



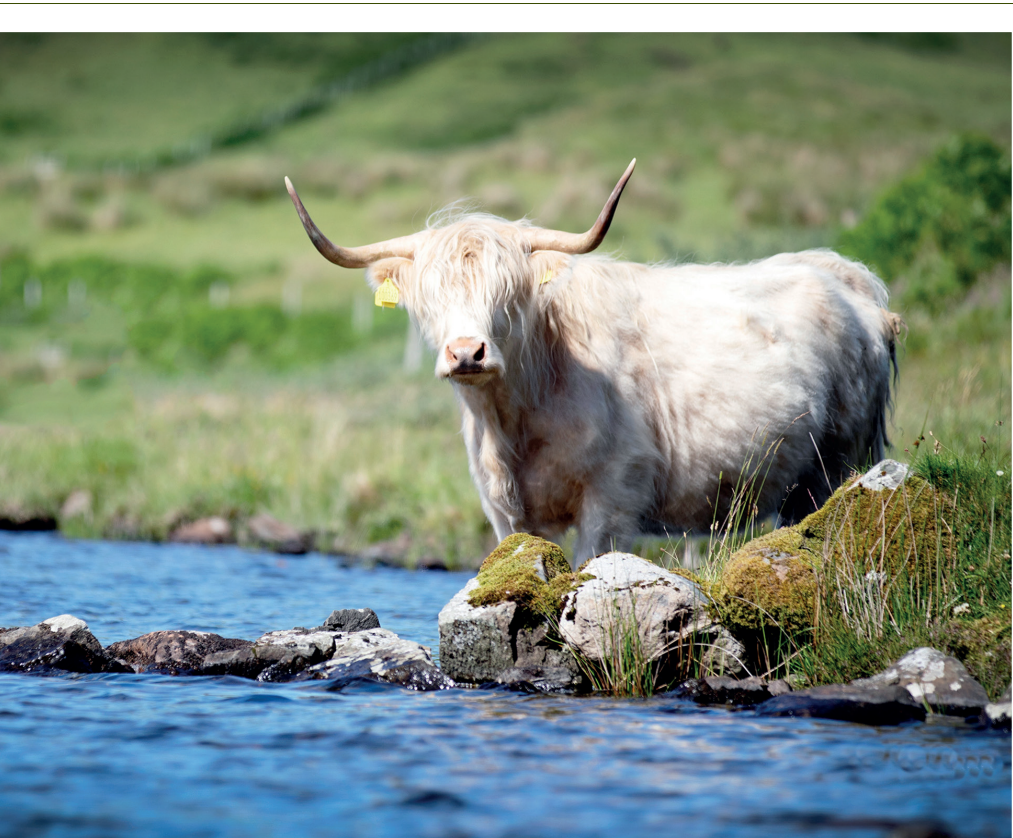
**Conservation  
and Sustainable**  
Beef Production with  
Highland Cattle



**Farming is changing, environmental land management, carbon capture, high health and sustainable nature friendly farming are the key to the farming future and Highland Cattle present the ideal opportunity to farm sustainably and make a good return.**



**Highland cattle have some qualities over other breeds that make them ideal for sustainable farming, nature recovery and conservation management.**



- Studies have shown they are non-selective browsers so have the ability to spread and trample in all manner of seeds. They are therefore able to open up land that has been overcome by a single species, such as purple moor grass or ash saplings, thus reducing the dominant plant species that have taken hold and therefore able to create a diverse mosaic of habitats for greater biodiversity.
- Because of their grazing patterns they will eat all manner of material and survive and even thrive on rough land where other cattle would struggle.
- In a native woodland they will open up the forest floor and they are ideal animals for silvo pasture agroforestry
- They are used to trample the brash after commercial forestry and help graze and return the land to its original heath or moorland.
- They are used to graze traditional hay meadows around the UK and, in the Western Isles, the machair after hay making, trampling in seed and dunging, helping to spread the traditional flowers and grasses.
- With strength and long horns, Highland cattle are excellent at clearing scrub, brambles and gorse in restoration areas and preventing scrub encroachment into open pastures.
- They trample bracken opening up the hillsides to a greater range of species.
- They are smaller and wider footed than most cattle therefore relatively light on the ground so rather than poaching it, they trample the ground. They are ideal for wetlands, you will find them in the fens of Norfolk, and the wet upland moorlands throughout the UK.
- Their hardiness is essential for exposed sites and out-wintering and their longevity together with trouble free calving can help minimize management costs. They will range widely, mimicking the behaviour of wild herbivores, with sure footed agility and, of course, they produce high quality beef.
- They can thrive on poor rough land that many other grazing species would not and they are not deterred by rocky hillsides.



They are so versatile you can find them on fenlands, acid high land, chalk downs, around lochs, on mountains and hills through the UK and beyond. You will find them employed as flying herds on nature reserves or on improved pastures.

As they can live outside 365 days of the year, and both calving and finishing outdoors. Highlands have few health problems. They are easy calvers and will calf unassisted, often in hostile conditions on the high moors.

They can be finished on grass and forage only, finishing at around 30 months with a dead weight carcass of 270 – 320kg, making healthy tasty beef to meet current market demands of high health grass finished beef of the right carcass shape and size.

These hardy cows are also long lived, still producing calves in their late teens or more, so minimising replacement costs.



So, whatever your land type they have huge advantages:

- non selective browsers
- can be finished on pasture alone
- no need for housing
- multiple calves so low replacement costs
- healthy low fat, high protein, tasty beef that can be sold at a premium
- used in environmental schemes generating income
- used in flying conservation herds also generating income
- used by conservation bodies throughout the UK
- can be used in regenerative farming systems

**Take advantage of up and coming environmental schemes, utilise poor rough grazing, increase biodiversity, farm sustainably, reach high health status, lower your costs and have a low carbon footprint by using Highland Cattle to produce high quality, healthy tasty beef that has a great provenance.**

# Conservation and Sustainable Beef Production with Highland Cattle



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