



LEGS: Legs are strong, straight and set well apart. Flat with plenty of bone. Strong, upright pasterns, well heeled, good angle to hock (no post legs) Distinctive dark coloration on all four legs, back legs should be dark chocolate/black all the way down the back of the legs with some white down the front. Perfect coloration of front legs should be white with broad bands of chocolate/black color.



THIGHS: Are well rounded and deep-fleshed.

TESTICLES: Rams have two even and good-sized testicles.

WOOL/FLEECE: The Teeswater grows an open, long-stapled, lustrous fleece. Growth can achieve 1" a month, and frequently the 'hogget' or yearling fleece can be grown for a year or more to provide the very long locks that fiber artists covet. Shearing twice a year for mature animals is common.

Uniform and well-defined purlled locks fall freely over the entire body, from shoulder through breech.

Superior luster comes from the way the scales or cuticle of each fiber reflect the light. The wool spins exceptionally well as a worsted but will lend itself to many different types of spins from lock spun, to tail spun to a traditional worsted and plied yarn. The luster is retained throughout washing and dyeing. Teeswater fleece should contain no dark or medullated fibers, no cross fiberings and is kemp free.

The characteristic 'purling' of each lock is a specific formation. The word purling comes from pulling out a knitted (or purlled) piece. The yarn twists first one way, then the other, it does not spiral.

Teeswaters are British long wools, the micron count is in the low 30's but the handle (or feel of the fiber) is not at all coarse and is soft and silken to the touch.

