

Common LGD breeds in the United States:

- Akbash
- Anatolian Shepherd
- Armenian Gampr
- Caucasian Shepherd
- Central Asian Shepherd
- Estrela Mountain Dog
- Great Pyrenees
- Kangal
- Karakachan
- Komondor
- Kuvasz
- Maremma
- Polish Tatra
- Pyrenean Mastiff
- Sarplaninac
- Tibetan Mastiff

Many LGDs are a cross between two or more of these breeds.

Our LGDs are a:



Concerned about our LGDs? Here's what to do.

Please reach out to us first! Being a good neighbor is important to us. Sometimes a problem may arise that needs to be addressed when dealing with livestock or livestock guardian dogs.

The best way to handle an issue is to call us. We can talk about what is happening and work together to solve the problem. Most problems can be addressed with a simple, direct conversation.

We can be reached at the following numbers or via email:

Texas A&M AgriLife Center--San Angelo

7887 US Hwy 87N San Angelo, TX 76901 Phone: 325-653-4576

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TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
LIVESTOCK GUARDIAN
DOG PROGRAM

A Livestock Guardian Dog Guide for Our Neighbors





How Livestock Guardian Dogs (LGDs) are different than pets or other farm dogs.

They are genetically different. LGDs have been bred for thousands of years to instinctively bond to livestock and they lack prey drive instincts.

They live outside, all year round. They don't mind bad weather! LGDs often ignore shelters. If you see my LGD outside instead of in its shelter, it's because it wants to be there!

They do bark--a lot, especially in the early morning and in the early evening! LGDs bark to alert predators of their presence and to communicate with other LGDs and their owners.

They are not "attack dogs" but will defend their livestock! They use the least amount of force needed to protect their charges.

They are independent and loyal. They do not need a lot of contact with people.

Livestock Guardian Dog Characteristics

Your neighboring LGD(s) are a non-lethal method to control predators from killing livestock and pets that benefit all of us and the environment.

LGDs work to prevent predators in three ways:

- Territorial Exclusion: LGDs set up and maintain a territory by scent marking
- Pattern Disruption: LGDs disrupt predator behaviors by barking and patrolling the area
- Direct Confrontation: LGDs will defend their livestock from a direct attack by a predator



LGDs have markings that help them blend in with the livestock they are bred to protect. Can you find the LGD in the picture above?



Do's and Don'ts when you live near Livestock Guardian Dogs

Do ask us about our dogs. We want you to be comfortable with them and their role on our property.

Don't approach our dogs without us present. They are working and may view you as a threat.

Do alert us immediately if our dogs are off of our property.

Don't contact Animal Control. Livestock Guardian Dogs are outside in inclement weather or spend a lot of time without humans because they are working dogs. It's not cruel, that's normal behavior for an LGD!

Please refer to our dogs by their names. Our dogs' names are:
