Chapter 11.6.8 Creating a synthetic breed

This cross starts as follows: two breeds are crossed and males and females of the F\textsubscript{1} generation are reciprocally mated. This is continued in the F\textsubscript{2}, F\textsubscript{3}, F\textsubscript{4} etc. In this way a new (synthetic) breed is created containing equal parts (50\%) of the alleles of the two founder breeds. According to this principle also three or four breeds can be used to create a synthetic breed. Then the reciprocally mating of males and females in the F\textsubscript{2} generation is the real start of the new synthetic breed. The Dutch Flevolander is a recent example of a created new breed. It started with the cross of Finnish Landrace sheep, a breed with a high litter size, with Ile-de-France sheep, a breed with a non-seasonal oestrus pattern. The F\textsubscript{1} ewes produce large litters and give three lambings in two years. The F\textsubscript{1} rams were mated to F\textsubscript{1} ewes, F\textsubscript{2} rams to F\textsubscript{2} ewes, F\textsubscript{3} rams to F\textsubscript{3} ewes etc. In this way a very prolific sheep breed is created.