



## Boer Goat *Capra hircus*

**Description:** Boer goats are a stocky breed of domesticated goats, that originated in South Africa as herd goats. They are usually found to be white in body and they have a reddish brown head. Boer goats are mainly raised as either show goats or for their meat. They can weigh up to 300 pounds and are known for having docile personalities.

**Range:** Boer goats originated in South Africa and now are found in herds the world over but mostly in Midwest United States.

**Habitat:** They thrive best in grassy areas and the plains where there is plenty of room to graze.

**Life Span:** The average life span of a Boer goat is 12 years.

**Natural Diet:** Goats naturally live off of the vegetation naturally.

**Zoo Diet:** At the Zoo our goat get alfalfa and coastal hay.

**Behavior:** Boer goats are generally docile and like human attention. They tend to live in herds and the bucks are always larger than the does. Goats just typically eat all day long.

**Reproduction:** Does (female goats) have on average, one baby goat, called a kid, every 1-2 years. They will stay with their mothers until they are weaned and no longer have to drink their mother's milk.