



BREED DESCRIPTION

Gotlands are fine-boned, medium-sized sheep that are naturally short-tailed. Both ewes and rams are polled with heads and legs black and free of wool. Occasional small white markings on heads and legs are allowed. Sheep produce a dense, single-coated, lustrous gray fleece with a clearly-defined, even curl that is soft to the touch. Fast-growing wool is harvested twice a year, yielding an abundance of quality fiber.

Ewes lamb easily, have a high lambing rate, and produce milk abundantly. They generally twin and have exceptional maternal instincts. Lambs are vigorous and fast growing, maturing quickly. They produce a mild-flavored, fine-grained meat.

Gotlands have a calm and friendly nature, making them easy to handle and a pleasure to raise.

AMERICAN GOTLAND SHEEP SOCIETY

Have you been looking for a profitable multipurpose breed of sheep that are active, friendly, and fun to raise? Gotlands are all this and more!

Producing valuable pelts, beautiful fleeces for spinning or felting, and gourmet meat, Gotlands are easy to lamb, prolific, and very motherly. Lambs are active and fast growing from birth. These qualities combined with their hardy and friendly nature make these sheep a pleasure to own.

THE SOCIETY

AGSS was founded in 2008 by a group of Gotland sheep enthusiasts. The purpose of the association is to support growth and development of the Gotland sheep in North America. The society

- Provides education about the breed
- Registers and keeps pedigree records of eligible sheep
- Maintains high standards for North American Gotland Sheep by following the standards of the original European Gotland breeders' clubs

www.americangotlandsheep.org

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HISTORY

Gotland sheep originated on Gotland, a Swedish island in the Baltic Sea, where the breed was developed through a program of intensive selection among the island's landrace sheep, the Gute. It is believed the native Gute was the result of crossing original island sheep with Karakul and Romanov sheep brought to Gotland by Vikings.

An improvement program begun in the 1920s developed the sturdy, multipurpose Gotland sheep we know today. Dedicated breeders in Sweden, Denmark, and the United Kingdom continue to rigorously select for preferred Gotland traits in their flocks.

In 2003, breeders in the United States took advantage of the first importation of Gotland semen to begin an upbreeding program in North America. Subsequent importations of semen from the UK, Sweden, and Denmark have offered increased genetic diversity, allowing the North American Gotland to flourish.

PLACE BUSINESS CARD HERE

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GOTLAND FLEECE



Gotlands produce lustrous, long, curly fiber that is both excellent for spinning and renowned for its felting properties. With shades running the full grayscale, the fiber is both a showcase of natural colors and a lovely base for dyeing.

GOTLAND PELTS



Gotlands produce premium pelts that are prized in fashion and home design markets worldwide.