



**Soft.
Short.
Springy.**

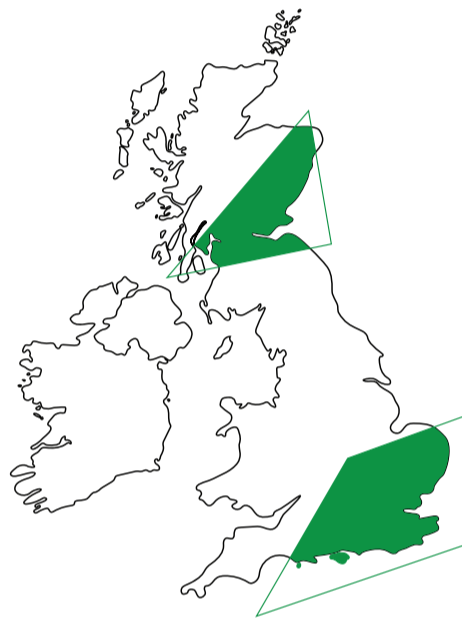
Wool Characteristics

29-35µm

FINE WOOL

Breeds

- Berrichon Du Cher
- British Rouge
- Charollais
- Clun Forest
- Dorset Down
- Dorset Horn
- Poll Dorset
- Hampshire Down
- Ile de France
- Norfolk Horn
- Oxford Down
- Portland
- Ryeland
- Shropshire
- Southdown
- Suffolk
- Vendéen



Biodiversity Benefits

These managed grasslands support a rich variety of plant species, including bird's-foot trefoil, clover, and oxeye daisy, which in turn provide food and habitat for pollinators like honeybees, bumblebees, and butterflies such as the meadow brown and common blue.

The presence of tussocky grasses and wildflower-rich swards also benefit ground-nesting birds like the skylark and yellowhammer. Grazing helps prevent dominance by coarse grasses and invasive species promoting a more balanced ecosystem.

Landscape & Habitat

Fine wool sheep often graze on lowland pastures and on managed mixed farmland, such as in the South Downs, Somerset, East Anglia and the Scottish lowlands.

Sheep's role in Landscape

- Maintain grassland balance and prevents overgrowth
- Supports rotational grazing and mixed farming systems
- Helps manage small-scale traditional landscapes

Species symbiosis: Shropshire & Trees

Due to a want for fewer chemicals involved in the production of Christmas trees, an alternative method of controlling weeds was found: Shropshire sheep! This study confirmed that Shropshire sheep do not debark the tree if good grazing management is applied. Moreover, this breed is very robust, they do not need concentrated food, they are calm and kind so keep the soil relatively undisturbed and keep the grass very tidy and short except for nettles. The preference for Shropshire sheep can be seen across many other tree plantations such as orchards.

Two crops from one acres., The Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association

