

BLUEFACED LEICESTER

Lustre

Established in the UK: 18th century



ORIGINS

Evolved during the last century in the Tyne & Wear Valleys and the hills of east Cumbria for the specific purpose of breeding high quality cross-bred ewes from hardy hill breeds. Sometimes referred to as the 'Hexham Leicester'.

CHARACTERISTICS

The most influential sire of mule females when crossed with hill breeds such as the Swaledale or Blackface. One of the UK's tallest breeds with a broad muzzle and distinctive Roman nose. It produces soft, demi-lustrous wool which is one of the finest in Britain.

LOCATION

North East England is the stronghold, but now all over the UK.

MAIN USES

Yarns for knitwear, hand knitting and in blends for fine cloth.

Breed Society

Established:

1963

Handle:

Lustrous and Silky

Colour:

Creamy/White

Fleece Weight:

1 - 2 kg

Staple Length:

8 - 15 cm

Micron Range:

26 - 26.5



PHOTOS

Above: male

Middle left: female

Opposite page: female

