

## Canadian South Devon Association

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<http://www.southdevon.ca/>

South Devon cattle have British origins, from the county of Devon, which is in the Southwest of England. South Devons have been a distinct breed since the 16th century and are now recognized in more than eighteen countries. They are not related to the North Devon cattle which also originate in England. The breed is exceptionally adaptable to varying climate conditions that differ greatly from the hills of Devon, England. Wherever the South Devon have been introduced, they have been well accepted and exhibit strong performance for production and profitability. There are South Devon Cattle in the hot arid areas of South Africa; the high, cold mountainous regions of New Zealand; and the pampas of Argentina.

It is believed that South Devon cattle were imported to Canada in 1969 and 1970. South Devon cattle are the largest of the British breeds and cross well with several other breeds, and accordingly much has been accomplished in relation to genetic improvement.

With their rapid growth rate, beef qualities, mothering ability and milk production, they are an excellent animal to cross-breed.

The F1 female crosses make top rate mother cows and accordingly will improve one's herd. South Devon cattle are exceptionally docile and both cows and bulls handle easily under pasture and range conditions. Gentle disposition is an important economic trait as it makes management easier and improves the rate and efficiency of gain. They possess the fertility and milking ability that have earned them a reputation as the "maternal beef breed". Polled and black genetics are now available as well.