### **BREED CHARACTERISTICS**

#### **HISTORY**

The breed originates in the Saone et Loire area of France, where they are raised alongside Charolais cattle. It was developed in the 19th century from a number of local breeds, crossed with the British Dishley Leicester. Imported into the U.K. over 20 years ago, the Charollais have been imported into many countries and most recently into Canada.

#### DESCRIPTION

Charollais sheep are a medium sized, heavy breed, with a long loin and well muscled hindquarters. The clean head is pinkish grey and the wool is fine to medium, and dense.

## PURPOSE OF THE BREED

It is a first class terminal sire, and when crossed with a number of ewe breeds will produce lean, fast growing, quality lambs at all weights.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Charollais ewes are prolific and will lamb at 180 - 200%. Ewe lambs can be exposed to the ram at 7 months of age and will average



130%. The ewes lamb easily and have excellent maternal instincts. At birth single lambs average 5.0 kg (11 lbs), twins 4.0 kg (9 lbs) and triplets 3.5 kg (8 lbs). At maturity, ewes average 90 kg (200 lbs) and rams from 110 - 165 kg (240 - 360 lbs).

- Ewes are docile, easy to handle and maintain body condition efficiently
- Charollais ewes are fertile and produce vigorous, lively lambs
- Streamlined head and shoulders of lambs allow for easy lambing
- Ewes are good mothers and are milky as demonstrated by the fast growth rate of their lambs



Canadian Charollais flock is based on high EBV (Estimated Breeding Value) Sire Reference Scheme genetics.

Charollais sired lambs grow faster.

Lambs will finish at a range
of slaughter weights.

Carcasses are lean and heavily muscled, particularly in the loin and gigots (hindquarters). Dressing percentage is above average (50 - 59%).

## CHAROLLAIS SIRED LAMBS



- are more profitable
- are top quality butcher lambs
- demonstrate high lean meat/fat ratio
- provide superior healthy meat for tenderness and flavour
- are more valuable due to high cutability



# Profitable, High Quality Carcasses from Charollais Sired Lambs

### The Charollais Advantage

Increased Dressing Percentage: For 110 lb lambs, a 2 - 3% improvement generates a bonus of \$3 - \$6/lamb depending on price.

Increased Saleable Yield:
For 110 lb lambs, an
additional 1-3% improvement
generates a total bonus of
\$6 - \$11/lamb depending on
price.

Increased Muscle Size: Improves consumer acceptance of lamb.

<u>Reduced Fat Deposits</u>: Less trimming required, preferred by retailers.

For the Advanced Sheep Producer: A higher quality, more valuable lamb.

For the Modern Processor: Improved profit margin.

For the Discerning

Consumer: The finest quality lamb on the table.







www.canadiancharollaissheep.com