

# BRITISH SHEEP BREEDS AND THEIR WOOL

## Lustre Type

# Wensleydale



### ORIGINS

Wensleydale, North Yorkshire in the 19th Century, to provide rams for crossing onto local hill breeds. The breed can be traced to an outstanding ram, 'Bluecap' born in 1839, a large animal with dark skin and excellent wool. Breeders' Association was started in 1890.

### CHARACTERISTICS

Large, hardy longwool sheep with distinctive blue head and ears. Still valued as a crossing sire and also for its long, lustrous and curly fleece.

### LOCATION

Not numerous but mainly in Northern England.

### MAIN USES

Hand knitting yarn.

### Fleece Weight:

3 - 6 kg

### Staple Length:

15 - 30 cm

### Micron Range:

32 - 34

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