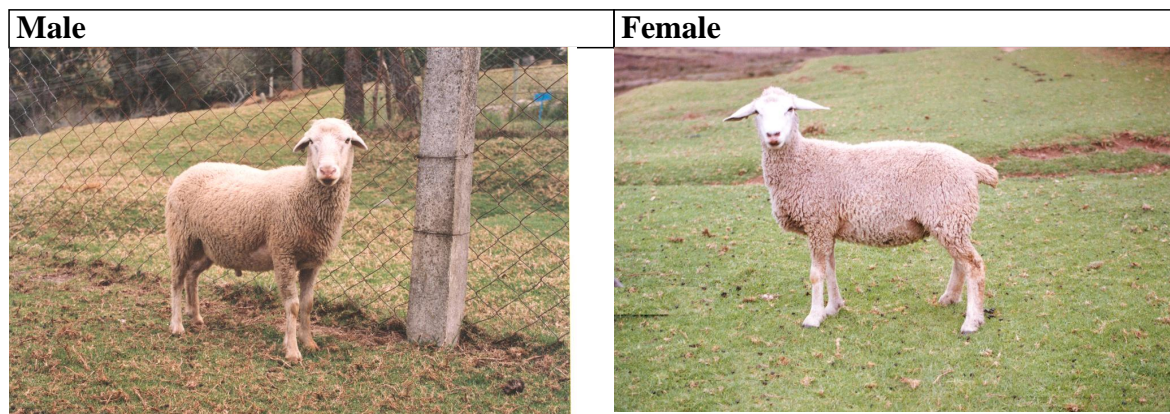


## Breed Descriptor of Nilgiri (Sheep)



<b>Breeding Tract</b>			
State: Tamilnadu		Nilgiri	
<b>Location</b>			
Longitude (deg.)		76.47 - .	
Latitude (deg.)		11.28 - .	
<b>General Information</b>			
Synonyms			
Origin		The name of breed is derived from the native tract of the breed “The Nilgiris” district of Tamil Nadu state. It is reported that the Nilgiri sheep has been evolved from the local sheep with an unknown level of inheritance from South Down, Cheviot and Tasmanian Merino.	
Major utility		Food - Meat; Fibre - Wool	
Comments on utility		The Nilagiri sheep is a woolly breed. The wool, however, has no economic value and the sheep are primarily reared for meat.	
Comments on breeding tract		Kotagiri subdivision, Coonoor and Gudalar talukas of Nilgiri hills.	
Adaptability to environment		Well adapted to the agro climatic and physiographic conditions of Nilgiri hills.	
<b>Population</b>			
	Year	Population	Other information
	1991	3588	Source: Final Report on “ICAR Network Project on Sheep Improvement, 1993, TANUVAS, Sheep Breeding Research Station, Sandynallah.
	2011	1086	Source: Survey conducted by the Sheep Breeding Research Station, Sandynallah.
<b>Management</b>			
Management system		Extensive	

Mobility	Stationary		
Feeding of adults	Grazing		
Comments on Management	The Badaga and Kanareese sheep breeders patronized the breed and improved to the present stage.		
<b>Morphology</b>			
Colour	The coat colour is generally white. About 33.26 per cent of the population showed brown to tan patches, black spots, dots or hairs in the regions of the body like face, tip of ears, lower lip and in lambs below the hock joints and knee joints.		
Horn shape and size	A small horny scur is present in males.		
Visible characteristics	Medium sized animals. Face line is convex, giving a typical roman nose. Ears are generally pendulous.		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	64.97	57.95	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	64.06	59.41	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	76.83	75.04	
Body weight (avg. kg.)	38.42	32.43	
Birth weight (avg. kg.)	3.77	3.62	
<b>Performance</b>			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Litter size born	1.0		
Fleece weight (kg/year)	0.99		
Staple length (cm)		5.0	10.0
Any Peculiarity of the breed			