

WHY NORTH COUNTRY CHEVIOTS?



North Country Cheviots are one of the most functional and profitable breeds available to today's sheep producer.

North Country Cheviots are a hardy, efficient, and highly productive breed that has earned a strong reputation among sheep producers for its durability, maternal ability, and consistent performance. Developed in the rugged hills of northern England and southern Scotland, the breed has long been valued for its ability to thrive under challenging conditions while producing high-quality lamb and wool.

Today, breeders across the United States continue to appreciate the North Country Cheviot for its combination of practicality, efficiency, and breed character.

Why Producers Choose North Country Cheviots

- Thrive in harsh environments
- Require minimal input
- Excellent mothers with high lamb survival
- Add value in crossbreeding programs
- Consistent, marketable lambs

Breed Characteristics

North Country are known for their distinctive appearance. Sheep typically display a bold, upright carriage with a clean white face, alert ears, and dense, high-quality fleece.

Key traits include:

- Clean white face and no wool on legs
- Distinctive upright ears
- Bright, alert expression
- Strong bone and correct structure
- Dense, medium-grade white fleece
- Well-balanced frame and muscling

These characteristics contribute to the breed's long-standing reputation for both functionality and visual appeal.

Hardiness and Adaptability

One of the defining traits of North Country is its ability to perform in a wide range of environments. The breed is well suited for both pasture-based systems and more intensive operations.

North Country Cheviots are known for:

- Strong foraging ability
- Excellent survivability in harsh weather
- Sound feet and legs
- Longevity in breeding programs

These traits make them a dependable choice for commercial and purebred producers alike.



**American
North Country Cheviot Sheep
Association**

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Maternal Excellence

North Country ewes are widely valued for their maternal instincts and ability to raise strong, vigorous lambs. Their attentive mothering ability and reliable milk production contribute to high lamb survival rates.

Breeders often highlight the following qualities:

- Strong mothering instincts
- Good milk production
- Vigorous, active lambs
- Ease of lambing

These attributes make the breed particularly valuable in both seedstock and commercial flocks.

Carcass Quality and Market Value

North Country produce lambs that are well suited to modern market demands. Their lambs are known for efficient growth and desirable carcass quality.

Lambs typically demonstrate:

- Lean, well-muscled carcasses
- Excellent dressing percentage
- Uniformity and consistency

North Country are often used in crossbreeding programs to add vigor, structure, and maternal strength.

A Breed with a Strong Future

The American North Country Cheviot Sheep Association is dedicated to preserving and promoting the unique qualities of this historic breed. Through responsible breeding, accurate registry records, and active participation in livestock exhibitions, association members continue to strengthen the future of North Country Cheviots in the United States.

Whether used in purebred flocks or crossbreeding systems, North Country remain a dependable and productive breed valued by sheep producers across the country.

