

SHEEP BREEDS IN NEW ZEALAND



Borderdale
SOUTH ISLAND

High fertility
Easy care lambing and high growth weight
Excellent mothering ability
Good fleece weights
Wool type—strong



Border Leicester
BOTH ISLANDS

High fertility
Crossed with romney/corriedale/merino for crossbred commercial ewes
Prime lamb production
Longevity
Wool type—strong



Cheviot
BOTH ISLANDS

Compact, hardy, free moving sheep used for crossbreeding and as a terminal sire
Bulky, low lustre wool of 28-33 microns
Lamb production (120-130%)
Wool type—strong



Coopworth
BOTH ISLANDS

High fertility
Wool type—strong
Strong mothering ability
Easy care lambing
Breeding selection based on meat and wool production



Corriedale
BOTH ISLANDS

Quality meat producers
High quality mid micron (26-31) wool production
Bred for longevity
Increasingly fertile breed
Wool type—medium



Dorper
BOTH ISLANDS

A self shedding meat breed
Capable of lambing 3 times in 2 years
Used mostly as a terminal sire for crossing into ewe flocks
Two types—the White And Black Headed Dorper



Dorset Down
BOTH ISLANDS

Early maturity
High yielding
Heavyweight carcass
Excellent grading
Wool type—down



Dorset Horn
SOUTH ISLAND

White woolled
Out of season breeding
High milking ability
Meaty lean sheep



Drysdale
BOTH ISLANDS

Specialty fibre for wool carpets
Premium paid for wool
High yielding premium grading carcass
Uniquely New Zealand
Wool type—strong



East Friesian
BOTH ISLANDS

High milkers
High lambers
Fast growth rates
Good cross breeders
Wool type—strong



English Leicester
BOTH ISLANDS

Sound constitution and vigorous
Excellent mothers
Easy lambing and early maturing
Lustrous free flowing heavy fleeces
Wool type—strong



Finnsheep
BOTH ISLANDS

Highest fecundity
Highly intelligent
Crossed successfully with all New Zealand sheep breeds and long living breed
Wool type—fine



Hampshire
BOTH ISLANDS

Early maturing lean carcass
Top meat yielding
High natural fertility
Very maternal with strong hybrid vigour
Wool type—down



Lincoln
BOTH ISLANDS

Top fleece weights
Highest micron wool
Greatest tensile wool strength
Super longevity
Wool type—strong



Merino
SOUTH ISLAND

Hardy constitution
High quality fine wool 12-24 microns
Long breeding
Fine texture tasty meat season



Oxford
BOTH ISLANDS

Quick growth, matures early
Good yielding
Crosses well with all breeds
Good grading and grows more wool than other down breeds
Wool type—fine/medium



Perendale
BOTH ISLANDS

Medium to large active sheep
Easycare hill country sheep
High bulk, low lustre
Lamb production (100-170%) wool of 31-37 microns
Wool type—medium



Poll Dorset
BOTH ISLANDS

High growth rate, well muscled, low fat
High fertility
Milking and mothering ability
White wool Wool type—fine



Polwarth
MAINLY SOUTH ISLANDS

Big upstanding sheep with good frames and barrel
High fertility 120-50%
Wool type—fine, heavy weights 5.5 kg+
Ultra white wool of 21-25 microns



Romney
BOTH ISLANDS

Good constitution—adapting well to varying terrains and climates
Good fertility (120-200%)
Good producer of both meat and strong wool
Good mothering and survivability



Ryeland
BOTH ISLANDS

Maternal
Docile
Thrifty
White-faced
Wool type—medium



Shropshire
BOTH ISLANDS

Good sire crossbred lambs
Hardy
Wool type—medium, hard wearing



Southdown
BOTH ISLANDS

Terminal crossing sire
Mousey coloured face and legs with a lengthy well muscled body
Fast growing high meat yielding lambs
Fine, short wool used for quality bedding



South Dorset
BOTH ISLANDS

Early maturing breed
Perform under extreme drought conditions
Good temperament
Fertility well above
Wool type—down average



South Suffolk
BOTH ISLANDS

Produces lambs which show vigour at birth, are fast growing and mature early
Will reach heavy weights without excess fat
Are efficient converters of grass to meat
Wool type—down



Suffolk
BOTH ISLANDS

Rapid weight gains
Draft at any time without excessive fat
Easily identified
Most common prime lamb sires in New Zealand
Wool type—down



Texel
BOTH ISLANDS

Dual purpose meat breed
Hardiness
Exceptional muscling
Wool type—medium/high bulk



Wiltshire Horn
MAINLY NORTH ISLANDS

No shearing, crutching, dagging or flystrike
High lambing percentage (150-180%)
Hardy, good feet, high immunity and survivability
Strong hybrid vigour and no wool on legs, belly, crutch in first cross