

Australian Alpaca Association Ltd

2022 National Alpaca Show

Update #14 – July 2022

Fleece Judging –

call for <16 micron fleeces

Under the guidance of the AAA Showing and Judging Committee, there has been a working group deliberating about how to appropriately recognise and reward the ultra-fine fleeces that are sometimes submitted for judging.

You would be aware that the current matrix that allocates a score out of 30 for the combined attributes of fleece fineness and weight, only considers fleece fineness down to 16 micron. This is appropriate when the fleece is being assessed without the benefit of being sampled and having the histograms available for the judge to include in their assessment. For those shows when fleece results are able to be included in the judge's consideration, it seems appropriate that the finer fleeces are recognised and rewarded for this attribute.

In order to assess the impact of a change in the fleece matrix, the working group is hoping to be able to utilise the data from those fleeces submitted for the National Alpaca Show that have an average fineness of <16 micron.

They are also hoping that if you have other fleeces that you know are less than 16 micron but which you may choose not to enter, that they may perhaps be included in the data collected for this trial. Would you be able to send these fleeces, together with your National Show fleeces, to be sampled in accord with the protocols of the National Fleece Show please. This will ensure that the data collection is as uniform as possible ...

The opportunity for your sub-16 micron fleeces to be included in the trial, is of course at no cost to you. These fleeces will be returned to you at the National Alpaca Show in Adelaide.

If you have any queries about this process, please contact Jenni Smith, Chair AAA Showing and Judging Committee.

Jenni's email: sjchairaaa@gmail.com