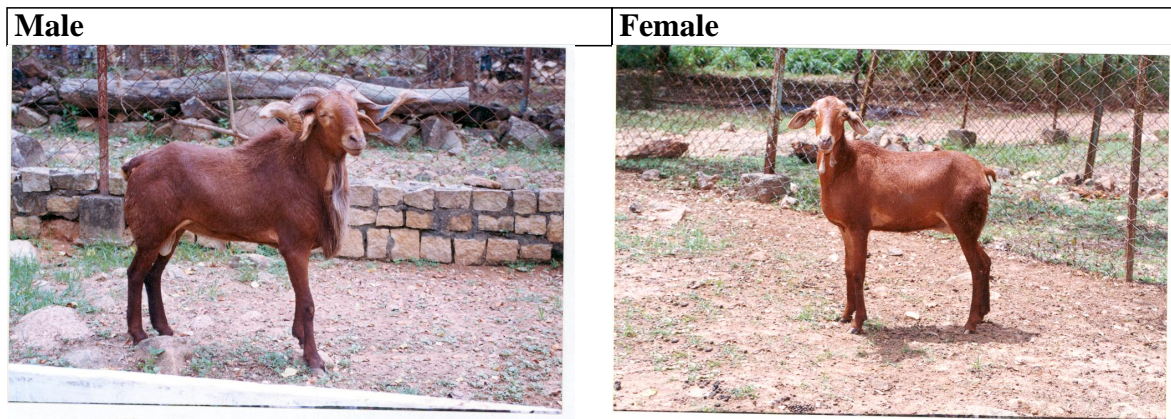


Breed Descriptor of Madras Red (Sheep)



Breeding Tract			
State: Tamilnadu	Cuddalore		
	Thiruvallur		
	Kancheepuram		
	Villupuram		
	Tiruvannamalai		
	Chennai		
Location			
Longitude (deg.)	79.50 - 80.45		
Latitude (deg.)	12.50 - 13.10		
General Information			
Synonyms	Chennai Sigappu		
Origin	The native tract for Madras Red sheep is the districts adjacent to Madras and the skin colour is red. So it is named as Madras Red.		
Major utility	Food - Meat		
Comments on utility	The sheep farming forms a major source of livelihood for the farmers of this area because of the increased demand for meat and low initial investments when compared to large animals. Even though, the Madras Red sheep are generally maintained on grazing alone, their meat yield is good as compared to that of other sheep breeds of the country.		
Comments on breeding tract			
Adaptability to environment			
Population			
	Year	Population	Other information
	2003	200000	Based on Livestock census (2003) and distribution area of the breed.

	2007	1150000	Source: 18th Livestock and Poultry Census, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, GOI
	2013	311533	Source: Estimated Livestock Population Breed Wise Based on Breed Survey 2013. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India, New Delhi
Management			
Management system	Extensive		
Mobility	Stationary		
Feeding of adults	Grazing		
Comments on Management	Naicker and Pillai are the two communities responsible for the development of the breed in the native tract of Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur districts. The Pillai community consist of traditional farmers doing sheep farming generation after generation. Most of them own medium sized flocks and do agriculture and sheep rearing. Both the communities belong to most-backward classes.		
Morphology			
Colour	Red. Intensity varies from tan to dark brown Some have white markings at the forehead, inner aspect of thigh and lower abdomen.		
Horn shape and size	Curved horns oriented inward and outwards. Medium sized(15-25) cm in rams and small sized (below 15 cm)in ewes.		
Visible characteristics	Typical prominent Roman nose. Ears are pendulous and large (12-13 cm) with prominent mid ridge. The body is covered with coarse, short brown hairs.		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	63.13	66.82	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	78.11	77.82	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	71.6	72.36	
Body weight (avg. kg.)	26.33	23.23	
Birth weight (avg. kg.)	2.86	2.85	
Performance			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Litter size born	1.0		
Age at first parturition (months)	18.0	16.0	21.0
Parturition interval (months)	8.0	7.0	9.0

Dressing percentage	48.0
Any Peculiarity of the breed	