

Donkeys

Ghammieri host a small herd of Gerusalem Donkeys. These animals bear a distinctive cross on their back.



Source: MSDEC

Shetland ponies

This is a breed of pony originating in Shetland Isles, UK. Shetlands range in size from a minimum height of 71 cm to 107 cm. Shetland ponies have heavy coats, short legs and are considered quite intelligent. Animals. They are a very strong breed of pony, used for riding, driving, and pack purposes.



Source: MSDEC

Llama

Llamas are domesticated South American Camelids and are used both as a meat and as pack animal. They are very social animals and live in herds.



Source: MSDEC

Ostriches

Ostriches are native to Africa. They are the largest bird on earth and do not fly. Ghammieri has a male and a female. In captivity can live up to 60 years.



Source: MSDEC

Other animals

- Chinese and Egyptian geese; Muscovy ducks, Ruddy Shelduck, Mallard; Eagle; Barn Owl; Pigeons; Various hen/cock breeds; Peacock; Turtle Dove ; Quails; Siskins; Green finch; Linnet; Serin; Chaffinch; Gold Finch.
- Cats
- Fresian cows
- Deer
- Pygmy, Alpine and Saanen goats

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MALTA**



Source: MSDEC



**MINISTRY FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT,
ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE**

Maltese Hen

The Black Maltese is an ancient breed thought to exist as from 6th Century B.C. It has several distinctive features: its all-black plumage which camouflages it from being preyed upon at night time; a ruby-red comb; and white ear lobes – indicative of the colour of their egg

The Black Maltese is a nearly-extinct light breed of non-sitting, egg-type chicken, present in the Maltese Islands. Formerly widely reared under backyard conditions for its abundant, white large eggs, it has now been entirely replaced by commercial hens.

Recently there have been initiatives from different organisations to commercialise the breed.



Source: MSDEC

Maltese Sheep

This rare indigenous breed was the original seed-stock used in the development of the Comisana breed found in Sicily. They were reared for milk, meat and wool production. Their head is mostly masked reddish, yellow or black with long neck and semi lop ears. Muzzles have no wool and their long slim body with long silky coat is mostly white fleece but may have patches at any place; the patches will be of the same colour of the head. Head and feet are not fleeced. Their long tail is covered with long fleece.



Source: MSDEC

Maltese Cow

The Maltese indigenous cow is considered to be a species which can be traced back to the prehistoric era – as is evidenced by the etchings of bulls on some of the stonework in our prehistoric temples

This ancient cow breed is thought to have existed in Malta for thousands of years. It is thought that it was used for building many structures but for centuries it was the backbone of Maltese agriculture. Only in modern times it was replaced by the tractors and with consequence that its population dropped dramatically.

The animals are larger in size than most other common cattle breeds, are brown in colour and with wide moderately long horns. The males show a typical darker stripe on their back and a distinctive muscular hump between the shoulders.

The Government Agricultural complex host most of the remaining Maltese Cow population.



Source: MSDEC

In 2006 the Government taxidermed one of the eldest Maltese cows. Its DNA was also conserved for any future conservation of the species.

Maltese Goat

The Maltese indigenous goat, which has its root from Middle East, has a white body with long hair, black head and large drooping ears and no horns. It is usually reared in small flocks of about 40 heads and is very prolific. Its milk has a high fat and protein content, 3.8% and 3.3% respectively and is produced in abundance.

Their population dwindled significantly after the Second World War.

Recently they had their DNA typed for conservation purpose.



Source: MSDEC

Maltese Runt Pigeon

The Maltese Runt is an endemic Maltese pigeon of unknown origin and it was common in the past. It was grown for its squabs for consumption and its particular feathers were used to fill pillows and mattresses etc.



Source :

<http://faunamelitensis.deviantart.com/art/Maltese-Runt-Pigeon-381839344>