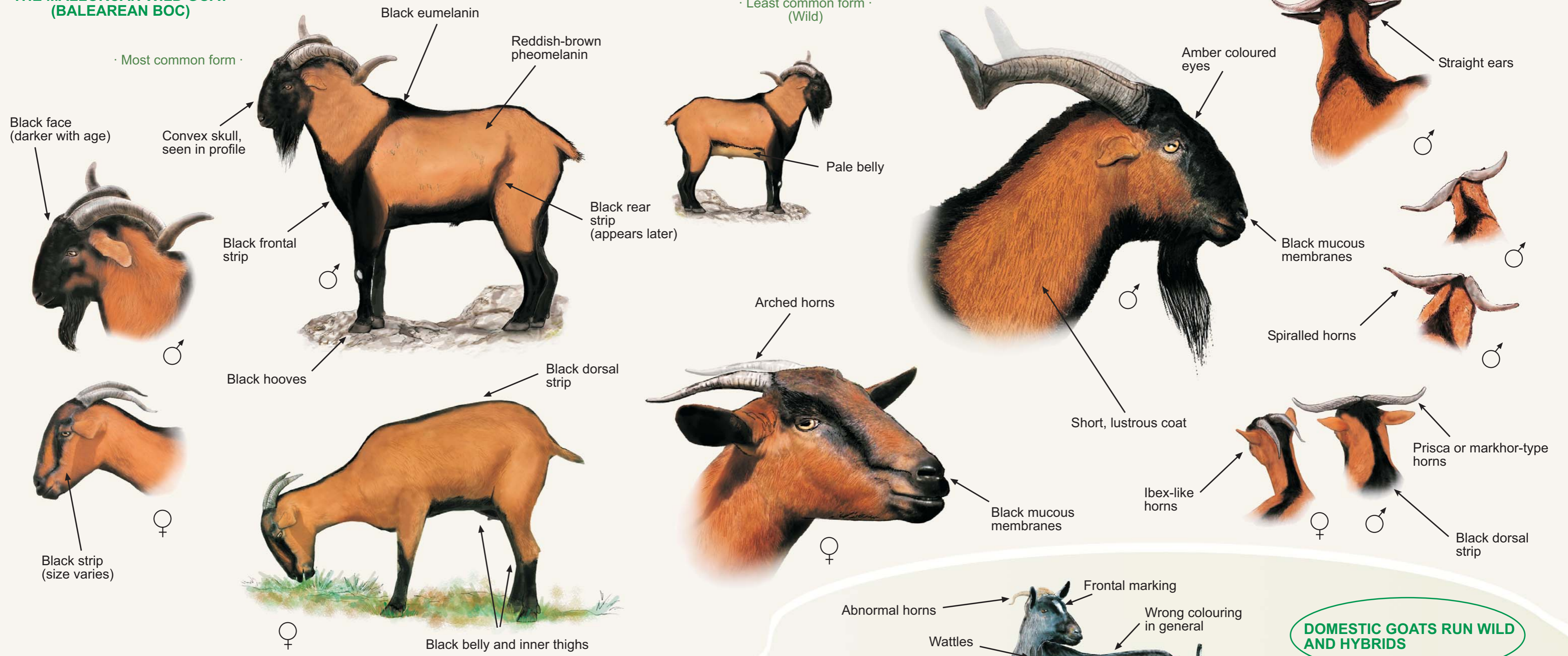
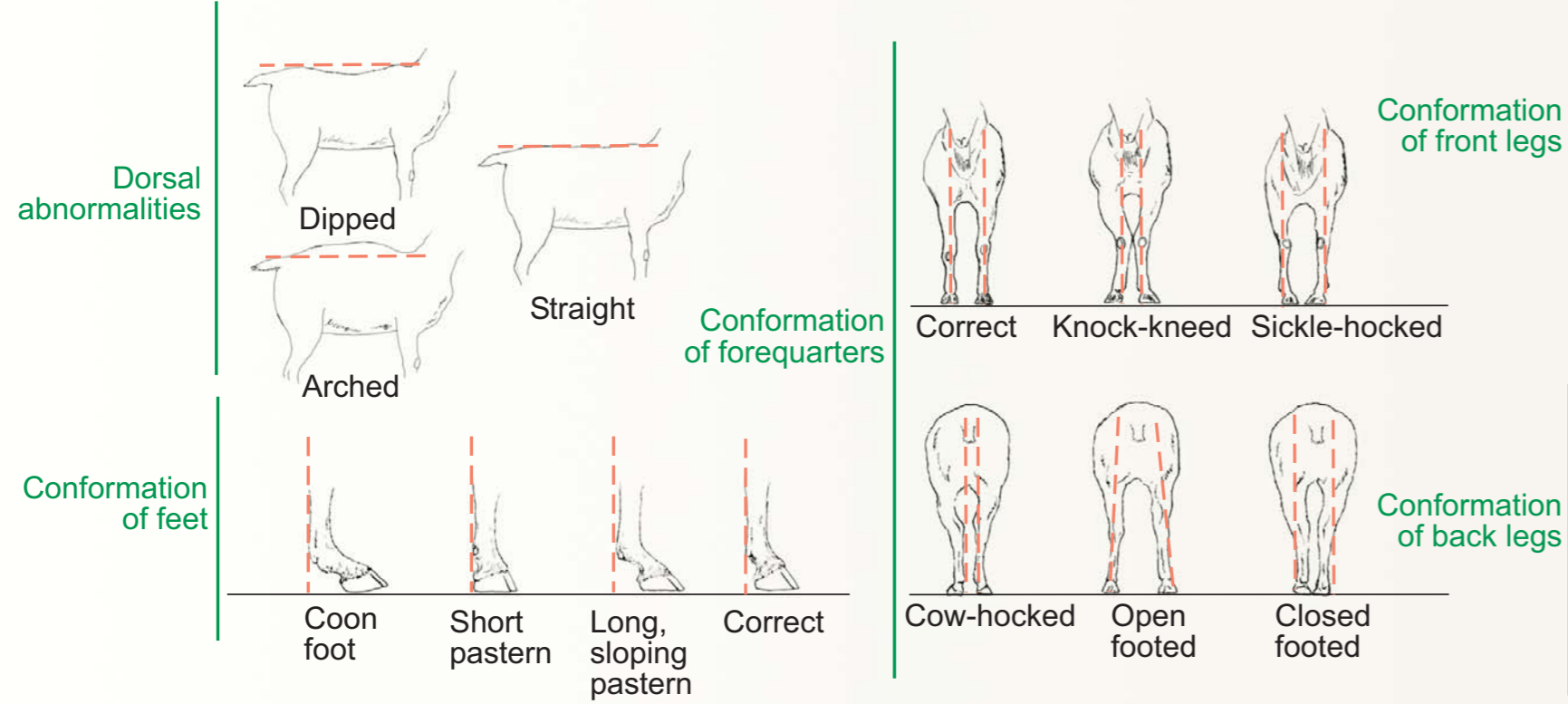


THE MALLORCAN WILD GOAT (BALEAREAN BOC)

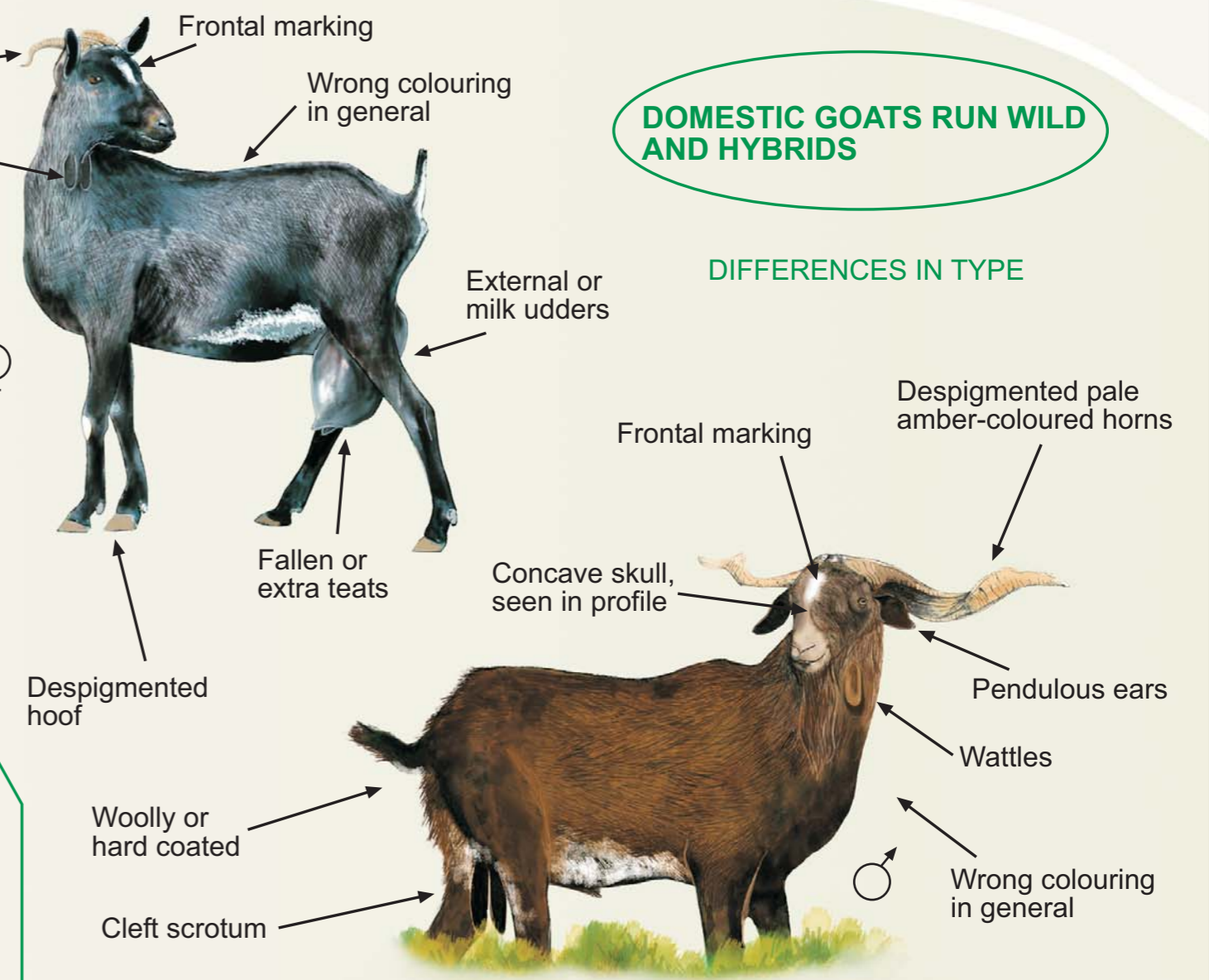


DOMESTIC GOATS RUN WILD AND HYBRIDS

CONFORMATIONAL ABNORMALITIES (mainly in domestic goats run wild, but also possible in the Mallorcan wild goat)



DIFFERENCES IN TYPE



THE MALLORCAN WILD GOAT - BALEAREAN BOC



PERMITTED WEAPONS & FORMS OF HUNTING

- Big game rifles with recommended calibres of between .243 (6.2mm) and .300 (7.8mm). Hunting with calibre-22 rifles is forbidden.
- Bows.
- Dogs and a noose. This is an age-old technique that is currently very useful in capturing live goats for study or repopulation purposes.

THE HUNTING SEASON FOR BIG GAME RESERVES: SEPTEMBER 1st - JULY 15th

The authorities must be provided with summaries of captured animals, together with the detachable flaps from tags in the case of approvable trophies.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR BIG GAME HUNTING & THE CONSERVATION OF THE MALLORCAN WILD GOAT

The *Asociación de Caza Mayor y Conservación de la Cabra Salvaje Mallorquina* (the Association for Big Game Hunting & the Conservation of the Mallorcan Wild Goat or ACAM according to its acronym in Spanish) is a non-profit-making association that strives to ensure the promotion and conservation of the Mallorcan wild goat. Its members receive specific training in order to take part in culls held on publicly-owned rural estates managed by the Departament de Medi Ambient del Consell de Mallorca, in collaboration with environmental wardens and guards from the Balearic Hunting Federation. It is essential to cull hybrid species in order to avoid damage to vegetation and to help restore populations of Mallorcan wild goats, threatened by genetic pollution and serious ecological competition from hybrid species.

For further information:

Consell de Mallorca
Departament de Medi Ambient

Tel. 34 971 173 700 / 3 731
Fax. 34 971 173 732
C/ General Riera, 111
07010 Palma (Mallorca)

www.conselldemallorca.net

Decree 91/2006. OBJECTIVES

Decree 91/2006 of October 27th, which regulates goat populations and the hunting of the Mallorcan wild goat and amends technical hunting plans, takes into account the latest scientific developments and current environmental problems in order:

- To bring the overall demographic population in line with the environment's carrying capacity and to avoid hybrid species.
- To regulate economic benefit from a hunting trophy unique to the world - the Mallorcan wild goat or *Balearian Boc*, recognized by Safari Club International, doing so in sustainable manner as the most reasonable means of promoting its recovery, conservation and management.
- To promote collaboration with institutions, private bodies, hunters, farmers and landowners in plans of a sufficiently big geographical scope to achieve positive outcomes within a reasonable period of time.

BIG GAME QUALITY CERTIFICATES (BGQC)

To be awarded a certificate, by virtue of Decree 91/2006 it is compulsory for a detailed study to be made of the corresponding rural estate's goat population (or else for a Big Game Appendix to be drafted). All-round guidance can be requested in order to draft the study or appendix in conjunction with the authorities. This study quantifies the existing goat population by sex and age and by the percentage of purebred beasts, assessed phenotypically. Other aspects are also evaluated, like the risk of non-purebred goats entering the property, control measures to be taken, the health of the population, the quality of existing trophies etc.

The Departament de Medi Ambient del Consell de Mallorca awards one of two possible categories of certificate:

- **First-class:** Awarded to game reserves with a ratio of over 90% purebred phenotypically assessed Mallorcan wild goats, in a population with an optimum density and structure. Optimum management of the said population is demonstrated.
- **Second-class:** Awarded to game reserves implementing improvements, with a 70 to 90% percentage of purebred beasts, and game reserves able to guarantee comprehensive management, with a population of 70 to 90% purebred goats, in cases in which it is not possible to fully exclude outside hybrid beasts from the reserve. A Big Game Quality Certificate is a compulsory requirement for:

- The hunting of Mallorcan wild goats and official recognition of trophies.
- The repopulation of the species and capture of live animals in order to repopulate other game reserves.
- All aspects of the commercialization of big game.

Once a BGQC has been awarded, a permit will be issued authorizing purebred beasts to be hunted, together with the numbers and details of tags corresponding to four different categories: Medal-worthy buck, selectively hunted buck, selectively hunted doe, and kid. Each Mallorcan wild goat that is slain must be identified with the corresponding tag after its capture, placed hunted around the horns of bucks and on the foot of one of the hind legs of does and kids. The detachable flap should immediately be cut off, using triangle-shaped marks to indicate the date of capture on both the main body and detachable part of the tag. The detachable flap should be submitted to the corresponding authorities, together with full details of the hunter and the place and date of capture on the appropriate official form.



THE BALEARIC COMMISSION FOR BIG GAME & TROPHY HOMOLOGATION

By virtue of *Balearic Hunting & River Fishing Act 6/2006*, the Balearic Commission for Big Game & Trophy Homologation was created as a consultative collegiate body in order to promote the sustainability, quality, profitability and diffusion of hunted Mallorcan wild goats. It replaces the commission created in 1995. The said commission will officially recognize trophies in accordance with the guidelines of *Safari Club International* (SCI) and the *Conseil International de la Chasse* (CIC).



ASSOCIATED BIG GAME RESERVES

These are game reserves that join together to be awarded a BGQC. Each associated game reserve continues to maintain its administrative identity and its independence in matters concerning the hunting of small game, but they jointly apply a Big Game Appendix to the Technical Hunting Plan that facilitates the hunting and management of Mallorcan wild goats in a way that would be impossible for small reserves on an individual basis.

BIG GAME APPENDIX

Associated game reserves and large game reserves must draft a Big Game Appendix to round off their Technical Hunting Plan in order to regulate the hunting of Mallorcan wild goats on big game reserves. This appendix is a compulsory requirement for a Big Game Quality Certificate to be awarded.

BIG GAME WARDENS

The authorities can demand that a big game warden is present in order to supervise hunts made for commercial purposes, hunts that have public implications, or whenever it is advisable for safety reasons. Big game wardens must pass a training course accrediting them as such and be listed on a regional register.



MISTAKES, BAD HABITS, THREATS AND FRAUD

Historically, hunting in traditional style with dogs and a noose was partly used to bolster herds of domestic goats known as "native Mallorcan goats", some of which were not easy to handle and yielded low profits, thus not being a very productive breed. However, as a result, people have generally come to mistake populations of Mallorcan wild goats (the original genetic source) for goats bred according to fairly lax livestock criteria (genetically derived animals), kept in domestic conditions. It is essential to avoid this mistake if the original wild goat is to be genetically conserved and also for reasons of scientific precision.

- Releasing domestic goats of any breed or variety into the wild, even though it is a deep-seated tradition, has serious impacts and can represent a criminal offence.

- Hunting kids has become a popular activity in recent years, because the meat is very highly considered although its sale is illegal. Decree 91/2006 contemplates the commercialization of game by farmers and owners of game reserves with a BGQC in order to benefit the latter, through joint legislation with the Balearic Ministry of Health & Consumerism. In order to prevent fraud and misunderstandings, an identification tag has been created.

- In order to avoid a commercial hunting offence of passing a non-purebred male animal off as a pure-bred one and to stop pure-bred male animals being poached, via the Balearic Commission for Big Game and Trophy Recognition, the Departament de Medi Ambient del Consell de Mallorca will supply national and international trophy recognition agencies and SEPRONA with a list of game reserves that hold a Big Game Quality Certificate and a list of the tags supplied to them. Likewise, close surveillance will be carried out of advertised hunting activities in magazines and on the Internet in order to ensure that they conform to legal requirements. Stricter controls will be made of trophies leaving the Balearic Islands, with closer monitoring of permits for the control of goat populations causing damage to vegetation so as to ensure that they are not used as an excuse for illegal commercial hunts. For instructive purposes, an informative campaign has been set in motion, aimed at all applicants for a big game license in the Balearic Islands.

- See: www.balearianboc.com and www.conselldemallorca.net

IT IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN...

- To repopulate, release into the wild or allow goats of any variety to run wild with the exception of big game reserves holding a Big Game Quality Certificate, where the repopulation of purebred goats of controlled origin can be authorized.
- To carry out commercial hunting or hunting tourism with goats that have run wild. They may only be killed for culling purposes during the hunting season for big or small game reserves, as applicable, or with a specific permit in cases of damage to vegetation.
- To capture or hunt purebred Mallorcan wild goats or recognize trophies without a hunting license and without the tags that are only granted to game reserves with a Big Game Quality Certificate.
- To allow hybrid species or goats that have run wild to proliferate in a rural estate in such a way that damage or the genetic pollution of neighbouring estates occurs. In such cases, the authorities may impose the application a programme of controls and, if it is not complied with, intervene directly.

ORIGIN

One of the first species to be introduced by humans to the Balearic Islands was the goat, an artiodactyl originally from eastern Asia. The goats that were imported during the pre-Talayotic period were derived from the Bezoar goat *Capra aegagrus*, with the Cretan goat *Capra aegagrus cretensis* and *Joura goat* (L. dorcas Reichenow 1888) being intermediate form between the ancient continental one and the Mallorcan one that subsequently ran wild, having swiftly adapted to the island's ecosystems, as has occurred with other sheep and goats that currently roam wild in other Mediterranean islands, like the Mouflon or Agrimi.

In recent times, as strictly domestic varieties have run wild, this has generated the current situation of genetic introgression and the overpopulation of the Tramuntana and Artà mountains. However, even today in different parts of the mountains, a high proportion of animals with a morphology traditionally regarded as "purebred" can be found, descended from goats introduced long ago and known as the Mallorcan Wild Goat or Balearian Boc.



SCIENTIFIC STUDIES, IDENTITY AND THE NEED TO CONSERVE THE MALLORCAN WILD GOAT

Morphological and ecological evidence demonstrate that the Mallorcan Wild Goat is a wild animal fully integrated into its natural environment and subject to pressure from hunting, still performed with dogs and a noose. This goat displays a genetic identity and balance, and can be fully distinguished from any other wild or domestic goat or from the current hybrid population. These results point positively toward the recovery of the species and they highlight its biological value and the fact that it is native to Mallorca, while also demonstrating an existing lack of scientific knowledge about this animal and a lack of legislation aimed at regulating populations that almost led to its extinction.

CRITERIA FOR RECOGNIZING MALLORCAN WILD GOATS - BALEAREAN BOC AND FOR OFFICIAL APPROVAL OF TROPHIES

STRUCTURAL SIZE: Slightly smaller than domestic goats (*capra hircus*) with a body longer than the girth of the chest and a convex-shaped skull when seen in profile. Its eyes are pale amber-coloured and its ears wide and straight, angled slightly higher than the horizontal plane. Its chest cavity is rectangular with flat ribs. Its forelegs and hind legs are proportionally short and thick. It has black hooves and mucous membranes, and visible epitheliums.

HORNS: Always present in both sexes and well developed in the male, where they open out and are long and spiralled. The females have much shorter, less thick horns than the males, forming parallel arches instead of spirals.

COLOURING & MARKINGS: Black eumelanin (marks that form the cross etc.) and pale to fiery red pheomelanin (the background colour). A black antero-posterior dorsal strip, several centimetres in thickness, runs down to the base of the tail. The top of the tail and bottom epithelium are black, as are the inner parts of the legs, hooves and belly. The markings on the face are also black, extending to the inside of the ears, forehead, muzzle and tear stripe. The colouring varies depending on the age, sex and melanism of each individual. From just a few weeks of life, the buck's face becomes very black, followed by its chest and the emergence of the two dorso-ventral black strips: one frontal one from the cross to the front hooves and a second less strongly marked one, not always apparent and appearing later, from the cross to the back hooves. These strips become wider with age, like the black chest and sides of the neck, with the oldest bucks being the darkest.

COAT: A short-haired, lustrous coat, with an undercoat in winter, leading to a more compressed appearance.

SEXUAL DIMORPHISM: Very evident in the colouring, horns shape and size. Only the bucks have a black beard that grows with age.