Suffolk

ORIGINS AND NATURAL APTITUDES

Originally an English breed, the SUFFOLK is the result of crossbreeding between « Norfolk » ewes and « Southdown » rams. French sheep farmers have come to appreciate both its breeding and meat qualities, in particular :

 - **Productive and maternal traits** : Prolificacy : 1.628   Good maternal milk value resulting in ADG (Average Daily Gain) of a male lamb born double : 276 g.

- **Early finishing** : Renowned internationally for its fast finishing lambs their rate of growth is indeed remarkable : 30.3 kg at 70 days.

- **Conformation** : Lambs graded **« U » on the "EUROP" grid** for carcasses of 18-20 kg between 90 and 120 days.

BREEDING PROGRAMME

The breeding programme is directed towards both the male and female lines:

- **The male line** in order to increase muscular body mass, fast finishing and prolificacy.

- **The female line** in order to improve prolificacy, milk production, early maturing ewe lambs and maternal qualities.

This programme is based on :

- Monitored **performance recording** on farm.

- Individual Assessment in the **ram evaluation centre** of 150 rams annually from the best bloodlines.

- **Testing on progeny for meat qualities** of the best 10 males in the ram evaluation centre.

- The collective use of the best rams by AI in order to share **the best genetic progress.**

MARKET STRENGTHS

The SUFFOLK is used either as a purebred for its breeding qualities or for crossbreeding on large scale farms for **its early finishing lambs and good carcass quality**.

French SUFFOLK breeders appreciate not only the impressive productivity but also their ability to adapt to different climates. For these reasons the SUFFOLK is **exported across the world**.