



Long. Silky. Lustrous.

Wool Characteristics

These wools are long-stapled, usually curly or crimped, and have a soft, almost 'soapy' handle. The variation in the thickness of the fibre is considerable with the Bluefaced Leicester the finest in the British clip, approximately 26 micron, while the Devon and Cornwall Longwool is much coarser.

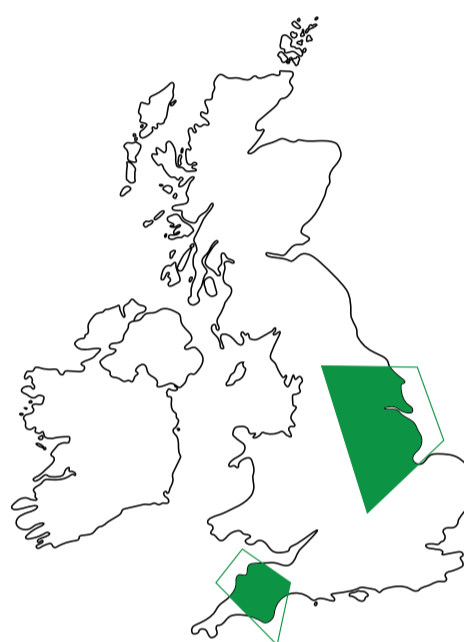
26-42µm

Micron

LUSTRE WOOL

Breeds

- Bluefaced Leicester
- Cotswold
- Devon & Cornwall Longwool
- Greyface Dartmoor
- Leicester Longwool
- Lincoln Longwool
- Teeswater
- Wensleydale
- Whiteface Dartmoor



Landscape & Habitat

These breeds are found on fertile lowlands in traditional meadow-based systems and river valleys in regions like Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

Biodiversity Benefits

Light sheep grazing offers significant biodiversity benefits by preserving ancient meadows and traditional hayfields rich in wildflowers and vital pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

This gentle grazing encourages the regeneration of ground flora and helps sustain healthy hedgerows and field margin ecosystems, which serve as important wildlife corridors.

Moreover, the continued presence of these managed landscapes supports rural tourism and artisan industries—often celebrated through seasonal festivals that highlight the cultural and ecological value of traditional grazing practices.

Sheep's role in Landscape

- Preserve rare breed diversity
- Maintain grassland systems with low-intensity grazing
- Contribute to regional cultural identity

Landscape symbiosis: Meadows

Of the UK's nine native Longwool sheep breeds, six are classified vulnerable or at risk on the Rare Breeds Survival Trust Watchlist.

But these hardy, slow-growing sheep are particularly adept at maintaining the delicate balance of plant species in meadows. Their selective grazing encourages the growth of wildflowers like yellow rattle and meadow cranebill, which are vital for pollinators such as bumblebees. The open and varied sward structure encourage ground nesting birds like the skylark and yellow hammer.

