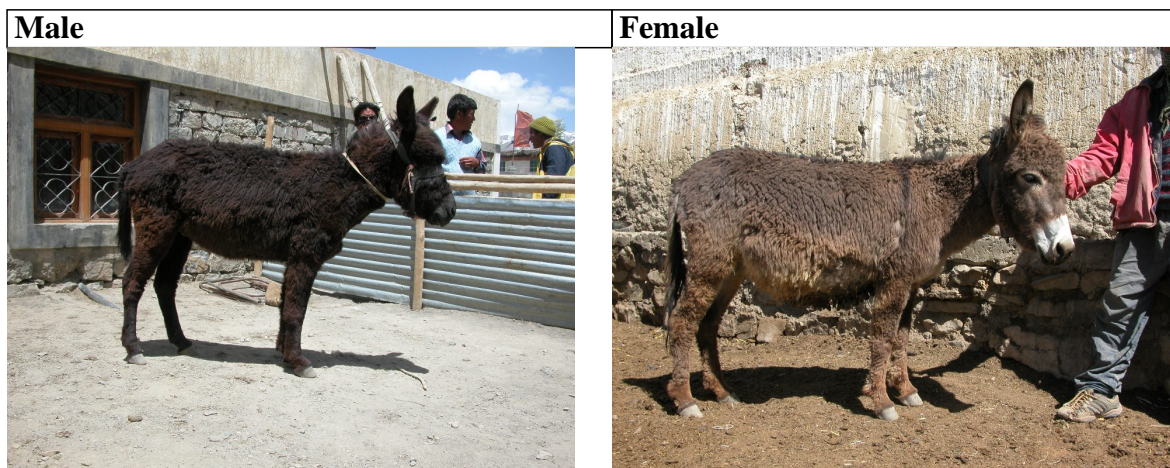


Breed Descriptor of Spiti (Donkey)



Breeding Tract			
State: Himachal Pradesh	Lahul & Spiti		
	Kinnaur		
Location			
Longitude (deg.)	77.5 - 78.8		
Latitude (deg.)	31.5 - 33.		
General Information			
Synonyms			
Origin	The breed is known since time immemorial and is named after the name of its native habitat.		
Major utility	Transportation		
Comments on utility	The Spiti donkeys are very strong and sure footed animals with incredible stamina.		
Comments on breeding tract	The breeding tract of Spiti donkeys is a high altitude, mountainous area situated between 3000 to 4200 meters above mean sea level and comprises of Spiti subdivision of Lahaul-Spiti and Pooh subdivision of Kinnaur district. The vegetation is cold arid alpine type.		
Adaptability to environment	They can survive well in scarcity of feed and fodder during harsh winter months when this area is completely snow bound. Spiti donkeys are able to carry upto 100kg of load in high altitude mountainous area with thin atmosphere having lesser oxygen.		
Population			
	Year	Population	Other information
	2007	4368	Source: Livestock census

	2013	7255	Source: Estimated Livestock Population of donkeys of HP. Based on Breed Survey 2013. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India, New Delhi
Management			
Management system	Semi-Intensive		
Mobility	Stationary		
Feeding of adults	Grazing,Fodder and Concentrate		
Comments on Management	About 1-3 donkeys are kept in every household in the villages in the breeding tract. Shelter is provided only during night or rain/snow. They are raised on both stall feeding and grazing		
Morphology			
Colour	Mainly brown, also brown-black and black. Major white markings mostly around muzzle and sometimes around eyes.		
Horn shape and size			
Visible characteristics	The face is also covered with long hairs like rest of the body. The head is comparatively broader and shorter. Tail extends up to hocks. Tail switch is not distinguishable due to presence of long hair on rest of the tail.		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	88.59	88.65	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	91.0	90.96	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	100.5	98.58	
Performance			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Age at first parturition (months)		36.0	48.0
Any Peculiarity of the breed	Usually, very calm, easy to handle and rarely bad tempered.Works as a pack animal for transportation of crops, grains, fruits, wood, manure and other items to road heads. Weighs approximately 53kg at 2-3 years of age.		