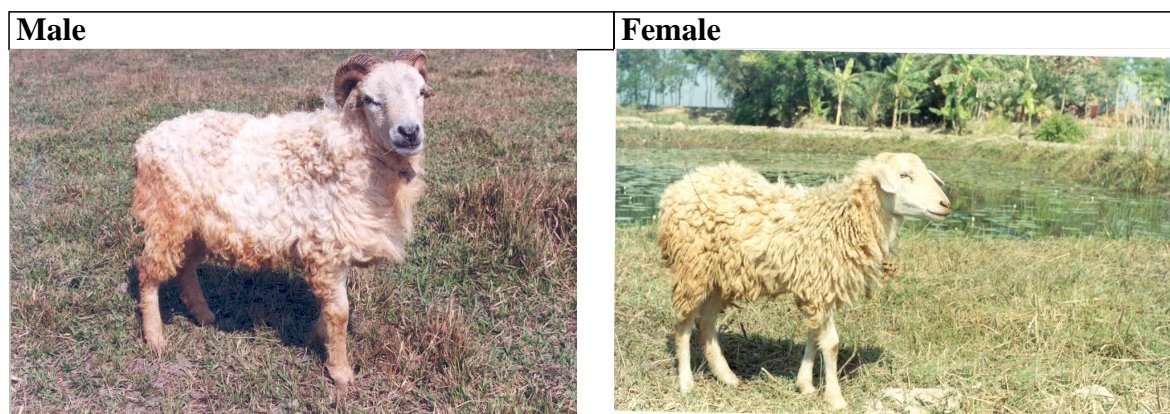


## Breed Descriptor of Garole (Sheep)



<b>Breeding Tract</b>			
State: West Bengal	South 24 Paragana		
	North 24 Paragana		
<b>Location</b>			
Longitude (deg.)	88.00 - 89.		
Latitude (deg.)	21.32 - 22.40		
<b>General Information</b>			
Synonyms	Meda, Bheda		
Origin	Farmers often call the breed as Bheda- which means sheep in Bengali. Garole with rudimentary or short ears are also popular as Meda- also a Bengali word meaning earless.		
Major utility	Food - Meat		
Comments on utility			
Comments on breeding tract	Breeding tract comprises of Sunderban area and is located at the confluence of river Ganga-Bhagirathy-Hoogly systems with the sea. Soil is saline and marshy.		
Adaptability to environment	Garole sheep have the ability to graze in knee-deep conditions in marshy land		
<b>Population</b>			
	Year	Population	Other information
	2001	265000	WBUA&FS, Kolkata under NATP project on Animal Genetic Resource Biodiversity
	2004	306845	Final Report, NATP (MM), NBAGR, Karnal

	2013	165531	Source: Estimated Livestock Population Breed Wise Based on Breed Survey 2013. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India, New Delhi
<b>Management</b>			
Management system	Semi-Intensive		
Mobility	Stationary		
Feeding of adults	Grazing and Fodder		
Comments on Management	Average flock size is small (4 animals). Farmers often prefer to castrate the male lambs to be reared specially for meat purpose. Average age of castration is 2.6 months		
<b>Morphology</b>			
Colour	Mostly grey in colour. White, Black, and Brown coloured animals or mixture of these colours are also seen.		
Horn shape and size	Straight and little curved in the end. Small in size		
Visible characteristics	Small sized animals. Small ears (8 cm). About 10% of animals have rudimentary ears (<3 cm).		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	44.0	43.69	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	45.78	42.97	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	59.67	55.91	
Body weight (avg. kg.)	16.4	14.79	
Birth weight (avg. kg.)	1.0		
<b>Performance</b>			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Litter size born	1.8	1.0	4.0
Age at first parturition (months)	14.1	10.0	17.0
Parturition interval (months)	6.22	6.0	12.0
Staple length (cm)	4.99		
Fibre Diameter (Âµ)	53.02		
Dressing percentage	53.0		
Any Peculiarity of the breed	It is a small-sized breed known for its prolificacy and adaptation to the saline marshy land of the Sundarban region		