

CRIOULO LAGEANO CATTLE

Crioulo Lageano bull



Origin: The local cattle breeds found in Brazil today are a result of Spanish and Portuguese expeditions that occurred during the sixteenth century (Mariane and Cavalcante, 2006). Franqueiro cattle were driven south in the advancing colonization process and is pointed out to be the major blood line that originated the Crioulo Lageano. Phonotypical data reveal several similarities with the Spanish Berrenda breed from Andaluzia (Primo, 2000).

Characteristics: More than 40 different coat colors are listed. The most common pattern is marked by black or red body spots with a white colored belly and a white back side. The color of eyelashes can be red or black and they will match with the color of the muzzle. Two breed varieties are recognized and distinguished according to the presence or absence of horns (Camargo and Martins, 2005). Female Crioulo Lageano cattle have greater weight gain until 27 months of age. The production rates are satisfactory bearing in mind the extensive conditions and reduced nutrients of native pastures in the highland ecosystem. Adaptation features are normally related to this scenario. Cattle graze on frosty and even snowy conditions in the winter and are challenged in a 33°C temperature during the summer season (Ribeiro, 1986). Cows' weight is up to 429 kg and are known to have good calving performance and great maternal ability.

Crioulo Lageano cow with a calf



Population number: Most of the population is located in the municipality of Lages, Santa Catarina State. This was the city that originated the name of this breed. In the beginning of the twentieth century Crioulo Lageano was the major breed in the highland region but today the population is restricted to around 500 animals (Mariane and Cavalcante, 2006). The official recognition of the breed occurred in 2008 (ABCCL).

References:

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Pictures:

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