



(photo credits: ILRI/Karen Marshall)



Characteristics

- Black in colour, some are spotted.
- Medium length.
- Big head, prominent face and tapering snout.
- Ears are medium to large sized.
- Long tails.



Performance

- Sows have good mothering ability, with fairly high milk production.
- Average litter sizes but intensively managed sows have big litters e.g. 15 piglets.
- Piglets are slow growing.
- Hardy, can cope with low quality feed, disease especially mange and worms.
- Tend to give very fatty carcasses.
- A mature sow weighs between 70 kg and 120 kg and a mature boar weighs between 100 kg and 150 kg.



Use

- Sows produced as a cross between the local breed and an exotic ("white") breed, such as the Large White or Landrace are suitable for farms that are not able to provide high standards of housing, health-care, and feed.
- Local sows are usually crossed to local or exotic ("white") boars. If crossing to an exotic boar by natural mating, be sure the boar is not too big for the sow.
- Sows produced as a cross between local and exotic ("white") breeds are usually crossed to exotic ("white") boars.

