

Coloured Ryeland Sheep - Breed Characteristics

Head

Medium length, masculine in rams, with no trace of horn and face showing character, strength and constitution

Face

Medium length, variable amounts of wool around the face is acceptable with mealy markings around mouth. White tear-drop markings on inner corner of eyes must be present and may be variable in size.

Ears

Medium size, carried slightly back (not heavy or hanging down) dark coloured and may have a covering of wool and or mealy markings on edge.

Neck

Strong, broad and set on so as to give a bridled appearance.

Shoulders

Smoothly and well set, no depression behind.

Chest

Broad and fairly deep

Back

Straight, level from base of neck to setting of tail, which should be broad

Ribs

Well sprung, body well down forming a good bottom line

Legs of Mutton

Full, well let down. Good length of hindquarter from hipbone to dock.

Legs and Feet

Legs below knees and hock straight. Compact feet firmly set.

Skin

Dark

Flesh

Even and firm handling all over

Carriage

Smart appearance when walking or standing. Head held high.

Fleece

To be good quality, stronger in rams than in ewes, deep in staple, thickly set on skin. handling firmly. free from coarseness and kemp and can be natural colour or combination of colours (no colour or combination of colours to be preferable to any others). Quality to be equivalent to Bradford Count of 56's - 58's or finer