy

(OK small ewes only)

Tail (Upper) U-shape   V-shape /   very large   large   medium   small ↑   **Extra teats** no   yes   removed

Tail (Lower) docked / long   short / straight   flipped   curved   →   bends   1   2   3
(↓ hocks)   (↑ hocks)

*Use on Registration Application **Section 3 Lambs***

BIRTH COAT ASSESSMENT   Age @ evaluation _____ days   **CLTPD** = **C**URLS, **L**USTER, **T**EXTURE, **P**ATTERN, **D**EVELOPMENT

1. CURLS TYPE   pipe   walnut   waves   open   flat   *corkscrew   *nappy   *(Multiple Types, label coverage 1st, 2nd, 3rd)*
∞∞   ∞§∞§∞   ~≈   ⌈⌈   cccc

CURL SIZE   small (3/16")   medium (1/4")   large (5/16")   **CURL DEPTH** deep   normal   pressed
(Size of fibers, fine to thick)
00   oo   ∞ ~

2. LUSTER   high   good   average   *low   **3. TEXTURE** silky   strong   coarse   *harsh *woolly

4. PATTERN   geographic   moiré   ribbed   corrugated   horseshoe   *monotonous   *slight   *(2 Types, label 1st, 2nd)*
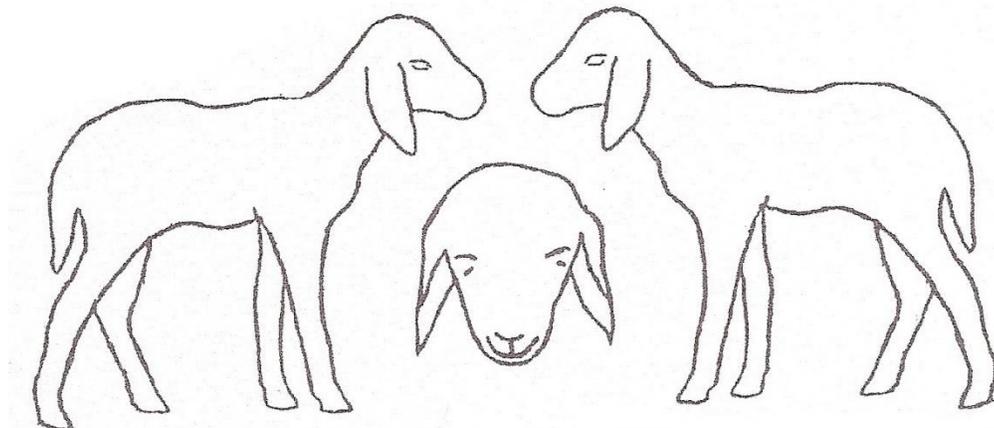
(#days curls to uncoil)   Broadtail   Persian-Broadtail   Persian   Half-Persian   *Caracul
5. DEVELOPMENT   (10 to 14+d)   (Up to 8 days)   (2 to 4 days)   long   *very long*

CARRY   excellent   good   poor   **DENSITY** high   average   low (#fibers per unit of surface)

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Sketches can be scanned for the registration certificate.
NOTES:

BIRTH COAT ASSESSMENT (Abbreviated)
A helpful list of the more *unique Persian lamb descriptive terms* to help you in the barn.

In order to place emphasis on retaining birth coat genetics, the Alliance has chosen **5**, considered to be the most important Persian lamb categories- **C**URLS, **L**USTER, **T**EXTURE, **P**ATTERN, **D**EVELOPMENT.
These five attributes establish a Letter-quality rating, with 5-Letters the highest possible—CLTPD
Ratings are voluntary, but highly encouraged. Submit photo(s) to info@karakulshepherds.org for evaluation by 3 Advisors

Top-quality sub-categories are in blue.   Undesirable traits are in rust, animals are discouraged for breeding.

AGE at assessment: Evaluations best within 6 days of birth. Curls can be monitored for up to 30 days for Development

1. CURLS TYPE: There are seven curl types. For multiple types, label the most prominent for coverage 1st, 2nd, 3rd.
Pipe Curls   - Or pencil curls. The fibers form a circular pattern into a hollow tube/pipe.
                    May be long (ribbed patterns) or short pipes (corrugated). Example: ∞∞
Walnut Curls - AKA pea or rose curls, *very short* random pipes and other curl types,
                    twists and swirls appear like shelled walnut halves. Ex: ∞§∞§
Waves   -   Are shallow, pressed to the skin; seen often with moiré/watersilk patterns. Ex: ~≈
Open Curl   -   A *lack* of curl in a group of fibers showing *plateau-like formations*. Areas of no curl, but depth. Ex: ʃ Γ
Flat Curl   -   Also *lack* of curl, *flatter* than open curl; fibers lie parallel to the skin surface, with no depth. Ex: cccc
Corkscrew -   These are overdeveloped curls, appearing as ringlets.
Nappy   -   These are small corkscrew curls that are tight and kinky.

CURL SIZE & CURL DEPTH covered on Worksheet.

2. LUSTER: High luster is an incredible shine, apparent even away from sunlight. Can be **High** Good   Average   Low

3. TEXTURE: The effect caused by fiber size, smaller diameter the most silky. Stroke the lamb's coat from
      rump to head, as Proper curl direction is *rear to front.* Choose one; if the feeling falls between two, adjoin terms.
Silky   - Small diameter fibers; very soft, can feel slippery.
Strong - Fibers a bit larger in diameter; has a feel of strength.
Coarse - Fibers are large; feels a bit rough.
Harsh   - Very large fibers; coat feels almost wiry and fibers lack pliability.
Wooly - Fibers of small diameter, crimpy, and soft, but lack curl forming ability and have no luster.

4. PATTERN: The arrangement of curls that reveals the general style of the birth coat.
                Note coverage of the 2 most prominent patterns 1st, 2nd
Geographic - Pattern resembling a relief map of mountainous country with plateaus, valleys and hills.
Moiré   - AKA watersilk; shallow, wavy pattern, often very lustrous. Curls become tighter, more distinct.
Ribbed   - Long pipe curls in more or less parallel lines, along the ribs.
Corrugated   - Shorter pipe curls quite uniform in length, frequently stacked along the spine.
Horseshoe   - Pipe curls formed in a semi-circle over the back with the open end towards neck or tail.
Monotonous - Lacks any definite pattern, uninteresting.
Slight   - Small in amount or extent.

5. DEVELOPMENT: The number of days it takes curls to uncoil, covered on Worksheet.
                Broadtail curls and waves can be monitored for up to 30 days for Development.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**Two other important birth coat attributes**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

6. CARRY: This is the extent to which the main pattern(s) cover the birth coat.

        Excellent - Pattern(s) cover the whole birth coat including sides, neck and thighs, with same texture.
        Good - Patterns cover much of the coat, but one or more areas 'run out' or have different textures.
        Poor - Main pattern covers only a portion, usually the spine, changes dramatically or disappears.

7. DENSITY: Density is the number of fibers per unit of surface, determined by feel and touch.
    High (thick) - The birth coat feels firm and springy.   Average - Soft but springy.   Low (thin) - Soft and shallow.

Discussions, photos in *The Karakul Handbook*, Lowry Hagerman 1951, available through the Alliance