

PUSTERTALER SPRINZEN (AUSTRIA)

cow and calf



bull



Origin: The Pustertaler Sprinzen are a rare cattle breed native to the Puster valley in the south and east of Tyrol.

The breed developed by crossing Swiss Herens (Eringer) cattle with the local breed. In the nineteenth century some breeders crossed in Pinzgau cattle.

Characteristics: The dual-purpose breed is robust and tough.

The basic colouring is white with chestnut-red, brown or black plaques at the flanks and the intermediate section, which dissolve into small spots at the edges. Are the coloured areas mainly connected they are called "Schecken", but if the colour spots are small and separate, they are called "Sprinzen".

The muzzle, the ears and the area around the eyes are coloured.

The forward pointing horns are bright coloured. They have a deep long trunk and a strong, short neck.

The cows weigh 450–550 kg and are about 125-140 tall, the bulls about 700-900 kg and are 135-140 cm tall. The birth weight is about 43-50 kg. The milk production reaches 3500 kg per lactation.

History: During the Habsburg Empire they became very popular and were seen as a very productive race.

The cattle breed collapsed after the ending of inspection for bull licensing through a Decree of the Agrarian Inspectorate 1927. Since 1984 the importance of the breed is developing again.

Population number: Today the cattle breed in Austria includes approximately 60 breeders and 200 registered cows.

Nowadays the breed is mostly used for beef production in suckler cow husbandry. Only a few cows are milked.

Bibliography: Fotos: www.nutztierfoto.com;
Info: www.rinderzucht-tirol.at;
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Author: Cassandra Eibl