**MCJLS Standards for Lamb Classification**

**Finewool**

*Acceptable*

* Rambouillet, Delaine, Debouillet, or a cross between these breeds.
* Silky, white face.
* Silky ears, medium to moderate in length.
* Soft pelt.
* Yellow to white hooves (neutral).
* Black pads on hooves and black dew claws.
* Minimal amount of black streaking in the hooves. Less than 1/8 of cumulative hoof surface.
* Nose should be neutral to pink in color.
* May be polled or horned. Horns must be indicative of acceptable Finewool breeds.

*Discriminatory*

* Moderate amounts of brown or black spots in the skin and/or wool.
* Moderate freckling or pigmented skin (brown or black) on the ears, eyes, nose, and lips.
* Black eyelashes.
* Excessive black streaking in hooves more than 1/8 cumulative of hoof surface.
* Birthmarks.

*Absolute Disqualifications*

* Excessively coarse britch and/or harsh pelt.
* Excessive coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, in the flanks, and/or down the front and/or rear legs.
* Excessive brown or black spots in the skin and/or wool.
* Excessive freckling or pigmented skin (brown or black) on the ears, eyes, nose, and lips.
* Brown or black spots in hairline above the hooves to the dew claw.
* Solid black hooves.
* Black lambs.
* Surgical alterations other than re-docking.
* Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene.
* Head, ear and/or horn shape non-typical to the Finewool breeds (Rambouillet, Delaine, Debouillet, or a cross between these breeds).

**Finewool Cross**

*Acceptable*

* Must be a cross with evidence of at least 50% Finewool breeding and the remaining percentage exhibiting predominance of ONLY Hampshire and/or Suffolk breeding.
* Soft pelt which is characteristic of ½ blood wool (60's-62's spinning count).
* Face and ears should be soft and silky.
* Spotting and/or brown face and ears.
* Moderate spotting and/or brown legs not extending above the rear flank and fore flank.
* Wool must be present below the hocks on the rear legs; wool below the knees on the front legs is not necessary.
* Reddish, rust colored legs are acceptable.
* White-faced or ring-eyed crosses are acceptable if pelt is acceptable – as long as no discriminatory characteristics are present.
* Birthmarks.
* Scurs and/or horns are acceptable. Horns must be indicative of acceptable Finewool breeds.

*Discriminatory*

* Excessive black spotting in the skin above the knees and hocks.
* Moderate black or chocolate brown color on face, ears and legs (including wool).
* Moderately coarse britch and/or harsh pelt.
* Moderately coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, in the flanks, and/or down the front and/or rear legs.

*Absolute Disqualifications*

* Excessive black or dark chocolate brown color on face, ears, and legs (including wool).
* Excessively coarse britch and/or harsh pelt.
* Excessive coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, in the flanks, and/or down the front and/or rear legs.
* Total absence of wool on rear legs.
* Black lambs.
* Evidence of other breeds including, but not limited to Dorset and Southdown breed types (head and ear shape of Dorset and/or Southdown).
* Surgical alterations other than re-docking.
* Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene.

**Southdown**

*Acceptable*

* Hair color on muzzle should be mouse-colored, gray to brown and match color on legs and pasterns.
* Nostril pigmentation may be black to purplish-gray.
* Head and muzzle should be broad and proportional to body.
* Head of moderate length and in proportion to body.
* Ears of moderate length, in proportion to body, and covered with short hair or wool.
* Black hooves.
* Slight chalk around eyes.
* Slight chalk around muzzle.
* Spots or speckles in the skin only when shorn.

*Discriminatory*

* Solid white color or dark chocolate color on muzzle.
* Coarse britch and/or harsh pelt.
* Predominately pink nose with few black spots.
* Long, narrow muzzle.
* Excessive black pigmentation on ears.
* Excessive ear length not in proportion to head.
* No hair or wool on ears.
* Scurs.
* Absence of wool between scur areas.
* Striped hooves.
* Reddish, rust colored hair above hoof to pastern.
* Black fibers in wool outside of birthmarks.
* Birthmarks.

*Absolute Disqualifications*

* Speckled face, ears, or legs.
* Horns.
* White hooves.
* Intentional alteration of hair color or skin pigmentation.
* Total pink pigmentation of nostrils.
* Black lambs.
* Surgical alterations other than re-docking.
* Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge.

**Dorper**

*Acceptable*

* Must be a Dorper or White Dorper.
* Conformation: long, deep, wide body with well sprung ribs and excellent muscling.
* Color: Dorper – white sheep with black limited to head, neck, and forequarters not below the knee or behind the heart girth; White Dorper – white sheep.
* Must have at least 1/3 hair primarily on belly, forearm, and britch.
* 100% hair below the knees and hocks.
* 100% hair forward of poll.
* Moderate size ear with no wool covering.
* Head should be strong, bold with a deep jaw.
* Polled or small horns or scurs.
* Spots or speckled pigment in the skin only when shorn.
* Black spots above the hoof line and below the dewclaw.

*Discriminatory*

* Tall, leggy, shallow, and/or narrow-bodied lambs.
* A limited amount of dark fibered spots on body and underline behind heart girth not to exceed a cumulative total of the size of a softball.
* A white sheep with brown or red colored speckles in the covering, confined to the head and neck.
* Tri-colored sheep
* Excessive wool covering more than 2/3 of body (belly, forearm, and britch).
* Wool forward of poll.
* Heavy horns.
* Long, pendulous ears.
* Long, narrow muzzle.

*Absolute Disqualifications*

* All wool or very little evidence of hair on belly, forearm, or britch.
* Wool below the knees or hocks. Wool on the ears.
* Excessive amount of dark fibered spots on body and underline behind heart girth exceeding a cumulative total of the size of a softball.
* Solid brown, red, rust colored head.
* Speckling or spots from knee to dewclaw or from hock to dewclaw.
* Strong breed characteristics of breeds other than Dorper or White Dorper.
* Surgical alterations other than re-docking.
* Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene.
* Evidence of color alterations.

**Mediumwool**

* This class generally includes the Suffolk and Hampshire breeds, plus all lambs that do not fit into the Finewool, Finewool Cross, Southdown, or Dorper breed classes.