

# Working Herding Dog

The Working Collie, Sheep or Herding Dog has changed little in more than 200 years. Once the pride of Stockmen and Drovers these hardy lithe highly intelligent dogs can still be seen working the stock which inhabits the wilder upland areas of the British Isles, where sheep and cattle graze unfenced moorland. A farming practice which is as common in Britain today as it was in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Known to be the ancestors of several herding breeds it is now estimated that the original MDR-1 mutation occurred in these animals around the time this painting was produced by Richard Ansdell in the early to mid 19th Century.

The degree of prevalence of the MDR-1 mutation in today's Working Collies or Sheepdogs is not known.

*detail from Richard Ansdell's  
'Turning Back The Drove'*

