



Romane

ORIGINS AND NATURAL APTITUDES

The ROMANE is a cross between the French breed **BERRICHON DU CHER** and the **ROMANOV**. The ROMANE ewe has excellent breeding qualities:

- First and foremost its **prolificacy** at 2.151
- **Its natural all year round fertility** make it possible to produce lambs in September.
- The ROMANE's **ease of lambing** and **highly developed maternal instinct** make it an easily managed ewe.

BREEDING PROGRAMME

The main objectives of the **ROMANE sheep society** (O.S. ROMANE) are to maintain prolificacy at 200%, improve the milk value of the ewe, sustain good fertility and improve the phenotype development of the breed. The best young males are sent to the ram evaluation station for the breed which closely monitors 490 rams per year. The top young rams are used for AI in order to procreate the best genetic potential.

MARKET STRENGTHS

The main interest of the ROMANE is to **use the female line**. The ROMANE is managed in **large scale flocks** in various systems of lamb production. They are to be found in **intensive indoor systems** as much as in outdoor systems. It grazes natural meadows rich or less rich, on grass as much as on cover crops after cereals .

It is used in **crossbreeding** with the big French meat breeds: **BERRICHON DU CHER, ROUGE DE L'OUEST, SUFFOLK**. This lamb production results in lambs graded "U" and "R" in the 'EUROP' grid.

The breed is present across France and is the largest breed in terms of flock numbers of those being performance tested and is **one of the prime sheep meat breeds in France**. Demand for lambs is high. It is therefore advisable to reserve breeding stock before they are born, by contract and it is **GEODE's role is to put these contracts in place**.



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NUMBERS

98 Farmers carrying out performance testing in 46 departments of France
60 farmers belonging to the Romane sheep society
with 24,152 ewes in the breeding base of the selection schema
30 farmers who buy in Romane stock
altogether about 35,000 ewes

26,226 lambings and 55,234 lambs born to ewes in the breeding base;
Out of 490 rams evaluated, 328 rams qualified in 2017, 30 of which were used for AI;
Between 16,000 and 17,000 lambs qualified every year

MATERNAL QUALITIES

Prolificacy: 2.151 (2017)
Average weight at 30 days of a male lamb born twin: 11.2 kg.
Average weight at 30 days of a female lamb born twin: 10.7 kg

MEAT QUALITIES

ADG (Average Daily Gain) between 30 and 70 days of a male lamb, born twin or multiple births : 315g.

