

PORTLAND

Fine

Established in the UK: 13th century

ORIGINS

An ancient breed, once common in Dorset, developed from tan-faced sheep in the South West and possibly influenced by both the Romans and the Saxons.

CHARACTERISTICS

Small, with tan face and legs without wool, long tail and light coloured horns, particularly spiralled in the rams. Capable of lambing out of season, lambs' wool is foxy red, turning to white or grey. The fleece is fine and short.

LOCATION

A rare breed with a stronghold in the South West.

MAIN USES

Mostly by hand spinners and in blends for apparel.



**Breed Society
Established:**
1993

Handle:
Soft/Medium

Colour:
White/Creamy

Fleece Weight:
1.5 - 2.25 kg

Staple Length:
5 - 9 cm

Micron Range:
31 - 35

PHOTOS
Above: male
Middle left: female
Opposite page: female

