

Lurcher

A type rather than a breed, Lurchers are traditionally a cross between a Working Sheepdog and a Long-dog, *usually either Deerhound or Greyhound*, and were bred to accompany the long Drives of stock from upland breeding and rearing districts to the lush grazing grounds where cattle and sheep were fattened before being taken to market during the 18th and early 19th centuries.

Bred for speed as well as biddability coupled with the hardiness necessary for the task of providing a nomadic class with their protein, they have, over the centuries, acquired a reputation as a Poachers Dog.

The degree of penetration the MDR-1 mutation has achieved in current Lurchers is not known but given their ancestry it is extremely unlikely that a significant percentage do not carry at least a single copy of the mutant gene.

