



# AUSTRALIAN ALPACA

An official publication of the Australian Alpaca Association Ltd





Join us for our very popular residential weekend for new alpaca breeders at Flowerdale Estate. These "Introduction to Alpacas" workshops attract participants from all over Australia and New Zealand.

#### *The Program.*

Workshops include classroom learning and hands-on sessions in the barn working with the alpacas. Participants learn the basics: halter training, chuckering, weighing, body-condition-scoring, nutrition, mating, spit-offs, birthing, cria care, weaning, shearing, fibre classing, vaccinations, drenching, toenail trimming, business plans and record keeping.

#### *The Venue.*

Flowerdale Estate is an award-winning, retreat for up to 60 people. Stay in luxury accommodation and let the chefs tempt you with their delicious menus. These workshops have provided a wonderful opportunity for new breeders to network, socialize and have fun. Many lasting friendships have started at these weekends.

#### *The Weekend Package.*

Make it a special weekend of learning and leisure. Play some tennis. Workout in the gym. Enjoy a sauna or challenge someone to a game of pool. At the end of the day, relax with a pre-dinner drink and a savoury or two.



There are sessions on goal setting, genetic advancements (SRS and AGE data usage), selecting quality alpacas, farm plans, pasture improvement, herd development strategies, succeeding in the show ring and marketing alpacas.

## WORKSHOPS FOR NEW BREEDERS.

The complete weekend price per couple is \$625. Singles are \$425. The package includes accommodation for Saturday night, Saturday and Sunday lunch, morning teas, Saturday night dinner, use of recreational facilities, workshop tuition and course materials.

#### *Bookings.*

Attendance numbers are limited and fill quickly. Complete details including the weekend program, directions and booking forms are on the website now at [www.flowerdalealpacas.net](http://www.flowerdalealpacas.net)

Or phone Jen on 03 9728 7070.



*Details on website*

[www.flowerdalealpacas.net](http://www.flowerdalealpacas.net)

*Sign up today.*

FLOWERDALE ESTATE  
ALPACAS

# A message from our president

## Publisher

Australian Alpaca is published by the Australian Alpaca Association Ltd.  
ABN 30 067 146 481  
ACN 067 146 481

Unit 2, 613 Whitehorse Rd,  
Mitcham, Victoria 3132 Australia  
(PO Box 1076, Mitcham North,  
Victoria 3132)

Telephone +61 (0)3 9873 7700  
Fax +61 (0)3 9873 7711  
Email: alpaca@alpaca.asn.au  
Internet: www.alpaca.asn.au

## Designed and Produced

By Oak Grove Graphics  
PO Box 4059, Candelo NSW  
2550

Telephone +61 (0)2 6493 2036  
info@oakgrovegraphics.com.au  
www.oakgrovegraphics.com.au

## Copyright

All material appearing in Alpacas Australia Online is copyright. Reproduction in whole or part is not permitted without the written permission of the publisher.

## Liability

Views expressed by the contributors to this publication, and the advertisements appearing in this publication, are not necessarily endorsed by the Association.

Every care is taken in compiling the contents of this publication, but the Association assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information contained in the text or advertisements.



**Cover 'Cria'**  
Photograph by Jill Willis  
Sunline Alpacas

Welcome to **Australian Alpaca**, a publication which will give you an introduction to the Australian alpaca industry and the Australian Alpaca Association.

Alpacas were first introduced to Australia in 1858 but this early venture was largely unsuccessful.

It was a hundred and thirty years later when alpacas again came to Australian shores from South America that it resulted in much more success!

The founding of the Australian Alpaca Association (AAA) took place in 1990 when the need for a national association to promote and grow the concept of alpacas as a viable and sustainable primary industry was recognised by early owners. This was far sighted of those individuals and one which has enabled us to grow not only as an industry but as an association which now supports more than 2,200 members.

Australian alpacas are amongst the best in the world. The International Alpaca Register (IAR) was established 21 years ago and contains comprehensive data of over 125,000 animals and their lineage. Australian bred alpacas have been exported from Australia to many countries around the world including New Zealand, South Africa, America and Europe.

The AAA has grown into an active membership based organisation which is overseen by a Board of 9 Directors. The Executive, consisting of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are included in that board structure. There are 13 regions across Australia, each with their own committee of management and representatives from each of the regions, [usually the Regional President] meet twice a year with the board. Membership to the AAA is welcomed from all who reside in any part of Australia and indeed the world. We currently have a wide age range of Australian members, people from overseas and a number of Australian educational institutions that enjoy the benefits of an AAA membership. The AAA is a company limited by guarantee which provides an efficient service structure and the best protection for the associations' membership. Our national office is based in Mitcham, Victoria and this is the hub of our service provision.

I hope you enjoy reading **Australian Alpaca** and if you are interested in joining the Australian Alpaca Association or want even more information about the Australian alpaca industry, please visit our website at [www.alpaca.asn.au](http://www.alpaca.asn.au) or call our national office on 03 9873 7700 for more information.

*Jenny McAuliffe*  
AAA Ltd. President



## Free Information Kit

I am not a member of the Australian Alpaca Association Ltd. but am interested in learning more about alpacas

☐ Please send me a FREE alpaca information kit.

(Please print)

Name: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss

Address:

State:

Postcode:

Phone:

Email:

## Send to:

AAA Ltd.  
PO Box 1076  
Mitcham North  
Victoria 3132

**Phone** 03 9873 7700  
**Fax** 03 9873 7711  
**Email** alpaca@alpaca.asn.au  
**Web** www.alpaca.asn.au





# Alpaca Types

## Huacaya

Pronounced wua'ki'ya, this is the most common alpaca type in both South America and Australia.

It has a soft bonnet of fibre on the forehead and its cheeks boast 'mutton chops' whilst the dense body fibre grows straight out from the body, not unlike Merino fleece. Ideally, fleece coverage is even and extends down the legs. Its fleece should show a uniform crimp along the length of the staple



## Suri

As a type, the suri (soo'ree) is very much less common than the huacaya, and in Australia only a small percentage of alpacas are suris.

This alpaca has fleece with a strongly defined lock. The suri is covered in long, pencil fine locks, not unlike dreadlocks, that hang straight down from the body. The fleece has lustre and its feel is more slippery and silky than that of the huacaya.

The predominant suri colours are white or light fawn but colours are becoming more common.



## Shahrizai Alpaca



Marc & Marina Mullette

Tansey, Queensland

(07) 4168 7242

[www.shahrizai.com](http://www.shahrizai.com)

Suri and Huacaya, Whites and Amazing Colours

## Yaringa Alpacas

[www.yaringaalpacas.com.au](http://www.yaringaalpacas.com.au)

Susan Haese

0418 846 271

[susan@yaringaalpacas.com.au](mailto:susan@yaringaalpacas.com.au)

- Quality stud stock, pets and guardians available for sale
- Large range of colours and prices
- Extensive list of stud males, both huacaya and suri available for outside services
- Q-Alpaca

*Specialising in expert advice and total support for new breeders*



Quality Alpacas with Classic Style

Located at Yaringa Alpacas

## Classic Alpacas

Est. 1994

[www.classicalpacas.com.au](http://www.classicalpacas.com.au)

Jane Wray

0411 703 687

(08) 8358 2406

[janewray@bigpond.com](mailto:janewray@bigpond.com)

## Wahgunurry Alpacas



PAULINE & COLIN GLASSER



2276 Lawrence Road  
Lower Southgate  
GRAFTON NSW  
Ph. 0419986554

e: [cpg4764@bigpond.net.au](mailto:cpg4764@bigpond.net.au)

[www.wahgunurryalpaca.bigpondhosting.com](http://www.wahgunurryalpaca.bigpondhosting.com)



# FAQs about Alpacas

## Are alpacas related to llamas?

Alpacas are very closely related to llamas. They are both from a group of four species known as South American Camelids. The llama is approximately twice the size of an alpaca with banana shaped ears and is principally used as a pack animal. In Australia alpacas are bred for fleece, and as stud animals, pets and herd guards against foxes; they are unable to withstand an attack by a pack of two or more dogs.

## How many alpacas can I run on my property?

That will depend on what sort of pasture and how much pasture your land is capable of producing. Different climatic regions and different soil types vary widely in their carrying capacity.

A standard unit of carrying capacity is the Dry Sheep Equivalent per hectare (DSE). For example, in areas of good soil and high rainfall your property might sustain 10 DSE/ha, compared with dryland areas that might be 1.5 DSE/ha. The DSE for your property can be determined by speaking to an agricultural consultant, or perhaps your neighbour if they are experienced farmers.

As a general rule, one alpaca wether is equivalent to one DSE. The nutritional requirements of pregnant alpaca are half as much again as those of a wether. The nutritional requirements of a lactating alpaca are twice as much as a wether. If you are prepared to supplementary feed, you may be able to increase your stocking rate

## What sort of fencing do alpacas need?

Any fencing in broad acreage rural areas that keeps sheep contained is satisfactory, preferably without barbed wire. Alpacas do not tend to jump fences but are quite capable of clearing a standard fence if sufficiently stressed.

Electric fencing is not very common but it may be used. Advice on the correct height settings of the hot wires is best sought from an alpaca breeder who has experience with alpacas and electric fencing.

If you live in a well populated area, wandering dogs are an issue - there are always some that are not locked up at night, despite their owner's claims. In these areas, it is essential that the boundary fencing is suitable for keeping dogs out. Dog attacks, in some areas, are becoming an increasingly prevalent problem and when they occur they have disastrous consequences.

## What do alpacas eat?

Alpacas are principally grazers but sometimes they enjoy casual browsing. They are fastidious food selectors that are highly adapted to eat small amounts of a variety of plants.

Although they can survive very harsh conditions, alpacas do best on good quality pasture and benefit from having access to plant material with long fibres: eg. hay.

There are a number of commercial alpaca mixes available but these are best thought of as supplying vitamins and minerals rather than the bulk feed which is obtained through grazing.

One important rule to remember is to introduce any changes to the diet gradually, over a period of a couple of weeks. This way, the microbes in the gut have time to adjust to any feed changes.

Although some people think alpacas don't drink huge amounts, they do need to have ready access to good quality, fresh drinking water.

## How often do you shear alpacas?

Alpacas are shorn once a year, usually in spring. Shearing is the biggest maintenance required and usually takes around five to ten minutes per animal for an experienced alpaca shearer.

Depending on the density of the fleece, alpacas cut anywhere between 1½ and 4 kg of fleece. Some of the high quality stud males will cut higher weights.





## **What do you do with the fleece?**

There are a number of options for alpaca fibre; a list of commercial buyers is available on the AAA website. Marketing opportunities also exist with spinners, felters and textile artists. Some alpaca owners also process their own fibre and value add by processing it into yarns and garments. A few alpaca owners prefer to home spin their fibre. Commercial prices depend on quality with a premium paid for finer micron fibre - and may be up to \$45 per kilogram. Sales to home spinners vary and prices may be higher.

## **What sort of diseases do alpacas get?**

Compared with other livestock, alpacas are relatively disease free. Because of their dry fleece and naturally clean breech, fly strike is not an issue with alpacas. They do not require mulesing or crutching. They are vaccinated twice yearly with the same '5 in 1' vaccine used for sheep and goats to protect against tetanus, pulpy kidney, black leg, black disease and malignant oedema. When buying alpacas for breeding purposes it is advisable to arrange a veterinary check to ensure you are buying a healthy animal.

## **Do they make good pets?**

Most alpacas make very good pets if they are treated well and the owners are realistic in their expectations. Like any livestock, the more handling they receive as youngsters, the quieter they are as adults. Given time, most alpacas will eat out of your hand and training them to lead by a halter is a straightforward process.

## **Alpacas spit don't they?**

Spitting is perhaps the least endearing feature of alpacas. It is one of the few defence mechanisms an alpaca has and it is quite an effective deterrent. The material is basically regurgitated or recently chewed grass and it brushes off when dry. It does have a distinctive and somewhat offensive odour and it is best to avoid being a target. However, it is quite rare that alpacas spit at people. It is normally used as a pecking order mechanism with other alpacas. If a human hit occurs, it is usually because the person has not read the signs properly when stepping between two squabbling alpacas.



## **Can I just have one or do I need to have lots?**

It is possible, but not desirable to have a single alpaca, and it is not a pleasant existence for the animal. Alpacas are herd animals and are instinctively gregarious, as are other domestic livestock. They obtain security and contentment from having at least one other alpaca for company. For this reason, it is usually recommended that two alpacas are the desirable minimum. Sometimes if a single pregnant female is bought for breeding, a wether can go with her for company.

## **How do you transport alpacas?**

Alpacas travel very well in a van, covered trailer or horse float. Most alpacas will sit during the journey and travel best in the company of another alpaca. On long trips over two or three hours it is advisable to plan for a stop so the alpacas can have a toilet break. Clean straw on the floor of the vehicle helps to absorb jarring on rough roads.

## **Can I run alpacas with other livestock?**

Alpacas can bond well with other types of animals. Naturally, alpacas and aggressive dogs are not a good combination, but there are many cases of quiet dogs mixing well with alpacas. Individual alpacas have been very successfully run with sheep and goats to act as fox guards. The alpacas tend to bond with the foster herd and they are naturally aggressive towards foxes.





**BEST MED/DARK FAWN SURI**



**BEST BROWN SURI**



**BEST GREY SURI**



**SURI DAMS PROGENY**

# 2011 NATIONAL SHOW



**SURI SIRES PROGENY**



**BEST WHITE SURI**



**SUPREME SURI CHAMPION**



**BEST LIGHT FAWN SURI**

**BREED YOUR  
OWN  
CHAMPIONS**

# Surilana

*Setting the Suri Standard*

[www.surilana.com.au](http://www.surilana.com.au)

**CHOICE  
QUALITY  
AFFORDABILITY**



# FAQs continued

## At what age do alpacas start breeding?

Females become sexually mature at around 12 to 18 months of age and once they reach 45-50kg in weight. Males can display sexual interest from a few weeks of age but are not sexually active or fertile until 18 months to 3 years of age. (There will be individuals that fall outside this age range.) Libido in males is not a criterion of stud quality in alpacas. Alpacas do not have a breeding season and, providing they are receptive, females can be mated at any time of the year. Like rabbits and cats, female alpacas are 'induced ovulators' which means it is the act of mating that causes them to ovulate. It is preferable, though not essential, to avoid mid-late summer matings. Given the 11 to 12 month gestation, this reduces the incidence of heavily pregnant females and new cria (alpaca babies) in very hot weather.

The average gestation period is 11½ months, but pregnancies that go for over a year are not uncommon.

Births are generally trouble-free and most occur before the middle of the day.

Cria should be 6-8kg at birth and most will be on their feet and drinking within 2 to 3 hours. The mothers are often very protective and the cria will stay with its mum until weaning at 5 to 6 months of age.

Females are usually re-mated 2 to 6 weeks after giving birth.

## How do I get started if I want to breed alpacas?

Firstly, it is best to talk to as many experienced breeders as possible. You will gain lots of useful information from people who have already done the leg work.

If you are serious it is advisable to develop a business plan and if you don't already have one, find an accountant who is used to dealing with primary industry clients.

To be able to register your offspring you will need to become a member of the Australian Alpaca Association and apply for Herd Registration (Herd Prefix and Herd Code). The National Office can send you the appropriate forms. Also ask which region you will belong to and attend any workshops or seminars that are being held. The more you can educate yourself about all aspects of breeding, the more informed your choices will be.

An expanded version of these FAQ's can be viewed on the Australian Alpaca Association website at [www.alpaca.asn.au](http://www.alpaca.asn.au)

**ESTERLINA SURI ALPACAS**  
Champion Suris in the Making  
(Q Alpaca 08/328)



**Affordable, Quality Breeding Stock for Sale**  
**Quality Stud Males Services**  
**Proven Australian & Imported Genetics**  
**Female Progeny Guarantee Offered\***  
\*conditions do apply



**[www.esterlina.com.au](http://www.esterlina.com.au)**  
Potts Road, Taradale, Central Victoria  
Ph. 03 54232020 / 0412004956 Email: [suris@esterlina.com.au](mailto:suris@esterlina.com.au)

**QLD'S LEADING SURI STUD**  
**A good stud male isn't enough if you want exceptional progeny...**



**It's a 50/50 combination with quality females that produces consistent show winners**  
**Quality females now available**

John & Esme Graham  
2562 Mt Mee Rd, Ocean View QLD 4521  
Ph: 07 3425 3405  
Email: [alpacas@paltarrapark.com.au](mailto:alpacas@paltarrapark.com.au)  
[www.paltarrapark.com.au](http://www.paltarrapark.com.au)







# McKenzie Park

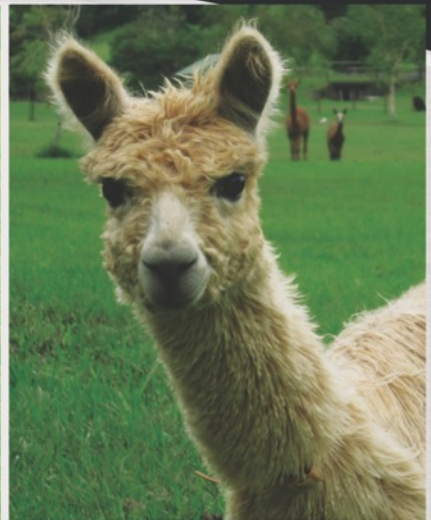
SURI ALPACAS



## QUALITY SURI BREEDER

Specialising in Black, Grey & Medium Fawn

McKenzie Park is a unique property where our suris live and breed in luxury. Our park is designed for optimum suri happiness and has resulted in healthy and handled award winning alpacas. Pregnant Females for sale / Stud Services Available



[www.mckenzieparksuris.com.au](http://www.mckenzieparksuris.com.au)

For all enquiries including visits and sales please contact us:  
[mckenzieparkalpacos@bigpond.com](mailto:mckenzieparkalpacos@bigpond.com)

Jacqueline Dean & Dave Mehrtens 0427 236 889



# Alpacas as herd guards

## Non-believer Central West Sheep Farmers Converted

Once upon a time there was .....

Well, yes I'd like to say that becoming owners of Alpacas was part of a fairytale but the raw truth is more like a Stephen King Novel to begin with although it does have a happy ending.

My husband (long suffering) and I (a NZ sheep farmers daughter) with our two children, a two year old and a one month old, moved back to Condobolin in the Central West of NSW to be closer to my husband's family and their family farm, to escape the rat race and buy a property of our own. We arrived at the end of 2001 at the start of the drought, not that we knew it then, and bought some older ewes in lamb to Dorset rams and duly awaited lambing to commence.

About a fortnight before the ewes were due to drop the fox population nearly doubled – we had baited from a month prior to lambing but the foxes were still moving in for the main event – the lambing feeding frenzy. We put out over \$1000 in fox baits for no apparent effect other than to feed the blighters! The Gent who had owned the property before us, so we found out, didn't bait partially because he had gone over to cattle and also because he had lost his dog from eating a bait.

We were losing up to 10 lambs a night and that was only accounting for those that were left behind not those that were 'takeaways' as is the foxes habit. During one evening of shooting my Husband witnessed 7 foxes working the sheep like a pack of dogs circling them so that the lambs arrived at the outside of the ewes to be then taken by the nearest fox! (This is the Stephen King novel bit.)

The upshot of this was a lambing of 63%, pretty pathetic considering the effort that had gone in.

Out of this frustration was born the idea that there had to be a better way of controlling foxes. I didn't like the idea of using dogs, left unattended with their natural food source was asking for trouble. The idea to use Alpacas came into its own (I can't even remember where I first heard about them) and I started to research these exotic creatures and the more I learned the more I was convinced that they were part of the solution to the problem.

Next was the sales phase where I had to convince my partner in life and in business that this was the way to go. Working in a very conservative rural farming area didn't help the cause too much either – to cut a long story short I was 'allowed' to purchase 2 wethers to trial, they had to be white and at least MN2 as we are living in an OJD/BJD exclusion zone.



Finding wethers turned out to be a bit harder than we thought, especially with the requirements that we had, but Juan and Carlos (yes, Grand Prix weekend, Mr Montoya would be proud!) were duly brought home and placed with the maiden ewes as all our older ewes like so many others in the district were on agistment.

The two boys spent the first month travelling the fence line and the neighbour jokingly suggested that they were doing a good job with his sheep over the fence.

With the size of the area that needed to be patrolled we sourced two more wethers to top up coverage of the paddock – just on 400 acres.

A fortnight before the ewes were due to lamb the alpacas started camping with the ewes at night.

We lost 8 lambs from fox attack. As I was picking up all casualties each day from the paddock and accounting for them as to cause of death and the ewes had been scanned I was able to get a pretty good estimate. We were in the unenviable position of having to feed ewes about to drop hence higher than usual losses from lambing sickness and dystocia from big lambs.

The percentage this year with the help of the boys was 81 %, and there was the occasional very hungry mangy fox in the paddock so the boys must be doing their job and had paid for themselves in the first year – not many investments will do that!

The following year we had all the ewes home – still in drought conditions and feeding stock and with the boys having just cut their 3 year old teeth we managed 94%. Not bad, in a year where our neighbours were excited about a 70% lambing rate due to the conditions.>



> The ewes often form a nursery group around where the Alpacas are camped under a tree during the middle of the day so the boys get to play babysitter while the ewes go off to graze. The Alpacas won't leave an area until all the lambs are with their mothers. The boys patrol the paddock during the day and will check out any new additions as they arrive, they also tend to hang around the vicinity of lambing ewes. I am still able to take my little sheepdog bitch into the paddock with me but I have to show the boys that she is with me so they don't chase her but they still watch her every move.

I have seen the Alpacas on several occasions gently pushing a lamb up to its Mum as she is walking away from the feeders where the lamb has been asleep and not realized that Mum has finished and had headed off.

This year when checking the lambing ewes in the twin/multiples paddock I found a lamb that belonged to a set of triplets, after finding the lamb which had become separated from its siblings and Mum I realized I was being monitored by Juan and Pepe who are on lambing duty in this paddock, they watched me as I put the lamb down then they pushed it up to the ewe who acknowledged it and let it suck. The two Alpacas then nudged the three lambs up after the ewes as she walked off – poor ewe won't get any time out with these two paddock Nannies on duty.

My Husband is a bigger advocate for the alpacas as fox guards than I am now and we bought our first three girls (yes those big brown eyes and their gentle intelligent nature have got us hooked) so we will be breeding our own fox guards and girls for a while to come.


We still bait for foxes but are only using between \$30 and \$40 of baits during the lambing season a far cry from the \$1000 of bait and no real results. Alpacas have proved to be a far more sustainable and ongoing solution to our fox problem.

Since our first three girls we have added to our herd and through selective breeding now run a herd of 200 mainly white and light fawn animals with a herd micron average that merino breeders would be very happy with.

We have since sold herd guards to farmers from large corporate farming enterprises, stud breeders and broadacre graziers all of whom have reaped the benefits of these animals and are often repeat purchasers as their sheep stock numbers are increasing.



.....And they all lived happily ever after!

Debbie O'Neill  
"Carlowrie"  
Condobolin NSW 2877



## PITCHINGGA RIDGE

ALPACAS

Breeding black & grey huacaya  
and  
suri in white & all colours.  
Your enquiries welcomed.

Jean & David Daddo  
03 5989 2866  
pitchingga@ozemail.com.au  
[www.pitchinggaridge.com.au](http://www.pitchinggaridge.com.au)

## bywong alpacas

Q-Alpaca #07-0219

Proud co-owners of:

- Canchones Gendarme
- Canchones Trafalgar
- Canchones Shogun
- Jolimont Cassiano

Above genetics available in both  
progeny and pregnant females

Check our website for further details

[www.bywongalpacas.com](http://www.bywongalpacas.com)  
 Phone: (03) 5429 1803



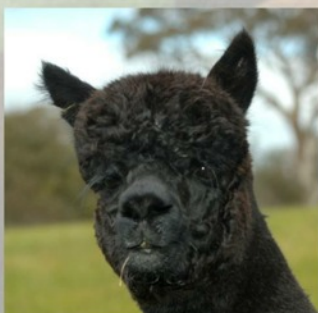
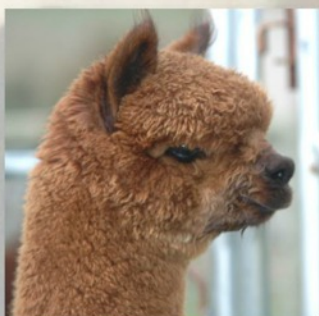
think black : think bywong



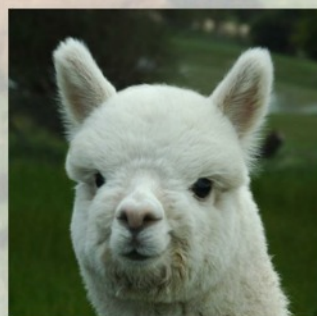


...*Colour Your World!*

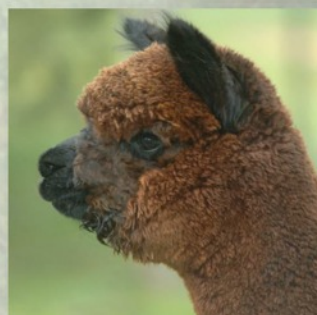
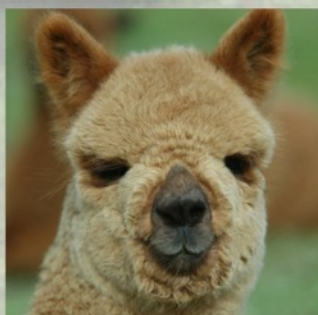
*Supreme Black*  
2005 Colourbration 2010 Colour Classic



*Supreme Light Fawn*  
2008 Colourbration



*Supreme Medium-Dark Fawn*  
2010 Colour Classic 2011 Colour Classic



*Supreme Brown*  
2008 Colourbration 2010 Colour Classic 2011 Colour Classic

**Learn About:**

*Farm set up, husbandry, breeding*

**Cuddle:**

*A cria*

**Purchase Alpacas:**

*All colours, start up packages to Show Quality*

*Ring to arrange your visit*

Prue Walduck & Ada Milley 0429 437 781 - (03) 5439 6451

alpacas@millduck.com.au [www.millduck.com.au](http://www.millduck.com.au) Central Victoria



# Coloured Suri



# BAARROOKA

PO Box 20 Strathbogie, Vic 3666 | 03 5790 5288 | 0407 889 669  
jwilkinson@baarrooka.com.au [www.baarrooka.com.au](http://www.baarrooka.com.au)



# Calendar of Alpaca Events 2012

Date	February
11	Crookwell, NSW Show
17-19	Seymour, NSW Alternative Farming Expo
18	Bega, NSW Show
19	Gunning, NSW Show
24-26	Royal Canberra Show
25	Exeter, TAS Show Display
25	Berwick, VIC Show



Date	March
2-4	Creswick, VIC Fleece Show
3	Boorowa, NSW Show
3	Braidwood, NSW Show
17	Wodonga, NSW Show
17	Wynyard, TAS Colourbration Show
17	Mt Pleasant, SA Show
18	Castle Hill, NSW Show
18	Moss Vale, NSW Show
22-25	Farm World 2012 Display VIC
23-24	Camden, NSW Show
24	Goulburn, NSW Show
24	Red Hill, VIC Show
25	Goulburn Show Display only
25	Ranelagh, TAS Sale Day
29-31	Toowoomba, QLD Royal Show

Date	April
5-18	Sydney Royal Easter Show
10-12	World Alpaca Conference, Keble College, Oxford, UK
14	Nanango, QLD Colourbration Show
21	VER Spectacular 2012
27-29	Bathurst, NSW Royal Show
27-29	Hawkesbury, NSW Show
28-29	Whiteman Park, WA Show



Date	May
1-2	Maclean, NSW Show
3-5	Agfest - Display, sales TAS
4-5	Grafton, NSW Colourbration Show
4-6	Total Field Days, NSW
11-13	Coffs Harbour, NSW Show
12-20	National Alpaca Week
19-20	Autumn Colour Show, Warragul VIC
19	Gympie, NSW Show
19-20	Tasmanian Alpaca Open Farms
19-20	Victorian Eastern Region Colour Show
19-20	EPIC Alpaca EXPO, Canberra ACT

Date	June
1-2	Campbell Town Show, TAS
9-11	AlpacaFest, Hamilton, VIC
10	Southern NSW Regional Show, Goulburn
10	New England Alpaca Show, Uralla, NSW
16-18	PRIMEX Agricultural Industries Expo
17	New Alpaca Owners' Day, TAS
23-24	Mudgeeraba, QLD Show
30-1 July	WA Colourbration Show



Don't miss the Australian Alpaca Association's National Show

When: 25-28th October, 2012

Where: Adelaide Showgrounds, SA



Visit: [www.nationalshow.com.au](http://www.nationalshow.com.au)





Date	July
<b>TBA</b>	Ballarat, VIC Sheep & Alpaca Show
<b>TBA</b>	“From Paddock to Catwalk” Conference TAS
<b>7-8</b>	“Alpacas on Show”, Maleny, QLD
<b>13-14</b>	Mudgee, NSW Small Farm Field Days
<b>20-22</b>	Australian Sheep & Wool Show VIC
<b>21</b>	Mid North Coast Alpaca Show, Kempsey, NSW



Date	August
<b>TBA</b>	Colourbration Halter & Fleece Show, Bendigo , VIC
<b>TBA</b>	Kyneton, VIC Fleece Show
<b>4</b>	Annual Alpaca Show, Central West NSW
<b>4-5</b>	Colour Classic Show, SA
<b>6-7</b>	Sheepvention, Hamilton, VIC
<b>9-18</b>	Royal Queensland Show, Brisbane
<b>11</b>	Lardner Alpaca Show, Warrigal VIC
<b>31- 2</b>	Gold Coast Show, QLD

Date	September
<b>6-10</b>	Adelaide Royal Easter Show
<b>15-16</b>	Charles Ledger Show, Moss Vale NSW
<b>22-23</b>	Nimbin, QLD show- promotional display
<b>29 – 2 Oct</b>	Royal Melbourne Show
<b>29 – 6 Oct</b>	Royal Perth Show



Date	October
<b>TBA</b>	Seymour, VIC Halter & Fleece Show
<b>TBA</b>	Wangaratta, VIC Halter & Fleece Show
<b>1</b>	Strathalbyn, SA Show
<b>5-6</b>	Burnie, TAS Show
<b>11-13</b>	Royal Launceston Show
<b>18-20</b>	Lismore, NSW Show
<b>20</b>	Clare, SA Show
<b>22</b>	Bendigo, VIC Halter & Fleece Show
<b>25-28</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> AAA Ltd. National Show & Sale - Adelaide
<b>26-28</b>	Royal Hobart Show
<b>28</b>	Warnambool, VIC Show

Date	November
<b>TBA</b>	Whittlesea, VIC Halter & Fleece Show
<b>TBA</b>	Bangalow, NSW Show
<b>2</b>	Colac, VIC Show
<b>2-5</b>	Tasmanian Craft Fair, Deloraine
<b>3</b>	Sale, VIC Show
<b>9-10</b>	Albany, WA Show
<b>10</b>	Alexandra, VIC Show
<b>17</b>	Huon, TAS Show
<b>24-25</b>	Focus Conference, Greenmount Beach Resort, Gold Coast, QLD

## Regional Contacts

**Central Region – Victoria** Ms Heather Burn  
32 Morrow Rd East, NEW GISBORNE VIC 3438  
Tel: 03 5420 7881 Email: heburn1958@gmail.com

**Eastern Region - Victoria** Ms Rose Thorogood  
40 Winstanley Rd, AVALON VIC 3212  
Mobile: 0447 602 309 Email: ver.secretary@gmail.com

**Western Region – Victoria** Ms Rochelle Veitch  
P O Box 149, WINCHELSEA VIC 3241  
Tel: 0422 329 174 Email: alpacasvicwest.sec@gmail.com

**South Australia Region** Ms Sue Drogemuller  
P O Box 1004, NAIRNE SA 5252  
Tel: 08 8188 0027 Fax: 08 8188 0027  
Mobile: 0417 841 099  
Email: adaminca@activ8.net.au

**South Queensland & Northern NSW Region** Ms Leanne Tunny  
P O Box 6104, YATALA DC QLD 4207  
Tel: 07 5543 8988 Fax: 07 3807 3935  
Email: info@mclarenvalealpacas.com.au

**Queensland Region** Ms Paula Leeson  
22 Penny Rd, MOTHAR MOUNTAIN QLD 4570  
Tel: 07 5482 9497 Email: pphj@aussiebroadband.com.au

**Tasmania Region** Ms Henni Petr  
P O Box 305, HUONVILLE TAS 7109  
Tel: 03 6264 2628 Email: hennipetr@internode.on.net

**Central Western Region – NSW** Ms Jennie Carey  
Vice President/Acting Secretary  
381 Vittoria Rd, MILLTHORPE NSW 2798  
Tel: 02 6368 7223 Fax: 02 6368 7339  
Email: jennie.staples@industry.nsw.gov.au  
(email for AAA matters only)

**Hawkesbury/Blue Mountains – NSW** Ms Sue Maynard  
16 Mansfield Rd, GALSTON NSW 2159  
Tel: 02 9653 2277 Fax: 02 9653 2277  
Email: alpacas@tpg.com.au

**Central Coast & Hunter Region – NSW** Mr Michael Walsh  
4826 Great North Rd, LAGUNA NSW 2325  
Tel: 02 4998 8298 Email: cksarm@bigpond.com

**Sydney, Coast & Highlands Region – NSW** Ms Sharon Dawson  
149 Eastview Drive, ORANGEVILLE NSW 2570  
Tel: 02 4657 2730 Email: jennjoley@bigpond.com

**Southern Region – NSW** Mr Graham Lugg  
130 Davis Lane, YASS NSW 2582  
Tel: 02 6227 3158 Fax: 02 6227 3159  
Mobile: 0427 455 633 Email: lualtoalpacas1@bigpond.com

**Western Australia Region** Ms Isi Cameron  
P O Box 686, YORK WA 6302  
Tel: 08 9641 2058 Mobile: 0413 834 734  
Email: info@keis.net.au



# Fleece Classing

## The Australian Alpaca Industry Moves Towards Professional Classing Standards

### The Australian Alpaca Industry Moves Towards Professional Classing Standards

Since the arrival of alpacas into Australia some twenty three years ago, the industry has largely concentrated on the breeding aspects of the animal and adapting them to Australian conditions. Whilst breeders use fleece testing and the show system to benchmark their alpacas, little attention has been paid to establishing classing lines and standards for commercial fleece production. In more recent years private groups have emerged to collect fleece and assist in the development of a fibre industry, classing the fleece collected to meet the specific requirements of the products they planned to market.

For the Australian industry to market Quality Assured Australian Alpaca it is necessary to set a range of lines that consider the multiple aspects of alpaca. The prime considerations were obvious – breed type, natural colour, micron group, length and style – but other considerations for the processor and the consumer also need to be addressed – guard hair (kemp), SD/CV, VM content, strength (tenderness) and stain to name just a few.

Following consultation with classers, processors and consumers, combined with research into the Australian Wool & Mohair industries, a comprehensive Classing Code of Practice is now available.

It will be this standard to which we will class Australian alpaca, enabling processors and international buyers to purchase Australian product with confidence knowing that what they are being offered meets the specifications they require.

The next step in this process is to train alpaca classers to a level of competency that will enable them to meet the standard required. To assist in this training we are in discussion with the National Training Council of Australia through TAFE NSW in order to find the best and most efficient way of introducing these training courses.

The alpaca industry is fortunate that there are a number of experienced, registered wool classers who have been working with and classing alpaca for some time.

With little training these wool classers could form the foundations for the first group of qualified alpaca classers. They would also be the logical source from which to draw trainers for prospective student classers.

A registration and audit system will be established for qualified classers in order to offer a Quality Assurance guarantee to potential purchasers. This will include a mechanism by which we will guarantee that the fleece offered for sale is genuine Australian alpaca.



Once all of these systems are in place, members of the AAA will be in a position to brand and identify their QA-classed alpaca with the appropriate registered mark.

In turn processors/manufacturers of Quality Assured Australian alpaca will be able to participate in a AAA licensing agreement enabling them to brand their products with a mark officially designated for the content of their product.

The introduction of this Quality Assured scheme for the classing of Australian Alpaca is a significant milestone for the future development of the industry and will help to maximise the return to the grower, the processor and the manufacturer.





I get everything  
I need at

www.  
grandeverge  
.com

sales@grandeverge.com

ph: 02 6562 7888

Mark and Kim Irving

Alpaca Breeders' Online Supplies





# Large Stud Profile

“When we purchased our first 5 females we never in all our wildest dreams imagined twenty years later we would own and control over 4000 alpacas worldwide subsequently making us the largest ‘alpaca stud’ in the world”.

In 1992 at the age of 19 I was totally absorbed in finishing my tertiary Accountancy and securities qualifications with eyes widely fixed on a life as a London based Stockbroker. With a born burning ambition to be a traditional livestock “Farmer” this seemed worlds away from the path I had chosen however with no previous family interest experience or history of farming the means to acquire one of the vital ingredients of successful farming i.e Land; seemed a million miles away.

Fate subsequently intervened and my families Adelaide based business was suddenly thrust to the forefront of my every waking minute.

After first noticing this enchanting creature the “Alpaca” and being totally entranced back in the late 80’s we started our journey with alpacas and a wonderful journey it has been. Over the years we have travelled to the high altiplano of Peru assessing many thousands of alpacas to speaking on alpaca nutrition in places like Norway, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium and the UK.”

We have sold EP Cambridge genetics throughout the world including one of the largest exports to China. Over the years we have experienced the evolving changes within the alpaca industry that today remains a strong worldwide alternative livestock option for serious and hobby farmers alike. We have enjoyed many successes and during the years we have established ourselves as BAS/European judges opening opportunities to see not only our Australian herd develop but also to see the improvement of quality and industry strength throughout the world.

We produce over 3 tonnes of alpaca fibre that is produced into products including, quilts, throws, blankets, scarves and many other clothing items. Our yearly clip has consistently improved with lower microns and higher weights from individual animals. This trend has been seen throughout Australian herds.



Today the coloured alpaca is as popular as the white one and the quality of fleece characteristics that have developed in the coloured herds throughout the world are competing with the best of the whites and fawns.

Throughout our years as alpaca breeders we have seen many changes. When we entered the industry in 1993 alpacas were valued because they were alpacas and not necessarily on their individual quality.

Gradually the industry matured and today the alpaca is valued on its merits therefore seeing the best of the best increasing in value with the lesser quality alpacas more reasonably priced and rightly being based on net commercial value. This is a good thing for the industry opening the doors for new breeders who in the past may have not had the means to follow their dreams.

The industry has changed from predominantly a hobby/lifestyle and collectors venture to many now having serious stud stock and/or commercial farming enterprises. Today we sell over 600 wethers worldwide as commercial producers and lamb guardians against foxes and sell our top stud males for many tens of thousands.

The years have passed quickly, the journey has been full of change and excitement and the alpaca industry as we see it is poised to enjoy another twenty years or more continuing to strengthen as a viable agricultural option.





# Rico Alpacas

EST



1995

Breeders of quality coloured alpacas  
Specialising in black huacaya

- Starter packages for all budgets
- Breeding stock & stud services
- Extensive range of alpaca products in cafe/shop
- Pets & herd guards



[www.bigbouquet.com.au](http://www.bigbouquet.com.au)

27 Barak Lane, Healesville Vic 3777 - Melways 278 9A  
Ph: Bert Rijk 0418 532 726



# Elsendale

**A boutique alpaca stud breeding  
gorgeous, friendly, ultrafine white and  
coloured alpacas.**

**Stud services, males, females, and wethers  
for sale at reasonable prices.**

**Located in TALLONG NSW**

**Tel: (02) 48 41 0180 Mob: 0417 292 411**  
**E-Mail: [janet.duckmanton@bigpond.com](mailto:janet.duckmanton@bigpond.com)**  
**Web: [www.elsendalealpacas.com.au](http://www.elsendalealpacas.com.au)**



## Samsuri Alpacas

*Suri Alpacas—Smooth as Silk*

Breeding coloured suri alpacas since 2005

Located in Gympie in Queensland

Come and feel the suri difference!

*Suri Alpacas—Smooth as Silk*



- Alpacas for Sale
- Fleece for Sale
- Stud Services
- Visitors Welcome

ph: 0418 748 585

[samsuri@tpg.com.au](mailto:samsuri@tpg.com.au)

[www.samsurialpacas.com](http://www.samsurialpacas.com)

**Rare, Luxurious, Lustrous, Silky fibre. Beautiful  
Natural Colours including Stunning Black.**

# Alpacas

*Vermillion Fire*

Developing the modern Alpaca



Karen & Trevor Scott

Emerald, Victoria

Mob: 0408 220 805

[www.vermillionfirealpacas.com.au](http://www.vermillionfirealpacas.com.au)





# Emerging markets for Alpaca meat

When Annette & I first decided to farm Alpacas we knew that for the venture to be financially viable that apart from obtaining the best genetics (that we could afford) from already successful breeders to start our herd that we also needed to be able to utilise the “whole animal”. From fleece, animal sales/export, mating services to meat and hides.

We have been indeed fortunate to have found some great mentors within the industry who have been totally unselfish in assisting us not only with knowledge but the purchase of correct animals for the correct reasons, for the correct purpose. Whilst only fairly new to the industry and knowing the hard yards put in by those earlier breeders there is still a lot to be done. We think (hope) we are only 4 to 5 years away from our fleece objective but only time will tell.

Stage 2 of the adventure (whilst it is a business it is still an adventure) was to source a good chef who with her/his passion for food would work with us to create recipes that would appeal to the “foodies” of the world when we introduced alpaca meat to them.

During national alpaca week 2011 we thought the time was right to take the alpaca meat to the people rather than have the people meet the alpaca on our farm. Together with Ian Davison from Illawarra Alpaca Stud, the new venture Illawarra Prime Alpaca was launched.

Then, together with the slow food society of our region a guest list was made up of foodies, journalists, vigneron's, local politicians and business people from Sydney & the South Coast to attend a seven course degustation menu of Alpaca and local wines. David Campbell, owner/chef of the Hungry Duck restaurant in Berry, prepared and hosted the evening in his restaurant and a great night was had by all.

When looking at the meat side of the industry, from the earliest discussions we decided that we would not hide behind a substitute name for Alpaca, that it is Alpaca meat and that is what it should be called. We also decided that we would only supply restaurants who's chefs have been trained in cooking with Alpaca or were already exposed to cooking and preparation with lean meat. Our meat is not available in butcher shops or retail outlets nor do the public have access to it from us. This way it cannot be incorrectly prepared nor consumed without the proper diligence. It is a meat that cannot be served other than medium rare!!!

In October this year the Fairfax organisation sponsored CRAVE, a month of gastronomic splendour. Chefs from all over the world jetted into Sydney accompanied by food journalists and critics. Again some good luck came our way with the theme of the festival being South American cuisine. “Hello Peru Hello Alpaca!!!” We had fore warning from Miss Joanna Saville, the festival director, and in conjunction with David Campbell we sponsored a Peruvian chef, Mr Ricardo Zarate of Mo-Chica & Picca in LA, who was voted New Top Chef 2010 by USA Food & Wine magazine, to come to Sydney and showcase to the public and fellow chefs the wonderful taste of Alpaca. During the 1st two weeks of the festival over 800 portions of Alpaca were served at dinners and training days, with the highlight being the Gala dinner with 350 paying guests at The Ivy.

The Hilton Hotel, Bar H, Morena and the Hungry Duck were other restaurants showcasing Alpaca and a training day was also held for the Nowra TAFE school of cooking & hospitality for their students by Ricardo Zarate.



**TASTE THE NEW WORLD**

All animals are grazed naturally and a not grain fed. The meat is very lean (99% fat free) high in protein, high in iron and low in cholesterol. Our animals have electronic tags and are weighed monthly to check weight gain and health.

To date Illawarra Prime Alpaca has processed just over 2 tons of meat for restaurants. We are still experimenting with cuts and styles and recipes in conjunction with our chefs. We have also been invited by other regions to train chefs in the leading restaurants in their area, which we gladly do as it only augurs well for the sustainability and further commercialisation of our industry. For further information please refer to the following web sites.

[www.primealpaca.com.au](http://www.primealpaca.com.au)

[www.millpaca.com](http://www.millpaca.com)

[www.hungryduck.com.au](http://www.hungryduck.com.au)

[www.morena.com.au](http://www.morena.com.au)



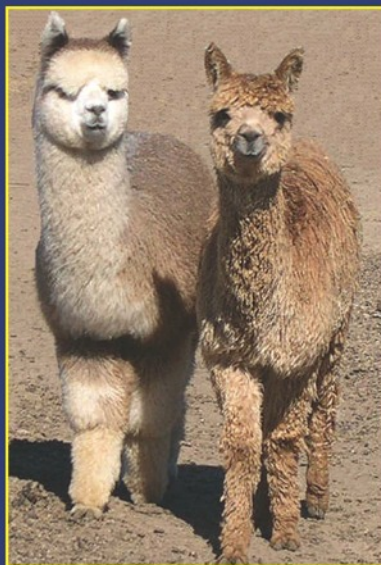
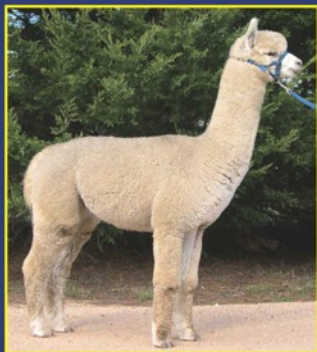




*There's two of us & two of them, think we can take 'em?*

★Variety★

★Value for Money★



★Quality★

★Advice & Assistance★



**ElySION Alpacas**  
BREEDING SUPREME CHAMPION SURIS & HUACAYAS

Paul & Fran Haslin • 02 4878 9429 • [elysion@bigpond.net.au](mailto:elysion@bigpond.net.au) • [www.elysionalpacas.com.au](http://www.elysionalpacas.com.au)



# Australian Alpaca Fleece Ltd.



In 2004 Australian Alpaca Fleece Ltd (AAFL) took over the Australian Alpaca Co-operative. Nearly 900 Australian alpaca breeders, mostly members of the Australian Alpaca Association, control about 71% of AAFL shares. The Australian Alpaca Association itself owns almost 12% of the shares making it the second largest shareholder.

AAFL's business is buying alpaca fleece direct from Australian growers, on selling and arranging for alpaca fleece to be processed. The major difficulty in handling alpaca fleece concerns the currently large variability of nearly all shorn alpaca fleece. Only by skilful classing can the highest quality of this extraordinary natural fibre be reliably achieved.

AAFL is also the largest wholesale supplier of quality alpaca product in Australia through its **Australian Alpaca Connection** Brand.

Australian Alpaca Connection is an innovative brand, supporting the local Alpaca industry. We are dedicated to developing a unique collection of products designed to showcase the finest qualities of Alpaca fleece. We incorporate both natural fleece colours and fashion colours to produce a luxurious range of homewares and apparel. Our Men's and Women's apparel captures both classic styling and current world trends, with an emphasis on casual comfort, suited to the Australian Lifestyle. Australian Alpaca Connection's apparel collection is complemented by our wide range of premium quality scarves, shawls and accessories.

## Australian Alpaca Fleece Ltd.

Unit 2 - 114 Fairbairn Road - Sunshine - VIC 3020 Ph. 03 9311 0933 Fax 03 9311 0499

Email: [info@aafl.com.au](mailto:info@aafl.com.au) Web: [www.aafl.com.au](http://www.aafl.com.au)

Breeding by design Advanced alpacas sound in conformation and temperament

MOUNT ROAD, LONGWARRY NORTH, VICTORIA  
[www.achnacone.com](http://www.achnacone.com)  
Ph: 0419 590 230 Email: [achnacon@tpg.com.au](mailto:achnacon@tpg.com.au)

*Pfeiffer Park*

*Breeding White & Coloured Suri & Huacaya Alpacas*

stud services  
pet/guard and breeding stock sales  
new breeder support services  
product sales and training


Kelli Pfeiffer - PFEIFFER PARK ALPACAS  
295 Artillery Road, North Rockhampton, Qld 4702  
p: 07 4936 1835 f: 07 4936 3445 m: 0409 129 953 e: [pfeiffer01@bigpond.com](mailto:pfeiffer01@bigpond.com)  
[www.ppalpacas.com.au](http://www.ppalpacas.com.au)





*Combining the best of Old World Genetics with New World Technology*

Underwritten by 25 years of  
unwavering commitment to a long term,  
fleece-based industry...

 *coolawarra* combines the best of Old World genetics with New World technology. Its breeding programme is based on the trilogy of advanced SRS® breeding principles, embryo transfer, and scientifically derived estimated breeding values. This partnership consolidates the long and strong relationship that exists between these two highly respected and successful alpaca studs, combining herds run in the NSW regions of New England, South Coast, and Southern Highlands, and extending to the Pilbara region of Western Australia, exploring new frontiers in the commercialisation of the industry.

**New Breeder & Introduction to Alpaca Workshops / Sales:**  
Enquiries: Janie 041 999 555 3 email: [ian@illawarraalpacas.com](mailto:ian@illawarraalpacas.com)



# Alpaca - A Versatile Fibre

## Jenny Cornwall - Paca Molino W.A.

This is my journey. Initially I frequented markets –from rural tourist venues to busy city farmer markets. This on reflection provided valuable marketing, public feedback and product ideas that have allowed me to now feel comfortable moving into a static retail outlet in my local town of Toodyay.

A group of local business from organic producers of honey and olive oil through to local artists and potters have leased a fabulous heritage building which we run using a cooperative structure. Members staff the shop seven days a week. Being only forty minutes from Perth we cater for tourists as well as the local community. It is now six months down the track and every one involved is very positive about the future.

Hand made items will always be limited by your own drive and capacity to produce the end product this is why it is so important to mix with like minded friends and colleagues who can help feed and stimulate your creative juices and keep you fresh in ideas. Yes it is time consuming and discipline does come into it after all whenever you sell an item - oops have to make another!  
www.PacaMolino.com

## Knit 1 & 2 4 T - S.A.

As our fledgling industry moves forward and we increasingly focus on the commercial production of alpaca fibre it's easy to forget that the fleece from our animals is ideal for both the cottage craft sector and for the individual spinner, knitter and weaver.

Many breeders and new owners are finding that these traditional skills can add value, be a source of considerable satisfaction and even open new markets as well, of course, as providing a source of wonderfully warm and comfortable garments and throws for friends and family.

When we think of alpaca fibre crafts, most of us will think of Huacaya fleece first. This is not surprising, after all, huacayas are by far the more numerous and the fibre is probably the most versatile. On its own it can be spun up into all types of yarn, from the finest two-ply for lace-work to the heaviest of chunky knits. And then there are the opportunities for blending.

The luxurious, silky fleece of the suri is also ideally suited to the craft sector. Suri fleece is ideally suited to finer knitted garments in particular to lace knitting where its natural lustre shines through, creating some of the most impressive items.

The longer staple length makes suri popular with many spinners who say that it is quicker to spin up and easier to work with.



Why not try silk? Options here include mulberry, banana and even sari silk. Or, you could try Bamboo, carbonised/black diamond bamboo is particularly good for socks.

For the traditionalist, blending with cashmere or sheep wool can increase the versatility of your product. For the adventurous, for novelty or just for a change, crafters have even successfully blended alpaca with metallic strands and other exotic materials.

The list of fibres that can be used is probably only as limited as your own imagination.





## Beavona Lodge - SSSC NSW.

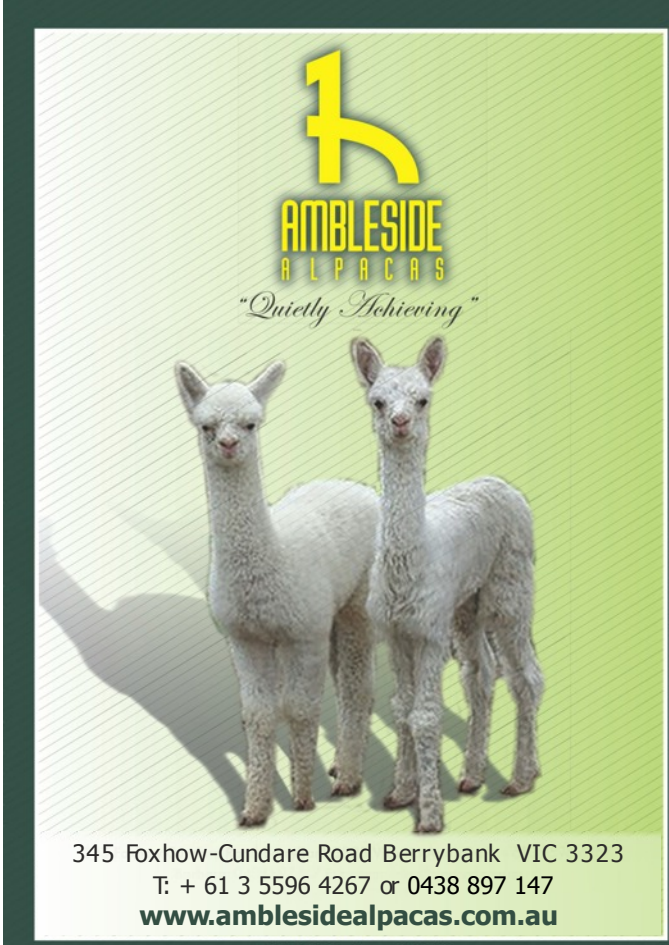
### SSSC (Superb Stunning Suri Creations)

At Beavona Lodge Suri Alpacas we have created a niche market by spinning, crocheting and knitting exquisite creations from our own suri fleece.

Over the last fifteen years Beaver (Darrel) has perfected the art of hand spinning gossamer fine yarn for which he has won many awards. Fiona knits and crochets this yarn into haute couture garments, lace shawls and wraps. Our work is highly regarded both Nationally and Internationally and although only a micro cottage processor our SSSC label is now widely recognized.

Breeding Suri alpacas has given us the opportunity to experience and experiment with the ultimate in luxury fibres. We are always happy to pass on our knowledge through lessons and workshops to those who enjoy crafting their own heirloom pieces.

Fiona & Beaver Laughton  
Beavona Lodge Suri Alpacas



345 Foxhow-Cundare Road Berrybank VIC 3323  
T: + 61 3 5596 4267 or 0438 897 147  
[www.amblesidealpacas.com.au](http://www.amblesidealpacas.com.au)  
MN3 VA 2121 Q-Alpaca 06/0200



YARRA VALLEY  
ALPACAS  
[www.yarravalleyalpacas.com.au](http://www.yarravalleyalpacas.com.au)

Superb	Stunning	Suris
Darrel & Fiona Laughton Ph: 0741563364 Mb: 04 285 965 17		"Beavona Lodge" 27 Lemon Tree Rd Wonbah QLD 4671 Australia
Email <a href="mailto:suris@blsuralpacas.com">suris@blsuralpacas.com</a>		Web: <a href="http://www.blsuralpacas.com">http://www.blsuralpacas.com</a>
QLD's	Premier	Suri Breeders



# 21st Century Livestock

We live in a world becoming greener by the day, green as it relates to an environmental conscious that is. Most modern consumers have an understanding of the concepts behind environmental sustainability & new catch phrases relating to environmental issues are populating our language at a rapid rate.

Carbon footprint, eco friendly, global warming and sustainable agriculture, are but a few of the newer members of the new dialect of environment, joining those more established terms like recycling and greenies. Add to this growing environmental consciousness the desire by consumers to consider the welfare of the livestock that provide the raw products of fleece, leather, milk and meat to name but a few, and you have a farming environment like no other in the history of agriculture.

With global animal rights groups like PETA drawing attention to the practice of mulesing sheep & battery farming of chickens, severe economic consequences are occurring for farmers unable to adapt.

With some countries now banning imports of animal products whose husbandry involves such practices on the blacklist of animal rights organisations worldwide.

But all of these issues are something alpaca breeders look on from a distance.

Alpacas are designed by nature to fit perfectly with the greener consciousness of the 21st century.

The eco friendly traits of alpacas make them perfectly suited to Australian conditions, and appealing to the environmental groups whose influence is growing stronger each year.

New farmers with a green conscious can seriously consider alpacas as an environmentally friendly alternative to sheep or goats.

How can anyone fail to be impressed by the alpacas soft padded feet putting less pressure on our fragile soils than other livestock, and even our native animals?

At 39 kPA the static load weight of an alpaca is much better than sheep at 82 kPA, cattle at 185 kPA and man at 95 kPA, and even better than our native kangaroo coming in at 46 kPA.

Their soft padded feet do not damage our shallow top soils like other harder hooved livestock and they do not rip out grasses damaging the roots, or ringbark trees, therefore compaction is less, fertility is maintained, less soil erosion occurs and less weed invasion is likely.



Alpacas do well on native grasses & as browsers they tend to select a variety of plants to eat, so biodiversity is maintained & since native pastures require less fertiliser this can in turn reduce waterway contamination from chemical run off.

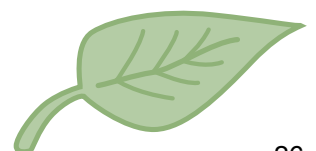
The practice of alpacas to have communal dung piles that they tend to not graze around reduces worm burdens & therefore the need for chemical drenches is also reduced, and the ease of manure collection offers the opportunity for another side line to supplement farm income, and improve soil fertility naturally. Due to their clean breach and the lifting of their tail to urinate and defecate, they do not require crutching or mulesing, now a major issue for the sheep industry.

They tend not to suffer from fly strike or parasites like other livestock and this also reduces the use of chemicals in the farming process.

Their fibre is produced in a variety of natural colours lending itself perfectly to producing products from undyed fibre, a process which requires environmentally damaging chemicals.

The lower grease content in alpaca fibre also requires less chemical use in the scour process further enhancing it's ability to appeal to the growing natural and organic markets worldwide.

So when you next think of alpacas, remember they were 'green' long before the term was even adopted to represent the environmentally conscious!





# MOUNTAIN ALPACAS

## Specialty Blue Blacks



### Blue-Blacks at Mountain Alpacas

- Fine quality females +
- Promising young males available
- Select Black Sires standing at Stud



Macedon Ranges, Victoria

Contact Jane on 03 5427 0375 or [janemountainalpacas@bigpond.com](mailto:janemountainalpacas@bigpond.com)

**alpacadynamics.com.au**

*your online animal health & husbandry supplier*

*honest, fast & reliable service... guaranteed!*

- Cria & Yearling Oilskin coats
- Milk & Colostrum Replacers
- Needles & Syringes
- Fibre cleaners, clippers & hand shears
- Zephyr Halters & Leads
- Satin show fleece bags
- Large range of reference books
- ADE, Coforta, Equimax, Ivomec, Propaca & more!

e: [sales@alpacadynamics.com.au](mailto:sales@alpacadynamics.com.au)  
02 4573 1177 or 0415 904 674

*Owned & operated by alpaca breeders with over 16yrs experience within the industry:  
Alicia Anderson & Cheryl Kosaras (Regal House Alpacas)*



[www.serenidadalpacas.com.au](http://www.serenidadalpacas.com.au)

### SERENIDAD ALPACAS

- Quality Breeding females in all colours.
- Forestglen Seymour. Multi-award winning stud male available for matings.
- Proven sire with award winning progeny. Wethers as pets and sheep guards.
- Packages available to suit your needs.
- All animals at realistic prices.
- Excellent after sales support.
- Farm visits welcome by arrangement.

Norma Keily 0416 173 573 or 08 8536 6276

Rex Keily 0400 279 297

"Serenity", Old Bull Creek Road, Strathalbyn, SA.

Email: [RNKeily@activ8.net.au](mailto:RNKeily@activ8.net.au)

[www.serenidadalpacas.com.au](http://www.serenidadalpacas.com.au)



# CRESWICK

## Woollen Mills

For over 10 years Creswick has used 'fibre of the gods' to offer superior, natural softness and a high level of comfortable warmth in its blankets and throws. With tireless dedication to Australian Manufacturing, Creswick proudly blends, spins and weaves Australian Alpaca fibre in Australia.

Through David Jones and specialty retailers, Creswick has continued to grow the number of blankets & throws manufactured in Australia. The consumer truly values light weight Alpaca, naturally lighter relative to wool blankets. Feedback from our diverse customer base around the world shows they appreciate the unique thermal properties that release heat in warm conditions and trap heat when the weather is cool. A perfect seasonal insulator.

Creswick also complements its Homewear range with Alpaca Accessories and Alpaca Apparel sourced from Australia and around the world. This dedication to quality, design & product innovation ensures an exciting future for Creswick Woollen Mills which celebrates its 65th year of manufacturing in 2012.





# Chiverton

## Alpacas



K & D Gregory  
Phillip Island  
Ph: 03 5956 8611

[www.chivertonalpacas.com.au](http://www.chivertonalpacas.com.au)

- Breeding quality ultrafine/fine affordable white & grey huacaya alpacas
- Chiverton Integrity white stud male - producing ultrafine/fine progeny from all quality females
- Integrity sired females now available for sale
- Greys, roans & animals with grey genetics for sale
- Stud males available - white, grey & roan
- Excellent after sales service



# Small Stud Profile

The joys of small acreage alpaca farming,..... I get to wake up to the sounds of humming and grass chomping at my window, admittedly I'm waking up in a caravan 6 feet away from the fence as we rebuild our house, but either way, on small acreage the animals are never far away. If I'm lucky, Carlos will look up and twitch an ear in my general direction. Carlos is one of two wethers but he's what we call the Godfather of the herd as he loves to take the young boys under his "wing" and teach them how to be big grown up alpacas.

My dream of owning alpacas started about 18 years ago when I first saw them in a paddock on our honeymoon. Over the years, these big eyed, long necked woolly creatures held their intrigue and after staying at an alpaca farm B&B in the Hunter Valley in 2004, my affinity with these creatures was further cemented.

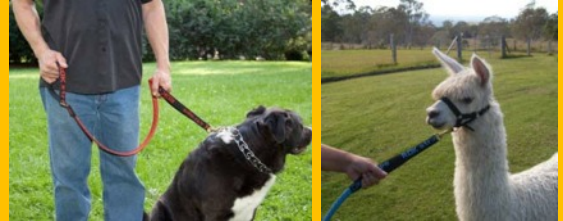
In 2006 my husband and I decided to look to the future and find a property out of the hustle of the city that would be our retirement. Whilst originally planning on buying a block of ground we stumbled upon the most perfect property, it was originally a caretakers residence for the original cattle property that had been subdivided so there was infrastructure galore, 29 gates in all, on 5 acres. And so the realisation of a dream was set in motion.

In 2009 after months of studying the IAR database, hours of brain picking and hands on learning from some very experienced alpaca breeders who live only a few minutes drive away, and attending every regional show that year, I took ownership of my first pregnant Suris, one grey, one black. Yes, I planned to breed greys and blacks and yes, I soon found out why other breeders laughed when told this. With the addition of 2 wethers, ownership of the boys was claimed by my husband (for reasons I'll leave to your imagination) and another female soon after, my little herd was a reality. It's been an incredible learning curve for this city born pair. My father who has bushys' blood running through his veins, laughed hysterically when he first heard me talk about adjusting the swing on the gate or repairing the water trough or drenching the animals or giving injections.



## SHOCK ABSORBING LEAD with TRAFFIC LEADER and brass clip!

*The last lead you'll need...*



Kind and considerate to both animal and human, the stretch leash absorbs the jolts, not the 2 and 4 legged creatures on either end. This lead suits any animal that needs to be led. Great for the show ring too or for those Stud outings when a firm grasp may be required, you don't want a lead slipping through your fingers!



UV stabilised sheath, 100% pure rubber and a brass clip, this lead will outlast and outperform all the leads you've tried to date, the Small or Medium size will suit most alpacas. See our range of colours and sizes plus our other great ROK strap products for securing your load, we offer the safest bungee you'll ever find.

You can Order online or call Ron and Judy, on 07 31031606 from OV Imports, your fellow alpaca breeders at Moonshine Stud.

[www.rokstrapsaustralia.com](http://www.rokstrapsaustralia.com)

The day I heard my husband talking for the first time to his mate about dribble ejaculation and induced ovulation I realised he'd taken the bait and got sucked in as well and it was I who laughed hysterically. I think we've had a wide variety of experiences for small acreage breeding. We've agisted other breeders animals as well, thanks to them for their trust in us, learnt a lot too along the way, from supportive breeders, a good vet and alpaca association activities, it all adds to the rich tapestry of life.

We've had the joys of births, albeit the very first birth was a stillborn, well didn't I cry buckets that day, "It's not supposed to be like this" I heard myself wail. Years of dreaming of this moment had turned out to be bitter disappointment. The pain subsided as the next one gave birth, but wasn't I on tender hooks until that happened. Since that first year, we've had several births, mostly good experiences but still others adding to our knowledge. We had a night time birth with the cria having a hole in it's skull with it's brain exposed. Had to call the vet for that one, and whilst he was euthanizing the little fella, the mother decided to have a prolapsed uterus. Thank God I had called the vet and yes there goes that all to familiar heart ripping out feeling again.. I was asking myself the next day, "why am I doing this", then to my surprise, found myself laughing out loud at the antics of a young cria in the paddock, prancing and pronking, terrorising the other females, running races around the paddock, my answer was clear... "that's why I'm doing this"...



Fine huacaya genetics in both black and white.



## FEATURED STUD MALES



### ENCANTADOR SIR GALAHAD

Sir Galahad is an excellent well conformed ultra fine, ultra soft handle fleece animal, with the fantastic pedigree and excellent genetics of Jolimont Warrior, Blue Grass Centurion, Purumbete Ledgers Dream, Windsong Valley Royal Inca and Purumbete Highlander all in the mix.

2007 Mic 16.1 SD 3.1 CV 19.4 CF 100%  
2008 Mic 16.1 SD 3.1 CV 19.4 CF 100%  
2010 Mic 22.1 SD 3.9 CV 17.6 CF 96.5%



### JOLIMONT ALESSIO

Alessio is a "Pure Accoyo". His sire is well known Peruvian Accoyo Jolimont Sculptor. His dam Jolimont Palmina is also an Accoyo female. Alessio displays a perfect conformation carrying a superior fleece in density, lustre and crimp definition.

2002 Mic 21.71 SD 3.9 CV 17.97  
Fleece weight 7.64kg  
2004/5 Mic 24.20 SD 4.1 CV 16.9  
2007 Mic 27.60 SD 4.2 CV 25.7  
2010 Mic 29.2 SD 5.0 CV 17.2 CF 66.2a



### ACCAPACCA SHARIFFE

True to type, solid black male with exception fleece density and length. Shariffe is maintaining his softness through to his 4th fleece. His show results are a testament to his excellent conformation and fleece style. A male worthy to any coloured breeders.

2010 Mic 23 SD 4.3 CV 18.9% CF 94.1%



### BANKSIA PARK TESK CENTAUR ET

2010 National Show Reserve Champion senior male with a beautiful ultra soft lustrous and dense fleece with extreme crimp definition. The son of Banksia Park Khan, he is a fine, conformationally correct, hard working male that will further the breeding program of any stud.

2010 Mic 19.2 SD 4.1 CV 20.2 CF 98.2



# *Achieving our Vision*



ALPHA CENTAURI  
*Alpacas*

Elite  Alpaca  
— *Top of the Class* —

Andrew and Bronwyn Munn



Jerrawa (near Yass) NSW  
[info@acalpacos.com](mailto:info@acalpacos.com)  
[www.acalpacos.com](http://www.acalpacos.com)

Phone: 02 4845 8121  
Andrew: 0408 410 281  
Bronwyn: 0408 410 280





Auravale  
Alpacas

- ✓ Stud, Pet and Guard alpacas for sale
- ✓ Show winning alpacas for sale
- ✓ Agistment services
- ✓ Mating services with elite stud males offering superior density and fineness
- ✓ Husbandry support
- ✓ Healthcare

guidance  
choice  
quality



Every alpaca comes with Auravale's on-going support

*Ask us how!*

quality bred  
alpacas



Lynda & Nic Holdsworth

1557 Wellington Rd, Belgrave South VIC 3160

P: 03 9796 9110 M: 0419 334 276

E: [queries@auravalealpacas.com.au](mailto:queries@auravalealpacas.com.au)

[www.auravalealpacas.com.au](http://www.auravalealpacas.com.au)

