

# TERMS OF ADOPTION OF OVINES

## General conditions

An adoption is undertaken solely for the welfare of the animal, to provide it with care and an environment adapted to its physical, ethological, and behavioural needs. The adopter agrees never to use violence against the animal.

The animal cannot be used for any work or commercial purposes; no commercial, professional, occasional, or any other form of profit can be derived from it, no matter how small. The adopter, therefore, cannot sell it, rent it out, participate in any contests, use it for fundraising, or obtain any form of profit from it.

Consumption of the animal is strictly prohibited, and it is also forbidden to have it slaughtered.

Reproduction is strictly and explicitly prohibited. All males are neutered.

The association remains the owner of the animal, but the adopter becomes civilly liable for it. The adopter has legal and material custody, and any veterinary, farriery, or any other maintenance costs are at their expense.

Similarly, expenses incurred in the case of an accident or if the animal escapes and ends up on public roads are borne by the adopter or their liability insurance.

Adoptions are only possible within Belgian territory.

The contract is signed by the person who will be responsible for the animal. It is not possible to adopt on behalf of a third party.

The adopter has a registered "ovine" flock number with ARSIA and will provide this number to the association and will keep their annual register up to date.

The adopter agrees to support the association for at least the entire duration of their responsibility for the animal, at a minimum of €15 per year

## Accommodation

The sheep must be accommodated in a fenced pasture of at least 10 "ares" (= 0.2 acres) per individual, adjacent to the adopter's home, equipped with a shelter which is closed on at least 3 sides, and with a minimum area of 3m<sup>2</sup> per sheep.

Barbed wire fences or any other device likely to harm the animal are strictly prohibited. Fences must be suitable for the size and behaviour of the animal and be sufficiently sturdy.

The shelter must be furnished and maintained, equipped with clean bedding (wheat straw) and a water trough, and free of any object or device that could harm the animal. The sheep's accommodation must be on sufficiently secure private property, under the adopter's own surveillance.

The sheep must not be tethered for an extended period.

The sheep must always have the presence of another individual of the same species. It should never be left alone.

The adopter shall take all reasonable measures to prevent the animal from escaping, and in the event that the animal does escape despite these precautions, the adopter shall declare the loss within 24 hours to the association and the police station nearest to where the loss occurred.

The adopter shall immediately notify any change of address and/or phone number to the association, bearing in mind that the welfare of the animal will be monitored until the end of its life. If the adopter should plan to relocate the animal, they formally undertake to notify the association in advance, which will give its agreement or not, following inspection of the new accommodation site.

## Health

The sheep must have permanent access to sufficient drinking water.

It should receive a suitable diet according to the season and the resources of the pasture. During the winter season it should be given unlimited straw and hay, as well as a flaked food supplement suitable for its age and health. The adopter must take care to provide good-quality nutrition and must not feed it bread, even if dry.

The adopter should monitor hoof growth several times a year. Hooves must be regularly and adequately maintained by a veterinary, a farrier, or any other competent person.

The sheep must be sheared at least once a year, whilst ensuring sufficient regrowth of the fleece for winter.

The sheep should be dewormed at least twice a year in the spring and in autumn, and as needed if the presence of parasites is suspected. The adopter should consult their veterinary about the type of dewormer to administer each season based on the nature of the pasture and for an effective rotation to avoid parasite resistance.

The adopter must check for potential flystrike infestations. A summer treatment of Butox is recommended. It should be noted in this context that it is strictly prohibited to subject the animal to mutilation or amputation.

The association is always available to the adopter if any issues arise with the animal, whether they are health-related or behavioural. The adopter must contact the association immediately by phone/email in the case of a problem that could endanger the animal's life. Except in cases of extreme urgency certified by a veterinary, any decision to euthanise must be made jointly by the association, the adopter, and their veterinary. Euthanasia of the animal cannot be carried out by any other means than an injection of Pentobarbital or T61 administered by a licenced veterinary.

If the adopter decides not to keep the animal, they agree to return it to the association free of charge.

If the adopter wants a third party to adopt the animal instead of them, they are not allowed to move it before the prospective adopter has followed the adoption application procedure and the association has given its agreement.

The adopter shall provide a veterinary certificate confirming the death or euthanasia of the sheep, stating at least its identification tag number and the adoption contract number.

## Monitoring

The welfare of the animal can be monitored at any time by delegates appointed by the association. The adopter may not deny the delegate access to the place where the animal lives and must provide the delegate with all information concerning the living conditions and health of the adopted animal that they wish to obtain.

The adopter also agrees to inform the association at least every 6 months of the development and health of the animal, and to provide the association with at least one recent photo (taken within the last month) of the animal.

In the case of a breach of any clause of the adoption contract, the adopter authorizes the association take back immediately and ipso jure the adopted animal, without any formality or indemnity, and without prejudice to any legal actions that may be taken against them.

*By signing, you expressly consent to the processing of your personal data in accordance with the provisions established by our association, in strict compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which can be reviewed on our website.*

## PARTICULAR CLAUSE

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For agreement: READ and AGREED (handwritten note)

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I the undersigned: (in capital letters please)

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Adopter's signature:

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Authorised representative's signature: