



Australian Alpaca
ASSOCIATION

DNA – COLOUR COAT TEST

IAR number: A _____ (the IAR brass tag number for the relevant animal, which has been entered on this verification form, must be duplicated on the AAA Ltd IAR database. This form and blood sample must be submitted by the member, to the National Office.) Payment is required within 60 of receipt of the paperwork and blood sample. The sample will not be sent off for testing until payment is received.

Please print clearly (and firmly, to allow for clarity of duplicates).

This is to certify that I, _____ (person taking the blood sample), have on _____ (date), checked the identification details I have entered on this form with the registration certificate presented with the relevant alpaca and I have collected a blood sample from the relevant alpaca for DNA colour coat testing:-

Animal Name (including prefix): _____

IAR number: _____ **Ident. No:** _____

Owned by: _____ **of** _____

This blood sample and form has been sent to Australian Alpaca Association Ltd. PO Box 5108 BRADDON ACT 2612.

Signed: _____ (person sending the form and blood sample)

Print Name: _____

Please note:

Blood sample have a shelf life and should be sent for testing within 1 month of the blood being taken. The colour coat test may take up to 3 months for the results to be received by the owner.

Coat Colour Test

Coat colour in Alpacas is a complex trait, involving two main genes responsible for base coat colour (ASIP and MC1R), and an as yet unknown number involved with pattern. Alpaca fleece has 22 natural shades that ranges from black to white, grey, fawn to champagne. Breeding for a specific coat colour can be a complex process.

The 'classic grey' phenotype can be problematic in breeding due to its association with the blue eye white phenotype & associated possible health defects. Classic grey can be hidden or cryptic on white or light backgrounds.

With the release of the Alpaca Coat test, breeders have the opportunity to test their white or light fawn animals, those with uncertain patterns or mutations or animals they wish to determine the base coat colour to deduce common progeny colours. The test also identifies animals with 'cryptic grey' coat patterns that are generally to pale to see.

Example of Results

Breeders will receive a grey/non-grey status for tested animals, as well as a base coat phenotype for the following colours:

Base Colour Codes:

w	White	White fibre, Dark skin
PSW	Pink Skinned White	White Fibre, Pink skin
F	Fawn	Fawn Fibre, Dark skin
CF	Clear Fawn	Fawn fibre, Pink skin
BB	Bay/Brown	Red/Brown body fibre, Black fibre on extremities, Black skin
CH	Chestnut	Red/Brown fibre, Pink to Red/Brown
B	Black	Black fibre and skin

Collection of blood sample

A small amount of blood collected onto a bar-coded blood card. If using blood cards, it is suggested that collecting blood from the inside of the lower lip yields a more successful sample, than from the ear.