

# DORSET DOWN

## Fine

Established in the UK: 19th century

### ORIGINS

Established in the late 1800's by crossing downland Berkshire, Hampshire and Wiltshire ewes with pure Southdown rams, the improved sheep were introduced into downland flocks in Dorset where they thrived.

### CHARACTERISTICS

The breed, although not numerous, is adaptable and easily managed. A good sire for any type of ewe and important in early maturing lamb production. Its short-fibred wool is dense, white, springy and of high quality and, because of its versatility, is often used in blends with other wools to give crispness and improved handle.

### LOCATION

Mainly in the South West and elsewhere in the UK.

### MAIN USES

Knitting yarns; bedding, particularly Japanese futons.



**Breed Society  
Established:**  
1906

**Handle:**  
Soft

**Colour:**  
White

**Fleece Weight:**  
2.25 - 3 kg

**Staple Length:**  
5 - 8 cm

**Micron Range:**  
30 - 32

### PHOTOS

Above: male  
Middle left: male  
Opposite page: female

