

HOW TO SHOW A FLEECE

A few basic rules:

Fleece can not be washed after it has been sheared.

If over 2 and no progeny the fleece can't be shown until they do produce progeny; (This does not apply to wethers)

They must be pre-registered or permanently registered

Now to begin:

Planning for shearing time...

*Prior to shearing you can wash your pygoras but do it at least 10 days prior to shearing so no product is left in the fiber.

*You also can use a blower prior to shearing to blow out bits of vegetable matter and dust and to help remove small matts. It can tend to softened the lock structure so determine if that is the case and do a light spritz with water and let dry.

The Shear:

*Get a bankers box ready to place the fiber into. Make a note card of the day you are shearing it and whose fleece is in the box. Think about second cuts as you shear because they can be a deduction at the show.

*Skirting your fleece... do not include belly fiber or back end fiber as it is usually very dirty. Other than that everything else should mostly be included. Remember that fleece weight is a determining factor so if you skirt too much it may work against you.

*You can place the locks in the box in neat rows with cut sides facing each other.

You can also just lay the fiber into the box as a nice pile. Just make sure if this is the method you choose that you do keep in mind cut side (that side is blunt looking from being cut off the animal) and lock side (opposite of the cut side where all the pretty locks are) and as you pile it in the box make sure your locks are facing up.

Show Prep:

You will need to get the weight of your fiber...that would be all the fiber you will be putting in the box to send or take to the show after you have skirted it. I would suggest to take it out of the box, weight it and then put down some white tissue paper in your box and place it back in and fold the tissue paper over it. Make a copy of your goat's PBA registration paper to place with it. If the registration has anything written on the back be sure to copy both sides. It is now ready to show. You will need to fill out the events form and decide if you are mailing it or taking it to the event.

If you are taking your fleece to the to the event take your prepared bankers box with a copy of the registration inside the box along with the events form. 1 fleece per box in this situation.

If you are mailing your fiber to a show place your registration on top of your fiber and wrap the tissue paper around it and secure. Depending on how much you are mailing you can place it into a poly/padded envelope or place all or as many as you can of your tissue paper packets into a bankers box along with the events form and mail those to the address they indicate on the form. Note: Your fleece may be going to a different place than your entry form. Be sure to double check your entry form requirements.

Good Luck!!