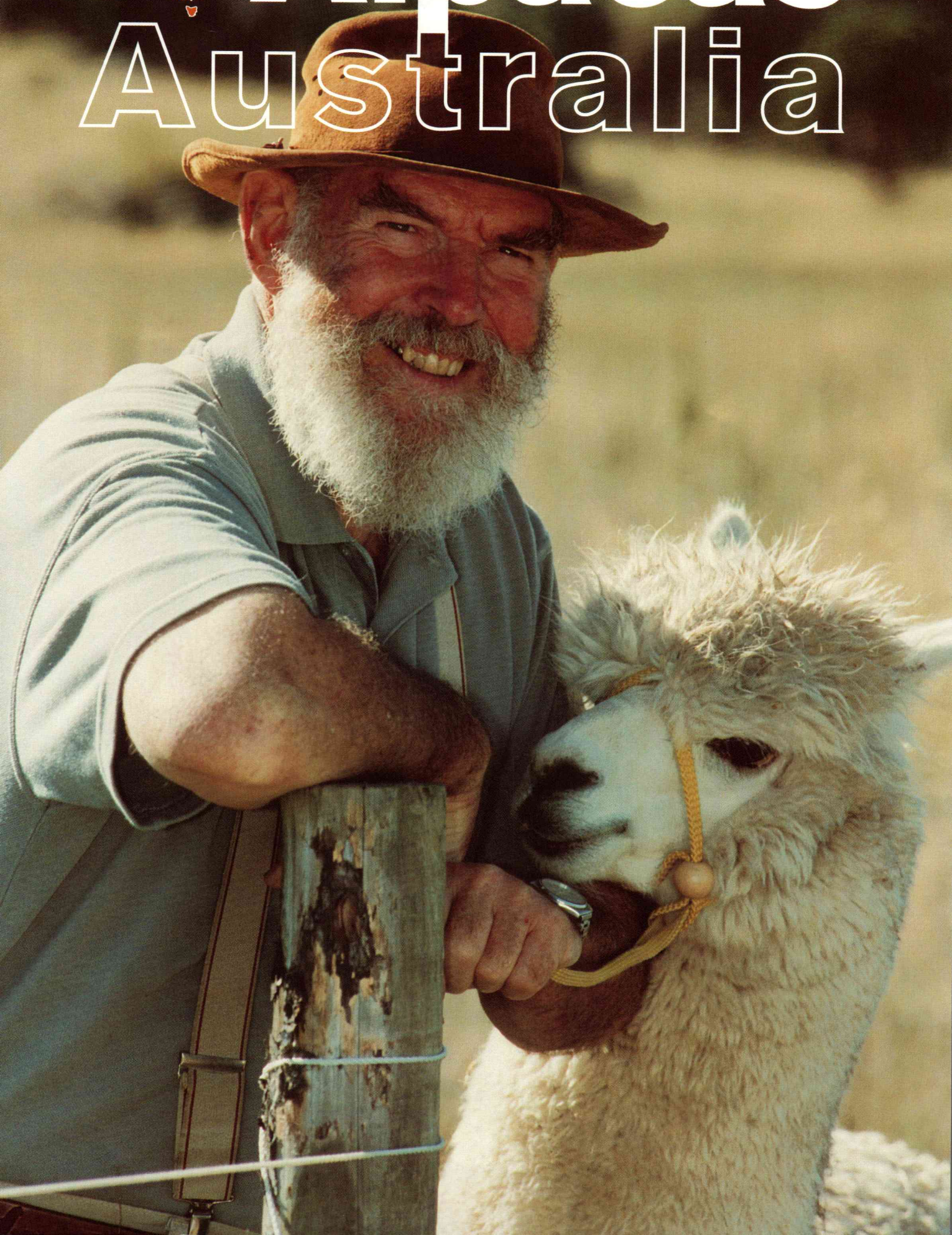


ISSUE 35 ■ WINTER 2001 ■ \$7.70 (AUST)

Alpacas Australia



Only PRISTINE ALPACAS...



Left: Cedar House **Mozart**. Right: Cedar House **Woolmaker**.



Cedar House **Woolmaker**.

Dedicated to delivering the world's finest livestock investment.

Pristine Alpacas are ideally positioned with a well established holding of improved pastures and a carefully selected herd of quality stock. Pristine Alpacas aims to supply markets with the highest quality and sought after progeny, the best fleece and attract record prices.

The company was established in 1995 by Sandy and Allen Mercier. Located 20 minutes from Canberra's CBD, the lush 100 acre property has been set up specifically to support the needs of Alpacas with quality infrastructure.

Elite Sires

Pristine Alpacas is building its stock using the best genetics in Australia. Now standing at stud is Cedar House **Mozart**, the first 100% Peruvian born in the Southern Region from the renowned Cedar House Peruvian Ayaviri (No.14).

Cedar House **Woolmaker** is one of Australia's best huacaya alpacas. He possesses all the traits necessary for a guarantee to success. **Woolmaker** broke all Australian records when Pristine purchased its half share for \$150,000.

Only the highest quality.

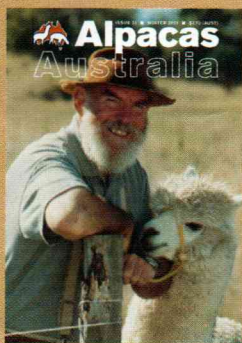
Sandy and Allen have developed a perfect environment for Alpacas and are dedicated to the task of creating a showpiece for the industry.

They look forward to working with you.



***Impeccable Pedigree:
Intelligent Investment***

Phone (02) 6236 3551 **Mobile** 0418 665 053 **Fax** (02) 6236 3552
E-mail pristine@pristinealpacas.com.au **Internet** www.pristinealpacas.com.au



COVER

NSW Snowy
Mountains
Alpaca Breeder
Richard Dixon

see Profile page 40

Photograph
courtesy of Animal
Health Australia

PUBLISHER

Alpacas Australia is published by the
Australian Alpaca Association Inc.,
Unit 2, 613 Whitehorse Road
Mitcham, Victoria 3132 Australia
(PO Box 1076, Mitcham North, Victoria 3132)
Telephone +61 (0)3 9873 7700
Fax +61 (0)3 9873 7711
E-mail alpaca@alpaca.asn.au
Internet www.alpaca.asn.au

EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING

Sandra Wright, Australian Alpaca Association Inc.
Unit 2, 613 Whitehorse Road
Mitcham, Victoria 3132 Australia
(PO Box 1076, Mitcham North, Victoria 3132)
Telephone +61 (0)3 9873 7700
Fax +61 (0)3 9873 7711
E-mail alpaca@alpaca.asn.au
Internet www.alpaca.asn.au

SUBSCRIPTION RATE (3 ISSUES)

AUD \$28.05 : Australia
AUD \$40.00 : New Zealand
AUD \$50.00 : International

CIRCULATION

2,400 for current issue

DESIGNED AND PRODUCED

by Garner Graphics
'Riverside' Lot 4, Inverary Road
Paddys River NSW 2577
Telephone +61 (0)2 4884 1222
Fax +61 (0)2 4882 1233
E-mail garnering@bigpond.com.au

COPYRIGHT

All material appearing in *Alpacas Australia* 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.

ISSN 1328-8318

ADVERTISERS

Adori Alpacas/Alani Alpacas	39
Alpacas of Ladysmith	5
Alpacandes Alpacas	11
Almora Alpacas	outside back cover
Benleigh Alpaca Stud	3
Blue Grass Alpacas	28 + 29
Bungalook Alpaca Farm	21
Coolaroo Alpaca Stud	27
Ertoel Wheels	42
Lifestyle Alpacas/Gorge Alpacas	inside back cover
Pristine Alpacas	inside front cover
Pucara Alpaca Stud	33
Shanbrooke Alpaca Stud	7
Starline Alpacas	37
Timbertop Alpacas	43
Windsong Valley Alpacas	47

REGULAR FEATURES

- 2 A Message from the President
- 3 Briefly Speaking
- 48 Marketplace
- 51 Business Directory
- 52 Paca Pics
- 54 Upcoming Events Calendar
- 55 Order Form
- 56 Advertising Details

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

14 Statistically Speaking

Cameron Holt gives us an insight into where we're at with fibre production

22 Fleece Colours 2001

An update of alpaca fleece colours

EDUCATION

20 Alpacas - Moving to the Mainstream

Encouraging school students to embrace alpacas as an agricultural pursuit

50 Showing Your Alpacas, Without Showing Your...

Marty McGee Bennett shows how to be an effective handler

MARKETING

38 Southern Highlands Expo 2001

What a Field Day!

SHOWING AND JUDGING STANDARDS

8 2001 Sydney Royal Easter Show

Highlights of show

12 "Black Out!"

A show which takes an integrated look at the black alpaca industry

ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

4 Confinement of Alpacas - Fat or Unfit

Dr George Jackson reports on alpacas requiring assisted deliveries

6 Drought Proof Your Farm

The alpaca gut is one of the most efficient in fibre digestion

INDUSTRY

26 In Unashamed Praise of Browns

Brown's comforting features

30 Record Keeping

The foundation stones of any successful business

34 Flying High with the Lloyds

Diversified primary producers and South Australia's largest alpaca stud

BREEDER PROFILES

40 How did we get into this?

Berridale Alpacas, NSW

44 Their Love Story - Chic & Jo

Noosa Alpaca Stud, QLD

46 Alpacas, Rottweilers and Rammed Earth

La Granja Alpacas, NSW

Despite the best laid plans of mice and men ... I am writing this before the postal ballot on the financial package to the Co-operative has been concluded and the result known.

Being an optimist by nature (and probably a pessimistic optimist in practice!) I believe the vote will fall down very heavily in favour of the proposal.

I say this because I passionately believe a profitable and sustainable marketing Co-operative is essential to the long-term health of a national animal and fibre industry. Nothing I have heard since the Council meeting in May 2001 has caused me to waver from this conviction.

The alpaca industry has enjoyed ten years of continued steady and sustained growth built largely on both the foresight of previous National and Regional Committees and the committed endeavour by individual members. It has also relied heavily upon a marketer of fleece being in place and operational. No entrant to this industry could have any long-term confidence without such a marketer in place. I cannot imagine any primary producer diversifying into alpacas without an end user or marketer ready to take his fleece.

The worldwide price for alpaca is much lower than the price we receive in Australia. The Co-operative was the first to put a floor in the fibre market price and continues to set the trend.

As we move inexorably to the magical 100,000 animal herd, the need for such a marketer becomes an overwhelming necessity. We will need at least one big entity to ensure a purchaser of our clip. We will need a bevy of the smaller specialty buyers/processors to complement the work and industry of the Co-operative, but most of all the industry will need the peace of mind that the Co-operative will bring to

every producer who is looking to market their entire clip to one outlet. I am quite sure that the established wool stores will eventually move into our industry but would suggest that this is unlikely to happen until 2010 and beyond.

A 'yes' vote will clearly signal to all observers and industry stakeholders that alpaca breeders are determined to give their industry every possible chance of

success. It will clearly demonstrate that a history of sustained growth will continue and the confidence that has driven the industry to this point will continue to do so with an even greater commitment and determination than in the past.

I strongly believe that we will look back on this decision as a watershed that marked the coming of age of an industry that has both faith and conviction in its future. Of this I am absolutely certain.

Ian Watt, President

a message from the president



briefly speaking...

AAA 8th National Classic Show & Sale

E.P.I.C. Centre, Canberra
10-11 November 2001

We're off to the nation's capital again - this time to view the best alpacas in the country.

See page 21 for more information.

Alpacas Australia Magazine - advertising rates

will increase by 5% effective from Issue 36 December 2001. In order to beat this price increase advertisers will be offered a 5% discount if payment is received within 14 days of invoice. All existing advertising contracts will be honoured at the old rates until the date of expiration of the booking however revised conditions will apply thereafter.

New website to view alpaca show photography

Forgot your camera?

The AAA is pleased to announce that professional freelance photographer, Cath Norman, has set up a new website

www.wayoung.com.au/cathnorman.html to view photographs taken at the

- Sydney Royal Show as well as
- "Blackout 2001!"

Photographs are available for purchase directly from the photographer and orders can be lodged via Cath's website.

Cath will also be in attendance at the ...

- Royal Adelaide Show,
 - Royal Melbourne Show and the
 - National Show & Sale,
- later this year.

Have you moved, or are you moving soon?

Please remember to notify the AAA Administrative Office of address changes.

Phone +61 3 9873 7700
or fax +61 3 9873 7711

This will also update your Alpacas Australia Subscription address.

Next Issue

- National Show & Sale Highlights
 - The Royals - Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Melbourne, Hobart
 - More advice from the experts
 - Breeder profiles
- ... and much more!

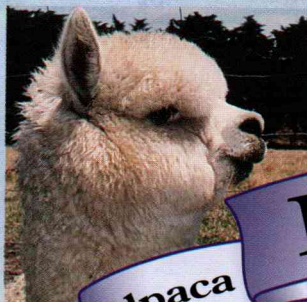
BREEDING IS OUR BUSINESS

The proof is apparent!

National Supreme Champion, **Purumbete Brigantine** is sire to many Champions throughout Australia, including **Benleigh Olympic Dream** (top priced female at the National Auction 2000)

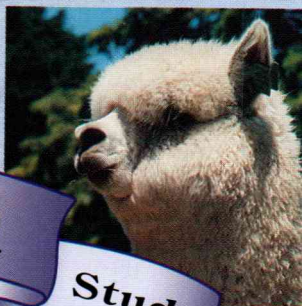
Gold Coast Brindabella (top priced alpaca at the National Auction 1999)

Call to discuss Stud Service



Benleigh Alpaca Stud is committed to excellence in breeding and top quality fleece production.

So... If you are serious about herd improvement, call Benleigh for sales, stud service, consultation, agistment or workshops.



EXPERIENCE ■ EXPERTISE ■ EXCELLENCE

CONTACT: Allan or Carolyn Jinks **PHONE: (03) 5250 2737 (03) 5253 2870** **MOBILE: 0418 109 348**
FAX: (03) 5253 2850 **EMAIL: benleigh@magnet.com.au** **WEBSITE: www.benleigh.com.au**

Confinement of Alpacas

fat *or* unfit

by DR GEORGE JACKSON
VETERINARIAN & ALPACA BREEDER, WA

I have become increasingly aware of alpacas requiring assisted deliveries and caesarians in recent times. This problem appears to be an Australia wide phenomenon.

a few Western Australian breeders have become concerned that the problem may be caused by the animals eating kikuyu (a common perennial grass/lawn used in W.A.) because it contains oxalates which bind calcium.

Calcium is important for muscle contractions and low levels of calcium may be implicated in uterine inertia (uterine muscles become exhausted and simply stop contracting) predisposing to dystocia and related birthing problems. The thought process is logical but I feel the bigger picture is being missed as many studs which feed an abundance of kikuyu do not appear to be having a problem.

What many of the breeders who are having problems have in common, are animals that are being very well fed and kept in small yards and/or being placed into sheds at night. Properties where the animals are run in larger paddocks and receive plenty of exercise do not seem to be experiencing the same level of problems.

It is a well known fact that animals that are 'fat' or 'unfit' will have a greater incidence of birthing problems. I am convinced that this is a major contributing factor in many of the cases involving birthing difficulties. The birthing process is a very physical and exhausting process and a good level of fitness is required or the animals will simply become exhausted, stop contracting and assistance will be required.

Fat deposits in the pelvic canal can also cause narrowing of the pelvic outlet making the birthing process more difficult.

The pregnant female being able to walk and move freely also helps the final positioning of the cria and will reduce the incidence of mal-presentations.

The last few weeks of the pregnancy can become very uncomfortable for the females and it is not uncommon for even the most experienced breeders to wonder whether the birthing process has begun. Many uncomfortable females that are left, but well supervised, will settle down and deliver a normal cria maybe a week later. If the discomfort continues then please call a vet or experienced breeder.

Another consideration for the greater number of caesarians being performed is that many vets, sometimes with limited alpaca experience, are being asked whether a caesarian is required. Sometimes this is a difficult decision and the wide variation in due dates does little to help. Vets may well err on the side of performing a caesarian, rather than advising against it. The benefit of hindsight is a wonderful thing.

Enthusiastic breeders who quote stocking rates of over 20 alpacas to the hectare (>9 per acre) are being unrealistic in their expectations of both the health of the alpacas and the health of the land on which they are running. Pasture and soil degradation also becomes a major issue when animals are held in small paddocks for extended times.

Without rotational grazing strategies, such stocking rates are highly undesirable. Alpacas kept in

small paddocks or paddocks that are overstocked face a number of problems including a build up of parasites such as coccidia and worms.

It is especially important that birthing should take place into a clean, parasite free paddock.

Alpacas have evolved as extensive grazing animals and they 'work' better when allowed to graze extensively.

Alpacas can be successfully farmed under intensive grazing situations including rotational grazing but the level and experience of management needs to be higher and may not be suited to some alpaca properties or inexperienced owners.

Recommendations:

- Endeavour to maintain your alpacas in a 'non-fat' state and ensure exercise to maintain a reasonable level of fitness.
- Body condition scoring of your animals is essential to help establish whether or not their body condition is appropriate to their reproductive state. (Refer to the recent Alpaca Note on BCS.)
- Do not leave it until late pregnancy to start reducing your animal's feed intake. If weight reduction is required it should have been achieved before the animal has reached the last few months of pregnancy. This is not the time for animals to lose weight.
- Place feed and water in opposite corners of paddocks to encourage some exercise.
- Let animals out to graze in laneways.

Alpaca's of LADYSMITH...



FOR SALE BY TENDER

One of Australia's most successful studs has decided to release a collection of their most exclusive animals, due to expanding family commitments (three children under three!) Never before has a collection of such elite animals with impeccable histories and bloodlines been offered for sale as a package. All animals on the property are 'Original Cheruvian' stock, proven champions or breeders of champion alpacas. Some examples of stock include:

- The dam of Australia's **Junior Female Champion 1998**
- The Champion Male "**Ladysmith Density**"
Half-brother to Australia's
National Supreme Champion of Australia 1999
- The only living female to have beaten
"Benleigh Highland Lass" in the showring

*All pregnant females mated to
Jolimont Conquistador*

**A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO ENHANCE YOUR EXISTING HERD
OR ENTER THE INDUSTRY AT THE VERY TOP LEVEL**

All tenders must be received by the 19th of September 2001.
Detailed brochures will be available by request.

Confidentiality assured.
Reserves and conditions apply.

PHILIP and JENNIE COHALAN
RMB 502 TUMBARUMBA ROAD
WAGGA WAGGA, NSW 2650
Phone: 02 6922 1694 Fax: 02 6922 1699

Drought proof your farm *buy alpacas!*

by JILL WINTER, BLUE TOR ALPACAS
TASMANIAN REGION PUBLICITY OFFICER

*Drought proofing your farm
could mean digging huge dams;
it could mean storing feed;
or it could mean diversifying
into alpacas.*

at our biggest and best seminar to date, 23 Tasmania region alpaca breeders heard three speakers confirm what they already knew – that they're breeding the best animal for drought conditions. Yes, we do have drought conditions in Tasmania. We've all told people, "The alpaca is 30% more efficient than a merino sheep at extracting the nutrients it needs from pasture." Now we all know why. We were given a complete run down on the alpaca's digestive system and how it works by Dr Mary Bennett from Montrose Vet Clinic, Hobart and Dr Jane Vaughan, experienced alpaca vet and research scientist. Mary explained in detail the types of forage that alpacas prefer. Jane described their 'feast or famine' lifestyle in South America using slides from her time in Peru. She concluded: "the alpaca gut is one of the most efficient in fibre digestion".

Alpacas have evolved on a high fibre diet. They need the 'scratch factor' – all 4cm of it – for their gut to function properly. Both speakers emphasised that the alpaca will maintain body weight and condition quite adequately on pasture and bush or, in drought conditions, on good pasture hay. With Jane's formulas and clear explanations, even the most mathematically challenged of us learnt to work out how much and of what and when to feed to which alpacas. (You followed that, did you?)

In fact the greatest challenge faced by most Tasmanian breeders is to ensure that their alpacas don't put on too much weight. At lunch several breeders were heard to refer to their need for a "Jenny Craig" paddock!

"The alpaca is a hardy animal designed to be lean," Jane commented as she demonstrated how to body condition score the animal – a demonstration which resulted in a few new breeders experiencing their first 'spit'!

Geoff Judson from South Australia's Research and Development Institute gave a somewhat technical talk on the mineral and vitamin needs of the alpaca. This is the area where the alpaca differs most obviously from sheep and cattle. During this session one could almost see participant's brains overheating! Mineral and vitamin relationships is not a subject to be tackled lightly it seems! A good job there were notes! An overview of recent findings in a South Australian study on Vitamin D in alpacas was presented. Geoff and his fellow researchers varied the doses for different groups of alpacas. Results showed that cria need 1000IU/kg of Vitamin D to maintain strong growth over winter. My vet reported a sudden run on Vitamin D in early April!

The final session for the day was a bonus. Breeders stayed over an hour late to listen to Jane detail her research and its findings to date into female alpaca reproduction. It was fascinating. She shed new light on what is actually occurring within the female before and after mating. There is nothing quite like the chance to discuss face to face with researchers, the issues that are in all our minds. Tasmanian breeders took full advantage of the opportunity. The range and depth of questions asked and the scope of the answers were impressive. The whole day was packed with information from the very basic through to cutting edge research.

We don't hold this kind of seminar very often in Tasmania due to the costs involved and the tyranny of that stretch of water – the Bass Strait. But when we do, we really do it well!! ■

Shanbrooke

Alpaca Stud

Breeding Superior Fine Fleeces

Shanbrooke's Elite Accoyo Collection

TAKING US INTO THE FUTURE

We have accessed some of the top herd sires of Don Julio Barreda's Plantel Herd. These 'B' Line alpacas are the results of years of breeding for exceptional fine and uniform animals. These superior true to type alpacas have strong heritability traits that make breeding more predictable and uniform.



Phone: 03 9730 1399 Fax: 039730 1031 Mobile: 0409 547 630 : 0407 834 358
Email: shanbrooke@bigpond.com Web site : www.shanbrooke.com.au

2001 Sydney Royal Easter Show



Champion Suri Fleece
Bumble Hill Mr Sheen
exhibited by J Gelber
– Bumble Hill Alpacas

by SUE MAYNARD
GUNNAMATTA STUD ALPACA, NSW

What a welcome!

We arrived at the Homebush Bay site of the Sydney Royal Easter Show with some trepidation. My previous experiences had not been particularly pleasant – arriving either quite late at night or very early in the morning to avoid the huge number of visitors that descend on 'The Show' every year, I always worried how the animals would cope with the crowds ... and the heat! Somehow, the alpaca pavilion always seems to be about 10 degrees hotter than anywhere else in Sydney at Showtime! April is often humid anyway, so my concern was that heat stress would be a problem and, as the show alpacas are normally required to be on display for a week, the problem can be a significant one. However, this year we were only required to have the show animals on display for four days – a definite incentive to make the effort.

We were delighted to find a well-organised welcoming committee waiting for us at the pavilion entrance



Champion Huacaya Fleece
Windsong Valley Iceman
exhibited by
T & T Wheeler
– Windsong Valley Alpacas

– ready and willing with trolleys at hand to help us find our pens and settle the animals into their temporary abode. Several conscientious breeders and their 'progeny' worked at this task until midnight and from 6am to 8am the following morning.

Further enhancements this year were found with the presence of fans in the showring and marshalling area which would also help to keep the alpacas comfortable this year. Another welcome addition to the pavilion were two fabric wall paintings, one huacaya and one suri portrait, which helped to create a pleasant 'alpaca ambience'.

The AAA display stand was a rustic work of art in timber and corrugated iron and a host of Association members had been organised to man the stand which provided a focal point to market alpacas to new people. In excess of 100 people expressed their keen interest in receiving further information and a comprehensive list of names and addresses was forwarded to National Office.

A micron-guessing competition was a hit, with interest from sheep and alpaca people alike. The 'sheep people' were encouraged to handle the five alpaca samples in a range of

The Champions of the 2001 Sydney Royal Easter Show



Champion Junior Suri
Paltarra Windsor with Frances Haslin



Champion Intermediate Suri
Champion Male Suri
SUPREME CHAMPION SURI
Elysion Oliver Twist with Paul Haslin



Champion Senior Suri
Kirrala Zeus with Allen Raponi



Champion Female Suri
Lynvale Poppy with Sandra Kop



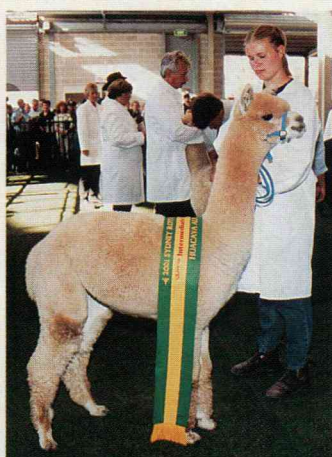
Junior Champion Female Huacaya
Champion Female Alpaca
SUPREME CHAMPION HUACAYA
Coolaroo Queen of the Desert
with Judith Street & Neil Parker



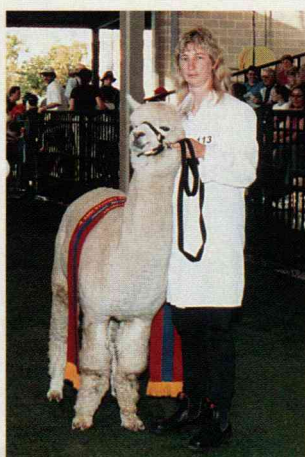
Junior Champion Male Huacaya
River Ridge Ripper with Marg Hitchcock



1st med. Champion Female Huacaya
Illawarra Veronica
with Harriet Davison and Judith Street



1st med. Champion Male Huacaya
Champion Male Huacaya
Patagonia Peter Pan
exhibited by I Braithwaite & C McMullen



Senior Champion Male Huacaya
Mt Cotton Kruger with J Healey



Huacaya Sires Progeny
Purumbete Monarch



This year, for the first time, an alpaca breeder, Alicia Anderson, was given the job of ring steward, assisting the judge Bill Robbins

natural colours and try to judge the micron – not an easy task when alpaca handles so differently to sheep's wool! About 150 entries were received and the prize was a Queen sized continental quilt, generously donated by the Alpaca Co-op.

The judging began with the Suri classes, with the judge, Bill Robbins, stressing the importance of lustre and locking structure, as well as presence. The Supreme Champion Suri ribbon went to *Elysion Oliver Twist* shown by Frances and Paul Haslin of Elysion Alpacas. The Huacaya classes followed with *Coolaroo Queen of the Desert* winning Supreme Champion Huacaya, much to the delight of Judith Street and her family, from Coolaroo Alpaca Stud. The Sire's Progeny class was won by *Purumbete Monarch*, owned by The Gorge Alpacas and Lifestyle Alpacas.

This year, for the first time, an alpaca breeder, Alicia Anderson, was given the job of ring steward. Alicia was able to exhibit her considerable stewarding skills by assisting the judge

and making his job just that little bit easier. She was also able to facilitate the flow of movement in the ring, which is not known for its spaciousness.

This year saw an increase in fleece exhibits, with 122 fleeces entered. Judge Bill Robbins was particularly excited about the standard of fleeces that had been entered. He was impressed with the crimp and staple definition that he found throughout the fleece entries, and said that the fineness of fleeces was improving. He also said that it was important to breed for fleeces that don't blow out in micron down the track.

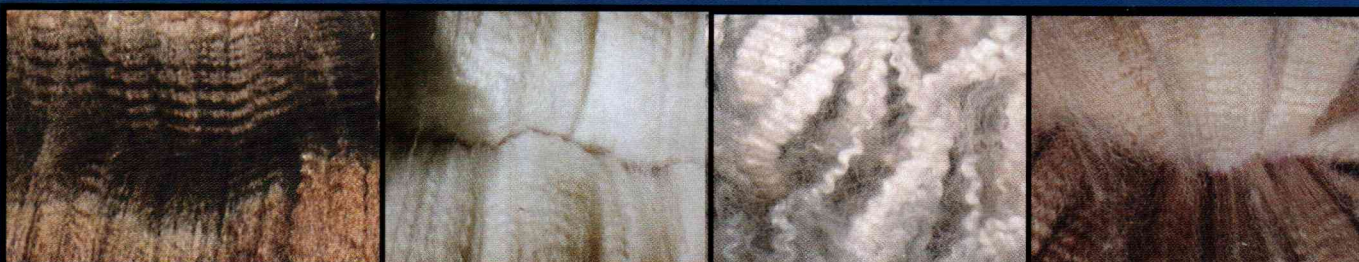
The Champion Suri Fleece was awarded to *Bumble Hill Mr Sheen* exhibited by Julienne Gelber of Bumble Hill Alpacas. Grand Champion Huacaya Fleece was won by *Windsong Valley Iceman* exhibited by Tena Wheeler of Windsong Valley Alpacas.

This year for the first time an AAA support committee, consisting of three members from each of the five NSW regions, assisted the RAS in the organisation of the show. The Chairman of the RAS Other Livestock Committee, Brian Badgery, said that his job had been made easier because of great co-operation and good management by the organisers, as well as the help of a band of dedicated stewards. Chairperson of the AAA support committee, Richard Bird, said that organising such a large and prestigious event was a daunting task, but that he was pleased that the RAS was allowing more breeder involvement, which contributed to the success of the event and encouraged co-operation from both groups.

All in all, the show was a great success and credit must go to all who contributed to its organisation and the breeders who supported it. Special thanks go to the dedicated breeders who displayed their animals for the further 10 days of the show. From the usual, "What are they?" to the inevitable, "Look at the llamas", this long suffering group answered a plethora of show visitor questions.

Can't wait for another hum-dinger next year! ■

For comprehensive results visit the AAA web site www.alpaca.asn.au
To view and purchase photographs visit photographer Cath Norman's web site
www.wayoung.com.au/cathnorman.html



Summerhill Sundance



Cedar House Lucifer



Park View Raven



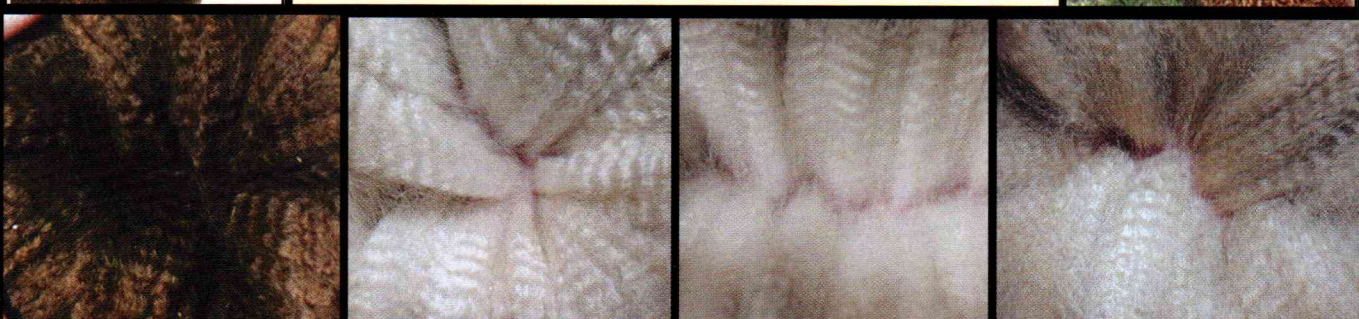
Alpacandes Peruvian Dictator



Somerset Cognac Gold



COLOUR BY DESIGN



ALPACANDES ALPACAS

JD Herd Status MN1 - Cert No. A010/99/02

Keith, Jeanette & Kylie Hollingworth
PO Box 22, Galston NSW
Ph: (02) 9653 1696
Fax: (02) 9653 1040

“BLACK OUT!”

by JANE SZIGETHY-GYULA
MOUNTAIN ALPACAS, VIC

"Black Out!" It's the only one in the world and we are doing it here in Victoria.

"Black Out!" is an integrated look at the black alpaca industry, showcasing available black sires, black show animals and their fleeces, an elite black sale, black alpaca garments and speakers who this year were able to share their knowledge of black fleece processing.

the full moon on April 7th determined the date for "Black Out!" 2001 in order to maximise the chances of fine weather for open-air judging. Blacks, as all judges are aware, are notoriously difficult to judge without excellent lighting – it's just too easy to miss light coloured fibres, to be sure there is crimp to the skin or to see the degree of lustre. But the full moon did the trick for us and as a fine, cool day dawned, the Judge, Julie Bird, flew in from Sydney and the sires kicked off proceedings with a parade amongst the roses at Kilmore Racing Complex.

Starting with the sire parade enabled onlookers to get their eye in on quality animals and to watch for



Show organisers : l-r front: Louise Roston, Jane Szigethy-Gyula, Mariea de Crespigny, Rosemary Johnstone (compere), Julie Bird (judge), back: John Crutch (steward)

those traits in their progeny in the following judged classes. It also gave owners the opportunity of gasbagging briefly about the virtues of their sire. Lined-up they all looked terrific, most in their working togs, shorn for summer, their bone, conformation and 'presence' apparent, and those who were still full-fleeced looked resplendent as ever with head to toe cover.

Judging followed with junior classes well represented and we were pleased with their numbers considering our autumn date had not been set until 2 months prior to the day. A broad spectrum of available black genetics from three states was represented and once again the quality of animals on show has taken

a hike this year. Most successful exhibitors were Kingston Park and Dowpaca studs with Supreme and Reserve champion respectively and Timbertop with the Supreme and Reserve fleeces of *Timbertop The Scud*.

Following the judging, the parade and line-up of sale animals again offered the opportunity for owners to have their say. Sale entry fees were pegged to \$100 per entry and no commission was charged. Highest price on the day was \$9,000 paid by an American here especially for "Black Out!"

After a lunch of gourmet sandwiches and sweet temptations, two short talks were given by Romano Monici of Parma Monici knitwear, a long time manufacturer of superior

"Black Out!" 2001: Parade of stud sires



Photography Louise Roston

alpaca garments retailing originally through Georges and now Daimaru (Melbourne), and Peter Lloyd of Tasman Yarns. Peter came armed with yarns he is manufacturing from the stronger end of the national clip. Blends with llama, wool, silk etc. are resulting in exciting new yarns and boucles. They are excellent quality and a marvellous addition to the spectrum of alpaca products available from Australian fibre.

A complete picture of the black alpaca scene in Australia would not have been possible but for the help of the Australian Alpaca Co-operative Ltd, Coolaroo Alpaca Stud, Beewah Park Alpaca Stud and a number of small processors and craft people who so generously lent their garments. These were of superior quality and those people who purchased them will have the satisfaction of knowing their garments will never be out of fashion.

As always no day can be a success without the open-hearted generosity and positive attitude of those who helped in many roles. Special thanks to Julie Bird who judged perceptively and consistently and whose encouraging and tactful comments to breeders gave heart to non-award winners. Rosemary Johnstone of the mellifluous tongue, charmed and entertained us and smoothed over the hiccups which always occur. Nerida Aldred, John Crutch and Erika Kotsiakos organised the animals for showing with calm professionalism.

"Black out!" was planned to be a self-funding show and so we relied heavily on our raffle to cover costs. Each of the 11 sire owners very kindly offered a free service for our raffle

should they be selected from the two winning draws. First draw had first choice of available males and second draw, the choice of all the remaining sires. Fortune smiled on the Daddos of Pitchingga Ridge Alpacas, Victoria, who won both draws and made the decision to use *Kingston Park Drysdale* and *Timbertop The Scud*. Thanks to both Almora Alpacas and Timbertop Alpacas for supporting us in this way.

I don't know of any other alpaca colour group who have put together a comprehensive approach to popularising their animals as we have done with "Black Out!" Given the support we have had from black breeders in other states and even from overseas it is evident that there is a need for this sort of focus. It offers breeders the opportunity of getting together and assessing the results of their breeding programme against those of others. It provides a forum where many issues can be raised and experience and ideas shared. It has the potential to be influential in lobbying for due regard to be given to the processing of blacks and research into the distinctive black fleece characteristics. For those seeking to invest in or upgrade their blacks they can come with the certainty of seeing and buying the best. It is already on course for being the focus for black excellence nationally and internationally. To maintain that focus it is important that individual breeders take every opportunity of promoting their vision for blacks widely, and at many levels, in order to bring other interested breeders and newcomers in to the black orbit. "Black Out!" is here to stay and will become the event of

the year that no black breeder can afford to miss.

"Black Out!" has been registered and is to set up a web site for communication between black breeders as well as a black sale site and as a stud book for black males.

And finally, a word to those who at the moment are non-black breeders. Black alpacas do have greater lustre and their handle is silkier. It is the perennial fashion statement colour, suited to all ages and all nationalities. With no dying necessary and no contaminants it is poised to take advantage of the growing organic fibre movement. We invite you to join with us in the challenge to breed a consistent line of black alpacas that retain their distinctive alpaca characteristics. Our broad aims are to grow fleece blacker, finer and in quantity. Is this to be achieved by out breeding to other colours or by juggling available black genetics? The jury is still out on that one! "Black Out!" will provide the best line up of black alpacas anywhere and it is where you will have to come next time to find the answer to that twister.

"Black Out!" was initiated and run by three black studs, Bellbird Park, Mountain and Normandy whose principals Louise Roston, Jane Szigethy and Mariea de Crespigny hold the underlying conviction of the fashion potential of our niche blacks. ■

To view more photographs
visit Cath Norman's web site
www.wayoung.com.au/cathnorman.html



Photography Louise Roston

Statistically Speaking

by CAMERON HOLT
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF FIBRES, VIC

Statistics

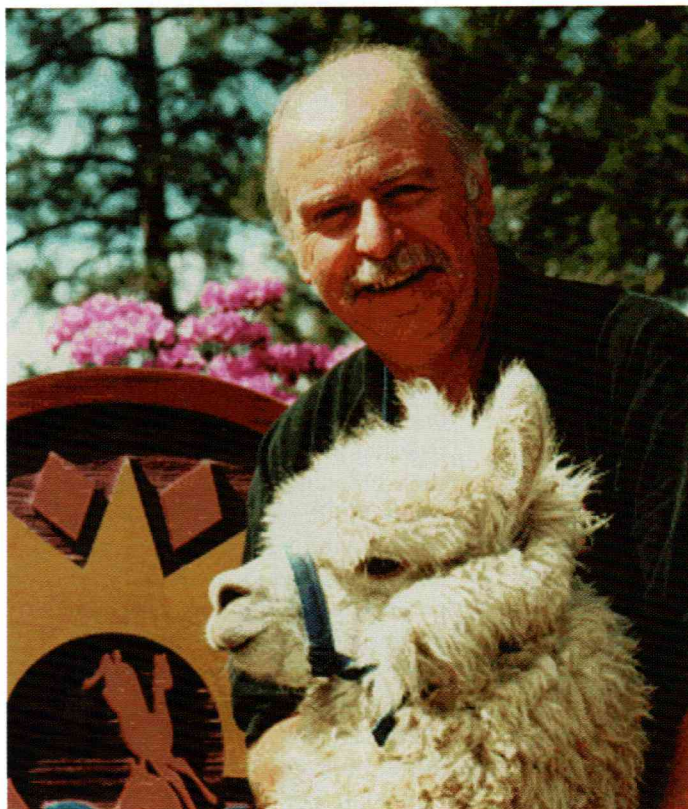
"Numerical facts assembled and classified so as to present significant information."

(Websters New World 1977)

Some 10 years has now passed since we got serious about breeding alpacas. In the early days microns were never mentioned, let alone fleece weights, C of V's or statistics. All we wanted to know was – is it good looking and can I make money. Well, of course with any fibre-producing animal the end result is production of textiles along with stud stock.

Few breeders of this time kept data of any sort on their alpacas. The new breeders of today tend to pick up on testing and recording data, more readily than some of those original breeders did when they started. If we compare today to yesterday most people now test for micron and C of V and keep statistics on their animals, but not all measure for fleece production. Today we are moving very much into the realities of what the alpaca industry is about – textile production. The **Co-Op** at Geelong where they value-add and make alpaca products, **AAFMO** who class and sell fibre to local and overseas textile manufacturers, local breeders who not only supply cottage industries and shops, but also value-add by making (or having made) their own fibre into garments. Yes, we are moving towards the textile end of alpaca breeding and in the future we will be running large herds of wethers for fibre production as well as studs and general breeding herds. The major aim will be conformationally sound stock with low microns and lots of fleece.

So how do we work towards this? Simply with good breeding, knowledge **and statistics**. IT IS TIME to start weighing your fleece,



Cameron Holt

testing for medullation on white animals along with your micron, C of V and keeping records. I feel like I did when promoting micron testing – get out the drum and pound it until people listen, but the fact is to get maximum \$ return from an animal you want not only low microns but maximum fleece production.

Recently I received data from a number of large breeders to help me try to establish where we were with average microns, weights etc. We need to know how our own animals compare to the average. Are they better than the average or below?

If they are below, then you know you have some important decision making to do.

In 1992 Dr Ian Stapleton and myself commenced the first Australian research on alpacas. This was carried out on Roger Haldane's herd of Huacayas. This research helped create fleece preparation standards as well as fleece sampling procedures that are still used today. The midside position was identified using statistics from site sampling

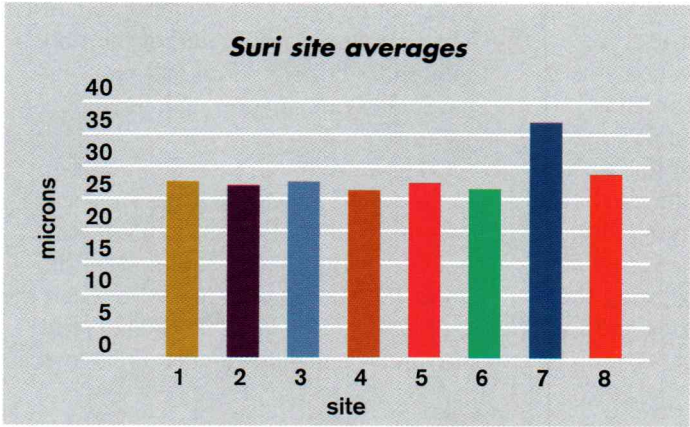
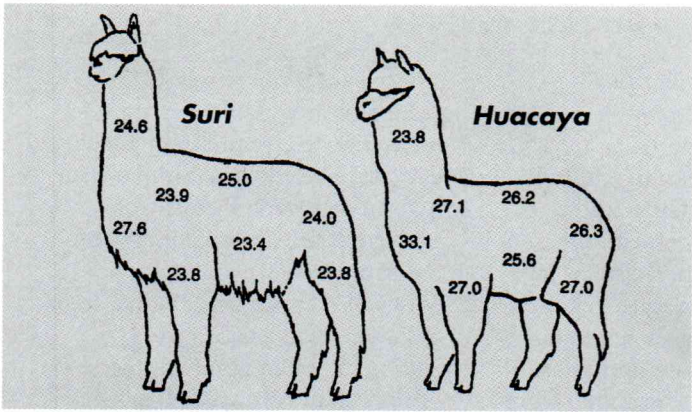
compared to full grid sampling. The grid sampling in this research included the middle leg area. This area now produces, on latter bred animals, fibre similar to the bulk of the fleece (saddle).

My colleague and laboratory manager (known to many alpaca breeders), Sue Scott, corroborated with me in researching Suri fleece characteristics, looking at similar areas as done in the previous research on the Huacayas. To get an understanding of what statistics can tell us, I will revise these projects and discuss them as well as recent findings.

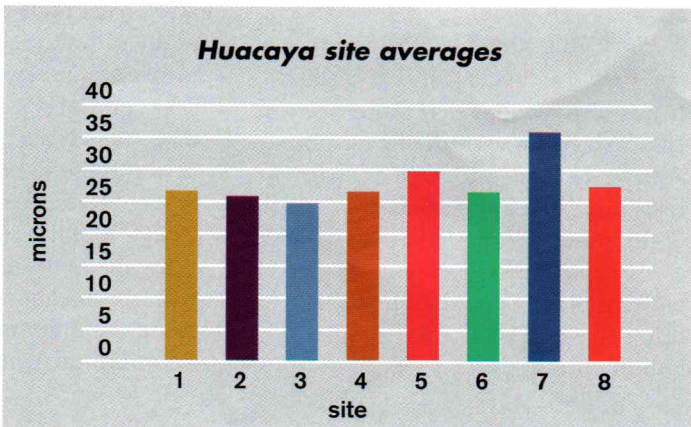
The first research project in 1992 was to get an understanding of alpaca fibre characteristics as well as variance of micron over the body. This was to help establish the best single site for testing fibre. Some eight positions were used. These same sites were used in 1997 for the study on the Suris.

The findings in many areas were similar between the Huacaya and Suri. So let us look at these statistical similarities and variances.

Both groups of animals had similar average microns – **Suri 28.15** and **Huacaya 27.95**. It was good that the averages were so close as it makes the findings more meaningful. Example of the variance can be seen on the individual animals shown right.



AVE: 28.15 SD: 3.23 CV: 11.5



AVE: 27.95 SD: 3.63 CV: 12.97

Body Sites

These were the

- Neck
- Shoulder pin bone
- Mid back
- Hind pin bone
- Middle hind leg
- Midside
- Apron
- Middle front leg

Within each breed of alpacas there was a variation between sites, but there was no significant variability between the Suri and Huacaya in variability between sites. In both cases the site “apron” was significantly coarser in micron as well as having a higher C of V reading than other sites.

Medullation

The results for medullation testing proved to be different. The Suri statistics appeared to indicate a lower reading than that of a similar micron for Huacayas. It was noted that as the fibre became stronger in micron there was an increase in medullation.

Some statistics are:

Medullation		
Micron	Huacaya	Suri
20	12.9%	4.7%
26	36%	16%
36	60%	42.4%

Co Efficient of Variation

The average C of V over the individual sites tested for the Suris was 24.4% with the Huacaya being 23.2%.

The Co Efficient of Variation was seen to be independent of fibre diameter. That is, fibre diameter was not seen to have any effect/influence on the C of V.

Prickle Factor (%AE 30)

This is a term given to the perceived sensations from contact of clothing with the skin. The main sensation is the itch or prickle, which some (few) people identify as giving discomfort. Research suggests that the itch is not an allergy but a response from the pain nerve receptors in the skin to the coarse fibres (over 30 micron) protruding from yarn in the fabric.

In the research little difference between Huacaya and Suri fibre could be found for this characteristic.

Prickle Factor		
Micron	Huacaya %AE30	Suri %AE30
20	5.16	6.03
25	19.57	20.06
30	53.76	51.30

Prickle factor is now being quoted as “comfort factor” and is shown in reverse to that of prickle factor, e.g. PF 5.16, would now read CF 94.84. The research being quoted in this article was done when the term “prickle factor” was in use.

Resistance to Compression and Bulk

(Separate research data for this characteristic in both Huacaya and Suri)

Resistance to compression and bulk is the resistance offered by a known mass of wool fibre when compressed to a known volume. It is similar to a handful of fibre when squeezed.

The Suri fibre was shown to have the lowest reading of compression when compared to the crimpier fibred Huacaya. Range of compression was as follows:

- Suri: 18 g.sq.cm - 35.5 g.sq.cm
- Huacaya: 36 g.sq.cm - 55 g.sq.cm.

It was also evident that those lustrous Huacaya fibres with the lower fibre amplitude tended to have a lower resistance to compression than those of the more crimpy Huacayas.

High crimpy wools will have good bulking properties whereas straight fibres like suri will have minimal bulking properties.

Dr Paul Swan, when he compared my results for alpaca resistance to compression and curvature readings to similar data that he had from sheeps wool, said, "that the alpaca adheres to the same basic relationship between compressibility, diameter and curvature as does wool". Although, when graphed, the slope of the relationship for alpaca differed slightly to that of sheep's wool. This may have been because of the different curvature measurement systems being used between the two sets of data or there may have been a difference between the keratin of the alpaca or wool fibre. A formula can be used to predict compressibility using diameter and curvature data. The physical laws governing the compressibility of alpaca and wool fibres are the same.

Curvature

Fibre curvature is the measure of the fibre amplitude (crinkle) and is related to "resistance to compression". The curvature value is expressed in degrees per mm fibre length. There is a high correlation between fibre curvature and staple crimp frequency. As the frequency of the crimp increases the curvature value is increased, and conversely the lower the curvature value the lower the staple crimp frequency. Fibre curvature can be measured at all stages of processing e.g. greasy to fabric. The curvature (amplitude) of the fibre influences how the fibre will process, particularly during top making and spinning.

Curvature in Suris tended to give a range from 17 to 33 with the Huacaya showing a range from 35 to 55. It was noted that the coarser the micron the lower the curvature value. Also when the C of V was more variable (higher) the curvature value also tended to be lower.

General Averages

The following averages were obtained from various test results.

Huacaya general averages				Suri general averages			
Micron	SD	CV	%AE30	Micron	SD	CV	%AE30
16	4.04	24.20	1.32	19	4.90	24.90	4.15
17	4.41	25.06	2.09	20	5.30	25.66	5.62
18	4.70	25.16	2.75	21	5.72	26.55	7.98
19	4.80	24.47	3.61	22	5.11	22.82	7.25
20	5.18	25.23	5.16	23	5.68	24.14	12.59
21	5.32	24.74	6.53	24	5.92	24.15	15.73
22	5.56	24.73	8.96	25	5.99	23.48	20.06
23	5.75	24.48	11.75	26	6.62	24.97	25.80
24	6.03	24.62	15.21	27	6.39	23.34	31.41
25	6.22	24.38	19.57	28	7.31	25.53	37.22
26	6.38	24.05	25.05	29	6.94	23.44	44.05
27	6.46	23.52	30.81	30	6.95	22.79	50.69
28	6.65	23.38	37.36	31	7.28	23.25	55.35
29	6.93	23.59	43.17	32	7.68	23.70	61.91
30	6.75	22.10	53.76	33	8.62	25.73	65.37
31	8.29	26.50	55.33	34	8.17	23.80	71.70
32	8.16	24.80	68.00				
33	9.01	26.85	65.80				
34	8.78	25.70	71.40				

Benchmarking your animals

Have you ever compared your top animals to other breeders? Are you breeding finer or heavy fleece cutting animals? You should use statistics to see where you are now in your breeding plan. A first step I would think would be to make sure you are breeding animals above the "average". You should be seeing each year in your progeny, improvements over their mothers (assuming you always use a better male than a female). You can see the alpacas in the show ring, feel them, guess their fineness, but you really need to see their statistical analysis of micron, C of V etc. plus fleece weights to know how good these animals are. Then of course you need to see their progeny.

Fleece Data (Huacaya)

Back in the early 90's it was thought that the average micron (all ages) for the Australian herd was somewhere around 27/29 microns. At the end of the year 2000 I believe the average was somewhere around 25.5/26.5 microns (these figures, based on data I have received, were taken from a range of fibre types, all colours and all ages). The recent AAA fleece audit on alpaca fleece so far, has come up with an average of 27.5 microns. This audit was taken from the age of 2yrs-6yrs inclusive (did not include fleece of 1yr old animals). There are still samples to be tested to complete this project. It is interesting to note that, when removing the 1yr fleece data from my research (22.5 microns), the average for the balance (2yr-7yr) was in the range 27/27.5 microns.

To give you an indication of where the statistics lay today I list the following. The raw data was supplied by a number of large breeders as well as some smaller ones.

Average fleece weights based on AGE (all colours) 1999

Age	Micron (ave)	Saddle (kgs)	Total Fleece (kgs)
1	22.5	1.35	2.25
2	25.5	1.55	2.6
3	26.5	1.6	2.7
4	26.5	1.8	3.0
5	27.0	1.7	2.8
6	27.5	1.5	2.5
7	29.0	1.5	2.5

Some important facts which do not show up in the above statistics:

- Statistics only represent those animals in the research, but should be a guide to the balance of the herd.
- Ages 1-3 have an influence from the recent Peruvian imports.
- Ages 5-7 contain data biased towards the early animals from Chile. I realise a few did come from Peru but not the quantity that are included in the ages 1-3.

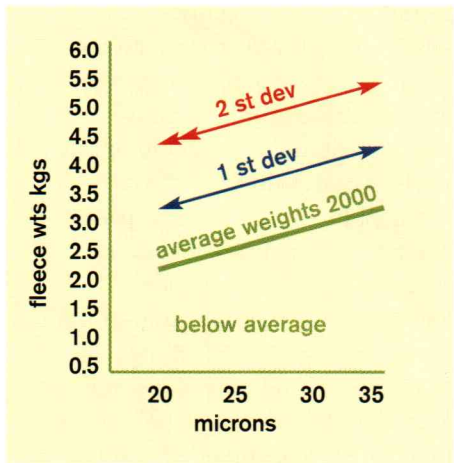
It is noticeable that the fleece weights tail off from 5 year old on. This may partly be due to age, but more likely be the effect of the improvement of the fleece production of the recent imports. And remember that these are averages, with good to fair animals being measured.

Below are some average **total fleece weights** based on **micron**. In the diagram below this chart is an estimated line of "best-fit" to represent a guide over a spread of microns. The Standard Deviation for weight within each micron group was around **0.98** of a kilo for **Total Fleece Weight** (overall average over all the micron groups).

When analysing the **Saddle Fleece Weights**, one Standard Deviation equalled 0.51 per kilo in the young alpacas and 0.57 in the adult.

Average fleece weights based on MICRON (all colours) 2000

Micron	Total Fleece (kgs)
15	1.9
20	2.25
25	2.8



The following data was compiled from a lesser number of animals as the colour was not known on some of the other research data above. Again it is important to emphasise that these are averages from a given number of animals.

Average MICRONS by COLOUR

Colour	yr1	yr2	y3
BLACK	26.7	29.4	32.4
BROWN	25.0	26.7	29.4
FAWN	21.9	26.0	26.7
GREY	22.6	26.9	28.2
WHITE	21.4	23.5	25.2

© holt unpublished 2000

© holt unpublished 1999

Fleece production versus \$ per head

Having looked at the above data (which should only be used as a guide not as absolute) it is time to look at your micron across your alpaca herd and the fleece production from these animals. It is the overall weight of clean fibre that will determine, along with the micron, what each animal will produce for you in fibre production. This will add to your revenue of general and stud animal sales.

Buyers of specialty fibres usually work with what they call a "clean limit". This is the cost of the fibre with the dirt, grease and vegetable matter out. The assessor has to apply an estimated yield (a % figure of what you think will be the amount of fibre left after it has been cleaned compared to the greasy fibre in front of you).

A base from which to work would be approximately 90% for an alpaca fleece that is relatively clean of dirt, vegetable matter and grease. These are the type of fleeces that are normally found in well-grassed paddocks with a reasonable rainfall. Most alpacas grazing on normal well-grassed pastures will yield between 85-92%. Some that are open in the fleece and have been rolling a lot in their sand roll and with some grease in the fibre may yield down to 80%. Alpacas under 80% will normally have excess grease (yolk) and be quite dusty and gritty (sand), as well as possible increase in vegetable matter (VM). These fleeces are easily recognised.

After calculating your yield, you will need to refer to a clean costing schedule, which can be obtained by any organisation purchasing alpaca fibre.

This schedule (above right) details the gross prices being paid by an Alpaca fleece buyer (February 2001). This schedule takes into account micron, length, fibre type and style.

Remember that prices fluctuate with supply and demand and are also influenced by increases in costs of production.

An example of a Buyer's Price Schedule

These prices are CLEAN not greasy, and are also GROSS PRICES. Costs for selling to be deducted.

Aus\$ per kg CLEAN February 2001				
Micron	Colour			
Range	White	Fawn Grey	L Brown Brown	Black L Fawn L Grey R Grey
<20	85	55	35	60
20-22.9	45	30	25	33
23-26.9	25	15	10	20
27-30.9	20	13	10	15
>31	8	5	5	5

DISCOUNTS

VM	LVM	2% off cost
	MVM	5% off cost
	HVM	10% off cost
TENDER	STRETCHY	5% off cost
	PT TENDER	20% off cost
	ROTTEN	50% off cost

The fleece is appraised for fineness (can be tested), clean fibre content (%yield) and type of vegetable matter. The fleece is also assessed for trueness to type (excellence). A price structure from the commercial industry, like above, would be used for costing.

e.g. <20µ, Huacaya, A length, of good style, \$85 per kilo clean, free VM, sound.
20-22.9µ, \$45 per kilo, etc.
23-26.9µ, \$25 per kilo, etc.

The appropriate clean is calculated:

$$\frac{\text{Clean}}{1} \times \frac{\text{yield}}{100} = \text{greasy price} \times \text{weight} = \$?$$

e.g. 22µ, Huacaya, A length, good style, \$45 per kilo clean, 90% yield, free of VM

$$\frac{45}{1} \times \frac{90}{100} = \$40.50 \times 3 \text{ kilos} = \$121.50 \text{ for the fleece.}$$

Now go and assess some of your fleeces and identify your most productive animals for fleece production in dollar terms.

Fleece classing receivals

AAFMO

The following chart, kindly supplied by AAFMO, represents the percentages of each micron group received for classing in the year 2000 collection. A rough averaging, based on the predicted averages of each classing line, would indicate an average of around **26 microns** for the fibre received. One must remember that quite a large amount of fibre also went to the Co-Op in Geelong, as well

as a percentage of good fleeces which would have been used in the cottage industries, as well as fibre sold direct to commercial processors. Bearing all this in mind, it must give some indication of where our Australian alpaca is in regard to micron being produced. These figures are for Huacaya fleece only. The second chart represents the colour percentages.

AAFMO Year 2000 collection				
Classing Lines	Superfine <20µ	Fine 20-22.9µ	Medium 23-27.9µ	Strong >28µ
Percentage	6%	12%	50.6%	31.4%

AAFMO Year 2000 collection					
Colour	White	Fawn	Black	Grey (RG)	Brown
Percentage	26.6%	25.9%	9.8%	12.1%	25.6%

Co-Op

Some data from the Co-Op, kindly supplied by Carl Dowd, has given the following percentages for classing lines and in the second chart the percentages by colour. It should be pointed out that the classing lines depicted below have been altered for the year 2001.

Suri receival was 5% of overall total fibre processed at the Co-Op.

In Carl Dowd's address to the AAA National Conference last year, he pointed out that with some 30,000 alpacas in Australia, with a skirted fleece cut of 1.25 kilos, there should be some 37,500 kilos (37.5 tonne) available for commercial processing. He indicated that between the Co-Op and AAFMO only some 12,000 to 13,000 kilos had been received. That of course leaves some 66% either still

sitting in the shed, being sold to hand spinners or other craft people, or being processed by the owners into alpaca garments. I would tend to think that a lot of it is still in the shed. It is very important at this stage of the growth of our industry that we support processors wherever they may be so that the Australian alpaca garments can be seen not only here in this country, but also overseas.

Co-Op Year 1999/2000 collection (Huacaya)				
Classing Lines	Superfine <20µ	Fine 20-25µ	Medium 25-30µ	Strong >30µ
Percentage	.4%	15.1%	38.3%	46.2%

Co-Op Year 1999/2000 collection (Huacaya)					
Colour	White	Fawn	Black	Grey (RG)	Brown
Percentage	26.7%	21%	12.8%	4.7%	34.8%

Somewhere, sometime, fibre production has to be addressed by all breeders.

I hope this article has given you an insight into where we are, and has prompted you to keep statistical data as an aid in your breeding program.
Good Breeding, CAMERON HOLT.

Copyright ownership of this article is retained by the author and may not be reproduced either in part or full without written permission.
Cameron Holt
International School Of Fibres
Australia © 2001

alpaca

moving to the mainstream

by JAN CROSBY
HAWKESBURY/BLUE MTNS NSW REGION

Change can be hard to accept. This is especially true for a 'new' agricultural industry such as alpacas, which still has some way to go to achieve mainstream status. With this in mind the alpaca breeders of the Hawkesbury/Blue Mountains Region decided to focus on encouraging school students to embrace alpaca breeding as a mainstream agricultural pursuit. We also felt that schools would possibly welcome a livestock course focused on an animal well suited to smaller acreage properties, which are abundant in our area.

a number of our breeders had already hosted school children on their studs with some success. Eighteen months ago the HBM Region decided to formalise the arrangement by writing to school principals and teachers of agriculture at a few schools in our region, to offer assistance with either breeder visits to schools or on-farm excursions for students. Either way a team of breeders would speak with students and staff, give husbandry demonstrations and provide practical, useful information.

To help us succeed in our ultimate goal we concentrated on secondary students who might wish to study alpaca production as the

alternate part of their agriculture curriculum and /or who preferred to have an involvement with animals perceived to be less difficult to handle than cattle or sheep. Providing assistance to their teachers was also a major objective.

In a pilot scheme ten schools were approached (we did not want to be inundated!) with letters, information on the alpaca industry in Australia and follow up phone calls. We were encouraged by the response and found that a number of agriculture teachers were most enthusiastic but unsure how to begin.

Our first opportunity came from a private girl's school on the north shore of Sydney. The school had been donated two wethers and needed help. The HBM team



Hawkesbury/Blue Mountains Region member Sue Maynard, talks to a group of students

assembled at the school and worked through practical details of feed, shelter, water, husbandry and care and then moved to physical attributes of alpacas. A demonstration of determining the sex of the animal revealed that these alpacas were **not wethers!** The young female students were fascinated with the inspection and highly motivated to learn more about alpaca reproduction!

Our first school visit was a great success and of course action has been taken since then to ensure that those two alpacas are **now wethered!**

Although only in its second year and still in its pilot phase, the HBM schools scheme has proved to be very successful with students, teachers and our members.

Our program has been tailored to suit each school and its particular needs according to age group and experience of students and staff. Whilst some schools prefer to have breeders attend the school and help with their alpacas, others may wish to start off with on-farm visits as their introduction to alpaca production.

A typical farm excursion might involve three or four studs each providing a particular aspect of alpaca breeding eg.

- Stud 1: Introduction to alpacas-physical attributes, handling, etc.
- Stud 2: Farm set up - practical considerations such as shelter, feed, water, fencing, laneways, use of gates for handling etc.
- Stud 3: Husbandry, health.
- Stud 4: Reproduction, mating, neonatal care.

Students enjoy plenty of hands-on experience and it seems that smaller groups provide greater opportunity for this. As we develop this aspect of the scheme we will try to have enough members available to have groups of 1:5.

We are seeing a growing list of participating schools. Teachers, knowing they have support, are prepared to develop their curriculum further and offer their students an alternative. There has been significant interest in showing and junior judging, and a request for help from one school resulted in

it sending a team to the Castle Hill Show this year. A great learning experience.

As we move forward it is anticipated that teachers will join our region's education events that are planned for this year. 'Showing and Judging' in June, the Fleece course in August and especially the NSW region's mini conference to be held in September will offer valuable information to new and intending breeders. We will also be encouraging teachers to attend the Alpaca Production course offered at the local TAFE.

Participating schools are indicating their interest in developing their own herds and some are even interested in establishing studs. Won't it be wonderful when schools are participating regularly in shows with alpacas as they are now with other livestock? This would be a certain indication that courses in alpaca breeding are moving to become a set part of the agriculture curriculum in schools and that alpaca production is moving to the mainstream. ■



BUNGALOOK™

Alpaca Headstalls

.....are made in brown, black, blue, gold & red to fit adult & junior alpacas



The Bungalook Headstall holds the lead rope in the best position for controlling the alpaca. The animal is not discomforted by the irritation of a nose strap pulling across the soft tissue of the nose and is able to give its attention to your leading lesson.



Send your order & payment with choice of colours and sizes to
Bungalook Alpaca Farm
P.O. Box 204 Lakes Entrance
Vic 3909 Australia
Ph/Fax: 03 51552464

E-mail: bungalook@b150.aone.net.au
Web site: <http://www.gippsnet.com.au/alpaca/001/halter.htm>

Credit card orders welcome by fax
\$27.50 each plus \$5.00 postage (Includes GST)

*Don't forget...
It's Time!*

AAA 8th National Classic Show & Sale

10-11 November 2001
E.P.I.C. Centre Canberra

Auction featuring quality bloodlines

New: "Most Commercially Valuable" Fleece Class

Stud Service Silent Auction

Trade Displays

Dinner & Fun Auction

"Get on the roll now!"



Enquiries:

Convenor **Kerry Dwyer** (Sthn Region NSW) 02 4847 5020
or the AAA National Office 03 9873 7700

Fleece Colours 2001

an update

Author's Note: This article follows on from the previous article, 'An Update of Alpaca Fleece Colours', published in Issue No. 31 of Alpacas Australia. The last table of results was Table 13; the first table of results in this article is Table 14.

by ELIZABETH PAUL
B.App.Sci (App.Biol) R.M.I.T. Cert. Animal Technology F.I.T.

Introduction

The progeny results of matings in the Association's Herd Book Vol. 8 were assessed and the results incorporated with those of Herd Books Vols. 2-7 inclusive.

There were 5342 progeny results where both the parents' and the progeny's colours were listed, and these are presented in **Table 14**. Approximately 64% of progeny were solid colours, 28% were white, 5% were grey and 3.5% were white/coloured. These figures represent a slight drop in the production of solid colour progeny and a corresponding rise in white progeny compared to Herd Book Vol. 7.

Table 14. Progeny Phenotypes from AAA Herd Book Vol. 8.

Brown	Wh/Brn	R/grey	Black	Wh/Blk	S/grey	Red	Wh/Red	White	TOTALS
988	94	137	688	33	126	1734	57	1485	5342
18.50%	1.80%	2.60%	12.90%	0.60%	2.45%	32.40%	1.10%	27.80%	

Table 15. Progeny Phenotypes from AAA Herd Book Vols. 2-8 incl.

Progeny Phenotypes	Brown	Black	Red	White	Totals	% of all Matings
Parent Phenotypes						
Brown x Brown	869	166	201	42	1278	5.25
% of total	68.00	13.00	15.70	3.30		
Black x Red	543	179	186	58	966	4.00
% of total	56.20	18.50	19.00	6.00		
Brown x Black	1234	989	79	105	2407	10.00
% of total	51.30	41.10	3.30	4.40		
Brown x Red	1616	174	1345	136	3271	13.40
% of total	49.40	5.30	41.10	4.20		
Brown x White	869	170	811	433	2283	9.30
% of total	38.00	7.40	35.50	19.00		
Black x White	399	308	267	274	1248	5.10
% of total	32.00	24.70	21.40	22.00		
Red x White	571	117	1396	903	2987	12.20
% of total	19.10	3.90	46.70	30.20		
Red x Red	412	28	1796	208	2444	10.00
% of total	16.90	1.20	73.50	8.50		
White x White	468	125	833	2862	4288	17.60
% of total	10.90	2.90	19.40	66.70		
Black x Black	307	2861	30	54	3252	13.30
% of total	9.40	88.00	0.90	1.70		
TOTALS	7288	5117	6944	5075	24424	
% of TOTAL	30.00	21.00	28.40	20.80		

Table 15 presents the updated figures for the results of all matings from Herd Books Vols. 2-8 inclusive. The fleece colours were assigned to the following groups for assessment: brown, white/brown and rosegrey were assigned to Brown; black, white/black and silvergrey were assigned to Black; fawn, white/fawn and roan were assigned to Red.

For example: a mating between a silvergrey alpaca and a dark fawn alpaca, giving a brown progeny, was assessed as Black x Red = Brown; a mating between a white/black alpaca and a rosegrey alpaca giving a white progeny, was assessed as Black x Brown = White.

Table 16 presents the progeny results of all matings involving at least one grey parent. Rosegrey and silvergrey are assumed to be recessive dilute forms of brown and black fleece colours respectively. Mating grey to grey produced approximately 65% grey progeny and 33% solid colour progeny. Grey x grey matings produced only 2% white progeny and 1% red progeny.

Mating greys to other colours reduced the proportion of grey progeny to 35% or less. However, rosegrey as a dilute form of brown still maintained dominance over the other colours, throwing more brown/rosegrey progeny than other colours.

Table 16. Results of matings involving at least one grey parent
- AAA Herd Book Vols. 2-8 incl.

Progeny Phenotypes	Brown	R/grey	Black	S/grey	Red	White	TOTALS
Parent Phenotypes							
Rosegrey x Rosegrey	25	46	1	15	2	1	90
% of total	27.70	51.10	1.10	16.70	2.20	1.10	
Rosegrey x Silvergrey	47	108	34	61	3	6	259
% of total	18.10	36.00	13.10	23.60	1.10	2.30	
Silvergrey x Silvergrey	32	28	92	176	3	7	338
% of total	9.50	8.30	27.20	52.00	0.90	2.10	
Rosegrey x Brown	77	35	17	8	14	17	168
% of total	45.80	20.80	10.10	4.80	8.30	10.10	
Rosegrey x Black	46	25	35	29	3	12	150
% of total	30.70	16.70	23.30	19.30	2.00	8.00	
Rosegrey x Red	83	35	13	7	53	22	213
% of total	39.00	16.40	6.10	3.30	24.90	10.30	
Silvergrey x Brown	223	61	101	59	15	76	535
% of total	41.70	11.40	18.90	11.00	2.80	14.20	
Silvergrey x Black	54	21	241	194	7	42	559
% of total	9.70	3.80	43.10	34.70	1.25	7.50	
Silvergrey x Red	145	31	22	27	44	37	306
% of total	47.40	10.10	7.20	8.80	14.40	12.10	
Rosegrey x White	65	39	12	15	79	59	269
% of total	24.20	14.50	4.50	5.60	29.40	21.90	
Silvergrey x White	127	44	64	74	118	183	610
% of total	20.80	7.20	10.50	12.10	19.30	30.00	
TOTALS	924	473	632	665	341	462	3497
% of TOTAL	26.40	13.50	18.10	19.00	9.70	13.20	

Table 17 presents the results of all matings of non-grey parents. It is interesting to note that Black x Red matings consistently produced more than 50% Brown progeny, and approximately equal proportions of both Black and Red progeny.

White x white, black x black and red x red matings were the least likely matings to produce grey progeny. Colour x colour matings produced approximately 97% coloured progeny. Colour x white matings produced approximately 78% coloured progeny and 22% white progeny. White x white matings made up the highest percentage of like to like matings (17.6%) and produced 66% white

progeny, but white progeny constituted only 21% of all progeny registered, about the same as for black progeny. Although brown x brown matings constituted only 5% of all matings there were more brown progeny registered than the other colours.

**Table 17. Results of matings of non-grey parents which produced grey progeny
- AAA Herd Book Vols. 2-8 incl.**

Progeny Phenotypes	Brown	R/grey	Black	S/grey	Red	White	TOTALS
Parent Phenotypes							
Brown x Brown	666	20	121	4	185	24	1020
% of total	65.30	2.00	11.90	0.40	18.10	2.40	
Black x Red	361	6	123	7	142	21	660
% of total	54.70	0.90	18.60	1.10	21.50	3.20	
Brown x Black	709	15	651	19	58	11	1463
% of total	48.50	1.00	44.50	1.30	4.10	0.80	
Brown x Red	1451	47	141	13	1292	114	3058
% of total	47.50	1.50	4.60	0.40	42.20	3.70	
Brown x White	685	80	95	48	732	374	2014
% of total	34.00	4.00	4.70	2.40	36.30	18.60	
Black x White	215	13	118	52	149	91	638
% of total	33.70	2.00	18.50	8.20	23.40	14.30	
Red x White	496	75	71	46	1396	903	2987
% of total	16.60	2.50	2.40	1.50	46.70	30.20	
White x White	394	74	99	26	833	2862	4288
% of total	9.20	1.70	2.30	0.60	19.40	66.70	
Black x Black	170	2	2133	25	20	5	2355
% of total	7.20	0.10	90.60	1.15	0.80	0.20	
Red x Red	398	14	24	4	1796	208	2444
% of total	16.30	0.60	1.00	0.25	73.50	8.55	
TOTALS	5545	346	3576	244	6603	4613	20927
% of total	26.50	1.60	17.10	1.20	31.60	22.00	

Adding Table 16 to Table 17.

ALL 2-8	6469	819	4208	909	6944	5075	24424
% of total	26.50	3.40	17.20	3.70	28.40	20.80	

Table 18 presents a list of theoretical genotypes and possible phenotypes for alpaca fleece colours.

Assumptions:

1. That there are two genes for colour, brown/black and red/white, where brown is dominant to black, and red is dominant to white; brown/black also dominates over red/white.
2. That solid colour is dominant to spotting, where the spotting gene is one which stops pigment production in specific areas starting at the extremities. That is, a white spotted alpaca may simply have a white nose and white feet; or look like a typical "multi" with a coloured blanket and white legs, neck and face; or be almost all white with a small coloured patch in the middle of the back or neck.
3. That full colour is dominant to dilute colour, where the dilution gene reduces the amount of pigment laid down in individual fibres. This may only affect the secondary follicles in the case of alpacas, with the primary fibres retaining full colour.

If the above assumptions are correct, the colours of grey alpacas are produced by a combination of recessive white spotting and diluting genes. This combination may not be particularly stable, as there is approximately 33% reversion to solid colours when mating greys to greys.

It can also be seen from Table 18 that there may be a number of forms of "white" fleece resulting from different combinations of the genes.

Conclusions

The Herd Book results confirm, once again, that coloured fleece types dominate over white fleece; that brown is dominant over black and also over red fleece colours, and that the bulk of the Australian alpaca herd is coloured.

The reader is referred to the author's previous articles (*see references*) for more detailed discussion of the genetics of alpaca fleece colours.

Table 18. Possible Genotypes and Phenotypes

	Genotype colour/solid or spotting/full or dilute	Phenotype visual interpretation
B-S-D-	brown/solid/full	solid brown
B-ssD-	brown/spot/full	brown/white
B-ssdd	brown/spot/dilute	rosegrey
bbS-D-	black/solid/full	solid black
bbssD-	black/spot/full	black/white
bbssdd	black/spot/dilute	silvergrey
R-S-D-	red/solid/full	solid fawn
R-ssD-	red/spot/full	fawn/white
R-ssdd	red/spot/dilute	white
rrS-D-	white/solid/full	white
rrssD-	white/spot/full	white
rrssdd	white/spot/dilute	white

Disclaimer

The author's opinions and conclusions are based solely on personal research and interpretation of the mating results presented in the Australian Alpaca Association Herd Books, Volumes 1-8 inclusive. The author is not responsible for any breeding or other decision taken by any other person in relation to these opinions or conclusions.

References

Paul, Elizabeth

- 'Theory of Colour Inheritance in Alpacas.' pp 10-17, *Alpacas Australia*, Issue No. 28, 1999.
- 'The Status of Grey Alpacas in the Australian Herd.' pp 30-34, *Alpacas Australia*, Issue No. 29, 1999.
- 'The Status of Red and White Alpacas in the Australian Herd.' pp 40-44, *Alpacas Australia*, Issue No. 30, 2000.
- 'An Update of Alpaca Fleece Colours.' pp 20-23, *Alpacas Australia*, Issue No. 31, 2000.

in unashamed praise of browns

by JANE SZIGETHY-GYULA
MOUNTAIN ALPACAS, VIC

I am a black breeder but occasionally, and in common with so many of you out there, a brown turns up unexpectedly. It's a surprise but far from a disaster. However, when selling some brown fleece recently which had received high praise, I was shocked to find that it had been hugely downgraded in value because of its colour. This set me to thinking about public perception of brown and why it is not more popular.

So the following response is unashamedly sentimental as it draws on my memories as I mused on all the good "brown" things that have enriched my life. Think about it and you may be surprised.

We all grew up with stories of the warm brown egg gingerly taken from under the little *Rhode Island Red* hen, whilst *Chanticleer* the rooster strutted manfully around the yard dressed in his burnished feathers. The brown egg, brown rice and brown bread, which epitomised wholesomeness, were also part of our childhood indoctrination.

So too was the brown cow, who in the stories provided the frothy milk and the lashings of cream and butter which were part of childhood's

gastronomic delight, whilst on the hob the other brown delights, hotpots, stockpots, roasts and brown gravy were brewing.

In my memory the dappled grey pony of the story books was soon replaced by the magnificent reality of the bay thoroughbreds seen weekly in shows or on the race-track. To my mind there is still no more beautiful colour than those brilliant bright bays, groomed to perfection, the mere sight of them a recurring pleasure.

When I had my own patch of land it was the wonderful red Herefords, Short Horns and Red Polls which first attracted. They are synonymous with the Australian landscape, a brilliant red spectacle on green river flats or the enduring

A small brown herd of alpacas displaying the valued "lustre"



landmarks on our drier, harder country. Indeed they seem to do particularly well in Australia's climatic extremes whether in the blizzards of the high country or in the red world of the Tanami desert. (Are brown alpacas also as versatile?) Certainly their brilliant red presence is in every Aussie calendar.

Later as my horizons became more focused it was not the gleaming new-age interiors I turned to but the honest individual pieces of timber, hand-hewn and hand-crafted with a story of their growth and shaping. Grainy and rich in hue with a lustre that comes of years of handling, they cross all browns in the spectrum from the red cedars to the deep, dark blackwoods.

Remembering characters from my childhood, who was it who wore the rough bracken coloured *Harris Tweed* which smelt so nice? Weren't Dr Cameron and Siegfried of the television series similarly clad in their indestructible red tweeds as they dealt with crises of human or animal health in bleak moorland settings?

It's so easy to love the bold overchecks and plaids of the Hebrides with their tawny autumnal colours, redolent of heather, foxes and bracken.

And now in the world of alpacas I look at some of the most beautiful russet fleeces, soft, full, crimped and gleaming like polished mahogany.

I know that many browns are remarkably fine. I know that black, white and brown together can produce all the shades of the spectrum with their blending. I know that in April 2001 one international processor was unable to purchase browns on the world market and when, in May, it did become available, it was at a premium price.

So why and what are we doing, crossing all our best browns to fawns and apologising for the occasional brown that surfaces unexpectedly? Who first said, "people don't like brown"? I do and I know plenty like me who do. Are we to unwittingly believe everything that is said to us, irrespective of what motives may have been at play in those comments? I know that if there were

purple giraffes then some entrepreneur from outside would find a way to market them as the world's most desirable livestock. How much easier just to see what is before our eyes and in our paddocks and acknowledge the true worth of the brown alpaca. So let's re-programme ourselves and replace the negative, almost unconscious remark, "Blackie only gave me a brown this year", with something positive and instead delight in the browns' rich palette of colours, breed for it and in so doing enhance our range of natural coloured goods.

And you should take time to sit and muse on the place of 'brown' in your memories whilst you sip quietly on the amber richness of your aged malt whisky, take a look at its colour and remember that you can wear that richness as well as drink it.

If I have failed to convince you of brown's comforting properties perhaps you could slip off and see the movie, "Chocolat", whose seductive 'brown' charms may prove your final downfall. Talking of chocolate...! ■

COOLAROO

ESTABLISHED 1987



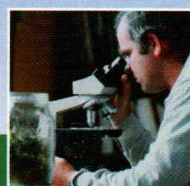
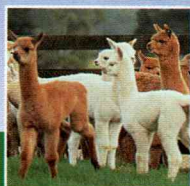
Optimum Performance & Balanced Breeding

PRODUCES SYDNEY ROYAL GRAND CHAMPION ALPACAS AND A FUTURE IN FIBRE EXCELLENCE

'Coolaroo Jaminu'
Grand Champion Male Exhibit
Sydney Royal 2000

'Coolaroo Queen of the Desert'
Supreme Champion Alpaca
Sydney Royal 2001

Become involved in a highly beneficial, leading edge and well researched breeding programme following the Advanced disciplines of Dr Jim Watts.



Agistment, stud servicing, comprehensive information and support for new breeders available.

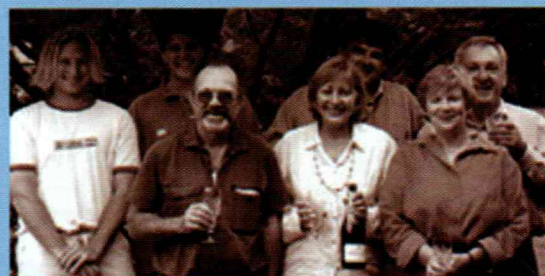
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT Neil Parker – Coolaroo Alpaca Stud

Woodlands Road, Mittagong NSW 2575 PHONE 02 4878 5266 FAX 02 4878 5233 EMAIL coolaroo@pbq.com.au

*Outstanding quality weanlings
sired by Shankrooke High Society
From \$5,000.*

We invite you to visit our Web site
www.bluegrassalpacastud.com

*Blue Grass Alpaca Stud
Julie & Arthur Mavros
505 Mountain Ash Road, Goulburn, N.S.W. 2580.
Ph./Fax. (02) 4821 3403.*

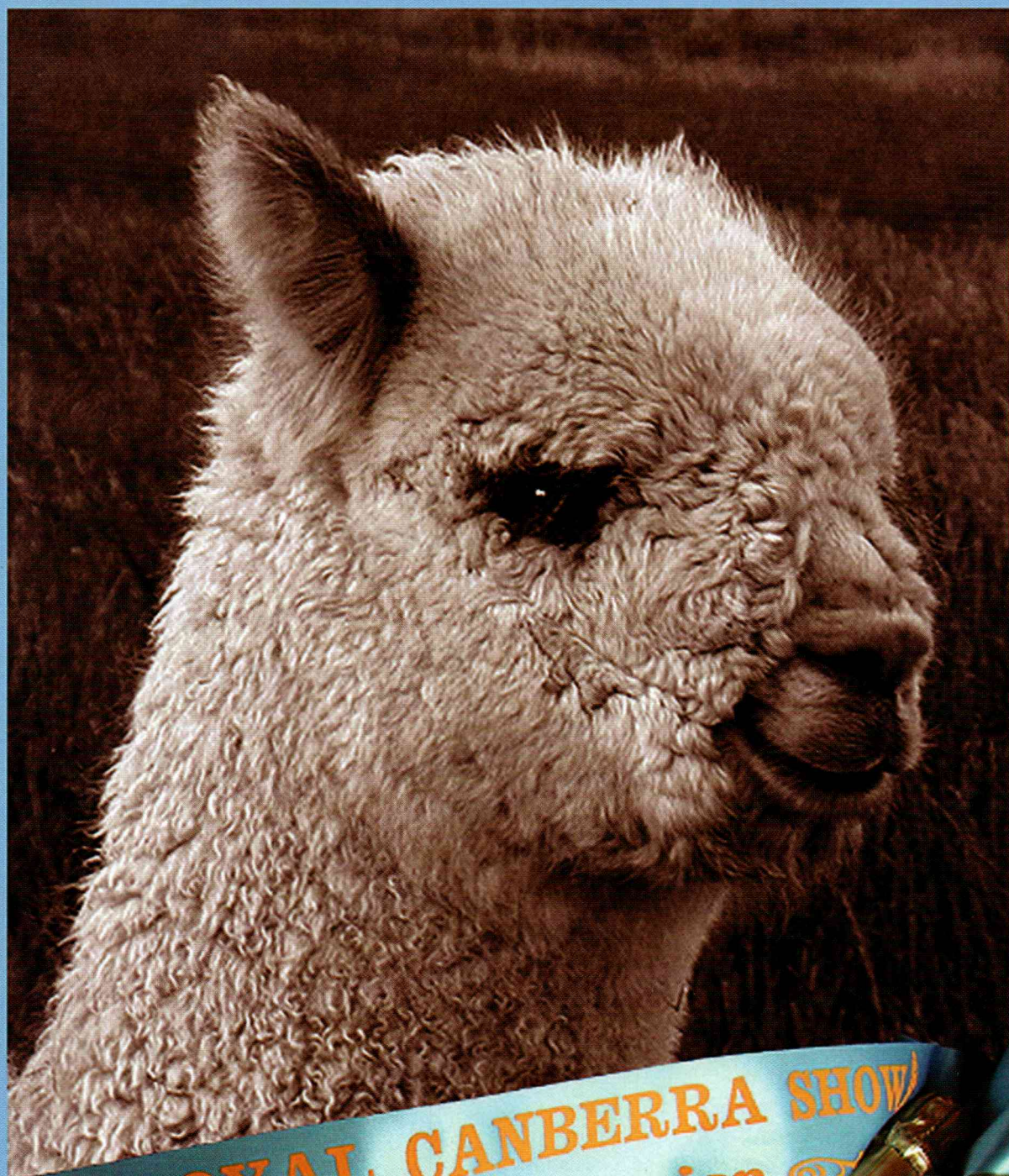


*Congratulations to Lilyfield & Wyntaissa Alpacas
on their purchase of Blue Grass Bollinger*

BLUE GRASS BOLLINGER

SUPREME CHAMPION

SUPREME CHAMPION



2001 ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW
Supreme Champion
HUACAYA EXHIBIT



Record Keeping

the foundation stones of your business

by CAROLYN JINKS
BENLEIGH ALPACA STUD, VIC

Record keeping is the foundation of any successful business, and the importance of this practice in the breeding of alpacas has been invaluable to us. When we began with alpacas in 1989, there was little written information about them. Murray Fowler's book on husbandry, which related more to llamas, was the 'Alpaca Bible', and it became our practice to document all activities. What a wise decision that proved to be!

Over the years patterns became apparent, which in turn ultimately became the basis of the two handbooks I have co-authored with renowned Australian alpaca Vet, Dr Ewen McMillan – 'Alpaca Breeders Birthing Handbook' and 'Alpaca Breeders Reproduction Handbook'. Both of these books are inexpensive reference handbooks and have been acclaimed for being the 'benchmark of normal'.

In establishing a good working relationship with your Veterinarian, good records are great tools.

Record keeping should include all aspects of your work – mating dates, birthing dates, animal weights, vaccination dates, shearing dates and fleece weights, plus dates and details of any illness, injury or supplementary feeding.

Commencing with Stud Service

It is the normal practice for details of Stud Service to be recorded. At Benleigh, we 'spit off' the female at day 7 after mating. If she spits, it is recorded that she has ovulated. This can be an extremely valuable record if an animal is not conceiving, and in a mature female, will indicate if the use of hormone drugs should be considered. (Prior to any consideration of drugs, the weight and age of the animal would also be evaluated – again, the importance of recording!)

After the initial 'spit off', we continue this pattern every 7 days until around 35 days when a preliminary scan is performed to establish the presence of a fetus. Again all this is recorded. This pattern of weekly 'spitting off' occurs until the female is over 60 days pregnant, when another ultrasound is performed and that data is recorded.

These dates then provide worthwhile information about the female's breeding status, and of course the anticipated arrival of the cria. The final mating date is also invaluable in considering increases in feeding prior to parturition.

In the event of an animal which is agisted or visiting our property for stud service taking longer than expected to conceive, all relevant information regarding the number of matings, dates etc. are readily available to discuss with the owner and Veterinarian. These records avoid any risk of 'guess-timation'.

Next comes birthing

Recording the births to any one female reveals amazing facts! A number of animals will produce two cria in the same calendar year, or at the other extreme, records can show that a particular female takes a long time between pregnancies to conceive.

This information can show that some families are consistently great breeders, while other families appear to be less fertile. In commercial breeds of sheep and cattle, low breeders would be culled.

With registration of animals, the birth of cria is formally recorded, but it is still important to keep your own records. Data relating to difficult births, low birth weights etc. should be noted and be reviewed when the next cria is due. Some problems are totally 'one offs', but if good records are kept, patterns may emerge.

Weighing

It is an excellent idea to weigh cria and gain knowledge of size relating to age and weight.

Cria under 6kg need to be observed and those less than 5.5kg need special care.

As a breeder becomes more experienced, weighing each cria at birth may not be considered necessary, but it is a good practice to establish early on.

Record birth weight at one week, two weeks and two months. (Don't panic if a cria loses a little weight in the first couple of days.) Cria should gain weight by at least 1kg per week (1.5kg is great) in the early weeks, and be around 35-45 kg at around 6 months.

Weight records may also be invaluable in assessment of the problem if a mature animal loses condition.

Supplementary Feeding Records

In the event of a cria needing special care or supplementary feeding, we use various charts that I have created to monitor progress.

The following chart is used in the case of premature or dysmature cria, or any that need short term additional feeding.

eg. If a cria is unable to stand to suckle or if a cria is not gaining weight and is being given additional feeds.

Supplementary Feeding – Daily Short Term Record

DAY*:
ID: DOB:
DATE:
TEMP: WEIGHT:
OBSERVATIONS:
FEEDS:

TIME	FLUID TYPE*	STRENGTH	AMOUNT
TOTAL DAILY FLUID GIVEN			

*DAY = day 1-2-3 etc
*FLUID TYPE may be glucose, lactade, plasma, milk replacer

The next chart is used if continued feeding is required.

eg. in the case of orphaned cria.
Once suitable feeding regime is established, weekly weighing and recording should be sufficient.

Special Care – Long Term Supplementary Feeding Chart

ID:

DATE:	WEIGHT	TIME	MIXTURE	AMOUNT
COMMENTS:				
			TOTAL FLUIDS PER DAY	
DATE:	WEIGHT	TIME	MIXTURE	AMOUNT
COMMENTS:				
			TOTAL FLUIDS PER DAY	
DATE:	WEIGHT	TIME	MIXTURE	AMOUNT
COMMENTS:				
			TOTAL FLUIDS PER DAY	

'Comments' box can be a valuable tool.

Occasionally an animal may need special care and the following chart is used in this case.

IDEA: Draw boxes for the appropriate number of days that drugs are to be used, and mark in box when administered.

Keep records of any health issues

For example, when the animal appears to act differently.

(Sample: *Animal #123 lame in back leg on 1/1/01. No damage evident*) etc.

These types of comments could be recorded in a 'Health diary' that is kept for especially this purpose. Entries such as this may be of great assistance when Vets are diagnosing problems.

Vaccinations

Record dates of all vaccinations for animals. This is particularly helpful when animals are sold or moved to another property, or if blood is taken for plasma.

Shearing & Fleece data

If the date of shearing and the weight of the fleece are recorded annually, a true picture of the quality and amount of fleece grown per animal evolves.

Annual data re: micron, CV, SD and spin fineness will provide valuable information.

This information should be used to achieve and improve your own breeding goals, as well as being available when marketing an animal.

Showing

Whilst feeling that the pleasure of winning could not be forgotten, it is well worthwhile recording the event, year and results. Time can pass rapidly! ■

Alpaca Care Plan

DATE: _____

ID: _____

COLOUR: _____

OWNER: _____

DAM ID: _____

DOB: _____

WEIGHT AT BIRTH: _____

CURRENT WEIGHT : _____

OBSERVATIONS:

Eg Cut on left front leg

ACTION PLAN:

Eg Cleanse wound with dermaclense daily

DRUGS:

Eg 3 days Penstrep 5mls per day

Mon	Tues	Wed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

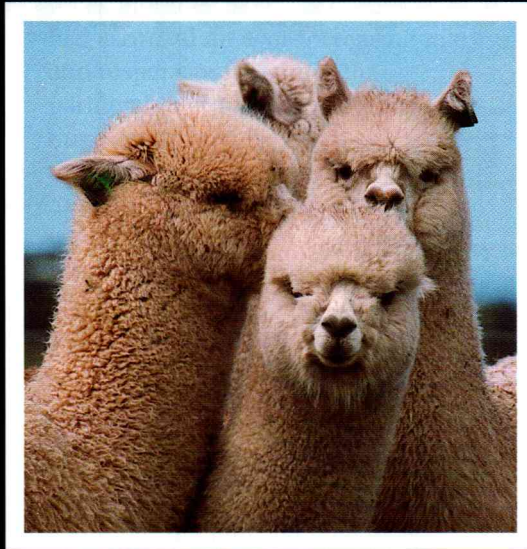
The message is constant

**Regardless of whether you
choose a health diary as noted above,
record card for each animal,
spreadsheet or book**

– it is not important how or where it is recorded –

IT IS JUST VITAL THAT IT IS RECORDED!

PUCARA ALPACA STUD



Which ever way, we're worth getting to know.



PUCARA ALPACA STUD

Jude Anderson & Alan Cousill

Mail: PO Box 669
Torquay Vic 3228

Fax: (03) 5263 3364

Phone: (03) 5263 3436

E-Mail: pucara@bigpond.com

400 Alpacas on farm
80 on sale list

- Honesty
- Service
- Energy
- Integrity

as well as networking opportunities between breeders”.

On their return to the show-ring success was immediate with Ruffo taking out Junior champion at the 1999 National Show. Numerous other first placings across the board are early signs of achievement for both the sire and the stud as is consistency in Sire Progeny Groups. The success continues with a son of Ruffo – *Eringa Park Peruvian Irraquoy* – as well as other sons standing at stud.

The problem of what sire to put over the Ruffo progeny has been solved with the ‘discovery’ of a son of *Accoyo Royal Fawn*, a dominant US sire. *Eringa Park Saintly* was one of the alpacas that failed to impress at weaning but hit the eye when shorn at twelve months of age. “We couldn’t believe our eyes when we looked at the fleece,” says an excited Cathy Lloyd, “his fleece was the best we had ever produced – by a country mile!”

This was the animal that encouraged the Lloyds to re-enter the cut and thrust of the show circuit. It is also the animal that solves the problem of what to put over Ruffo’s female progeny. “By putting one sire over the whole herd we created the problem of what to put over that sire’s female progeny,” said Matthew. “I must admit that we did not seriously consider this

problem until it became quite urgent and we had tried several others as potential sires. We were very lucky that Saintly popped up out of the blue when he did. We still have the problem of what to put over Saintly’s female progeny and that is something that we are grappling with at the moment. Our experience highlights the need to identify not only short term breeding needs and principles but also highlights the absolute necessity to look three and four years into the future,” he went on to say.

“We see nothing but pluses for the future of this industry. However progress will be held up and constrained if breeders do not firstly decide what they want to be in this industry, and secondly, how they want to structure their breeding program to achieve whatever it is they set out to achieve,” summed up Matthew.

As part of an extensive agricultural enterprise, alpacas compete for the resources of the business but there is no question as to what sector of the business excites this young couple... “Alpacas give us great enjoyment, enormous satisfaction, numerous headaches and incredible optimism for the future,” they chorus as they take in a view dotted with alpacas on rolling hills surrounded by orchards, vineyards and a lake. ■

AND FOR THE LATEST ...

South Australian breeders Matthew and Cathy Lloyd, in partnership with UK based Cambridge Alpacas, have purchased the huacaya breeding herd of Jolimont Alpacas in what can be seen as a vote of confidence in the Australian alpaca industry by the Lloyd family.

Eringa Park Alpacas took delivery of the herd on 6 July 2001 and transported the animals to their ‘Cambridge Farm’ property at Balhannah in the Adelaide Hills.

Outstanding sire *Jolimont Conquistador* will now stand alongside *NWA Ltd Ruffo G4574* to give Eringa Park arguably the best white genetics in Australia.

The investment, well in excess of \$1 million, is further testament to and support in an industry that has recorded a decade of continuing growth and stability since alpacas were introduced to Australia’s primary industry sector.

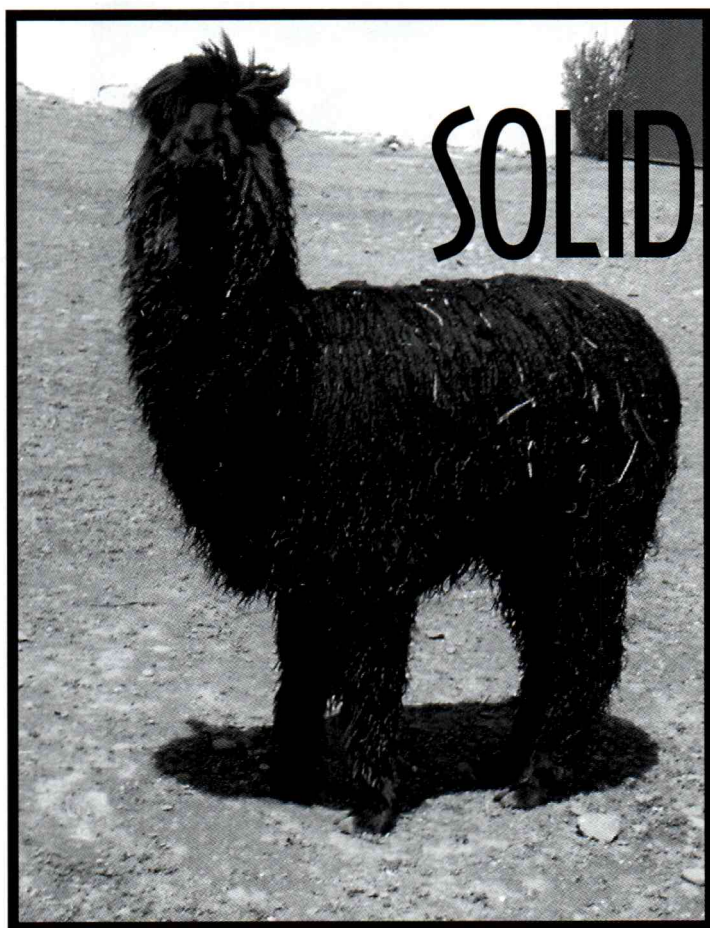


TURN BLACK INTO GOLD

WITH



• Starline Alpacas •



SOLID BLACK SURI

Two full blooded

Stud Males from Bolivia
now available
for service
FOR THE FIRST TIME
IN AUSTRALIA



• Starline Alpacas •

Farm: 1100 Milbrodale Rd., Broke, NSW 2330
PO Box 146, NORTHBRIDGE NSW 1560

Karl & Ilona Freund

Ph. (B/h) 02-9417 6233 (W/e) 02-6579 1097

E-mail: ilona@robotcoupe.com.au

Also available at affordable
service fees ... from \$500
... to improve any herd

- ★ Somerset Peruvian Perfection – SW
One of only three Barreda's show
winning males ever to leave Peru.
At 11 years of age 26 micron.
- ★ Starline Morning Star (No. 5) – SW
- ★ Starline Moonbeam (No. 10) – LF
- ★ Starline Sputnik (No. 8) – SW
- ★ Starline Starbuck (No. 70) – SW

For Sale ★ Excellent, solid white
Peruvian, black and fawn huacaya
males from \$800

Southern Highlands Expo 2001

What a Field Day!

by PAUL HASLIN
ELYSION ALPACAS, NSW

We all know that for our industry to continue its successful development we must market alpacas – to the general public, to the prospective industry entrants and to each other. Marketing is often our lowest strength and, individually, especially for the smaller breeders, it's hard to find the time and opportunity.



Coolaroo Queen of the Desert catches up with another camelid, the "Ship of the Desert"

Competitive shows are a great way to demonstrate our excellence in breeding, the quality of our stud males etc. – but who's watching? Following the decision not to hold a NSW Southern Region spring show this year (because this year we have the National Show in Canberra in November) our Region decided that a field day would be appropriate. I was sitting in the front row of the meeting and spoke the loudest – so obviously I ended up with the job... I guess I'll stick to the back row in future!

Joining Forces ... with others helped to reduce the enormity of the task. Although the Southern Highlands is part of the Southern NSW Region it is within commuting distance to Sydney

and attracts the city escapees seeking that elusive lifestyle change. As we wanted to attract the Sydney market we invited the Sydney, Coast & Highlands Region to participate in the field day as well.

When we discovered that the Highlands Expo – a small farm field day that had been running for some years – was seeking to move and change its image, it was a logical choice to join forces with them. This gave us the advantages of a professional event organiser to look after the big picture and the opportunity to parade our industry in front of a much bigger audience. For our part we were able to contribute an attractive element to the field days – so Alpacas at the Highlands Expo was born!

Preparation ... Like any event, the secret of success is in the planning and preparation. We decided to keep our organisation small with an organising committee of just two couples. This way we could keep a tight hold on progress as well as learn more about running such an event as we went. From there it was simply a matter of lists – list of exhibitors, list of required equipment, list of things to do etc. Then just keep ticking them off by the required date.

Our venue for the Expo was the racetrack just outside Bowral, used once a year for a picnic race meeting. The alpacas were housed in the stables complex, a grassed quadrangle surrounded by horse stalls. Our early inspection of the site left us quite dismayed as the horse stalls looked

The alpacas were housed in a grassed quadrangle surrounded by horse stalls



Fashion paraded with the Supreme Champions of the Sydney Royal Easter Show, 2001



untidy and uninviting. But after some reorganisation, cleaning and tidying we saw a vast improvement. The erection of a marquee in the middle to house retailers and an AAA information stand completed the site. Young trees, provided by a local nursery, were positioned around the area and, by the time the exhibitors decorated their stalls with signage and animals, we had an impressive display.

And so to the big day ... or days actually, as this was a three day event. After very little cajoling 21 studs and three alpaca product retailers got together for a great long weekend.

Starting with a freezing Friday the studs from the Sydney, Coast & Highlands and Southern NSW regions set up their displays. With a good mix of alpacas for sale and some of the best stud males in NSW there was an impressive array of quality alpaca stock for the public to inspect.

By Saturday the weather was much kinder to us but led to a deep freeze night that tested the mettle of the overnight campers. Sunday developed into a glorious Highlands day that saw alpacas and owners alike basking in the sun.

Features of the weekend were the fashion parades staged by Helen Audsley of The Alpaca Centre and the mini-seminars presented by Wendy Billington of Cedar House Alpacas. The fashion parades stimulated much interest in the quality and range of alpaca products and the seminars were well attended by a good number of alpaca industry prospects doing serious homework.

About 4,000 people attended the Expo, providing a steady stream of interested visitors over the weekend.

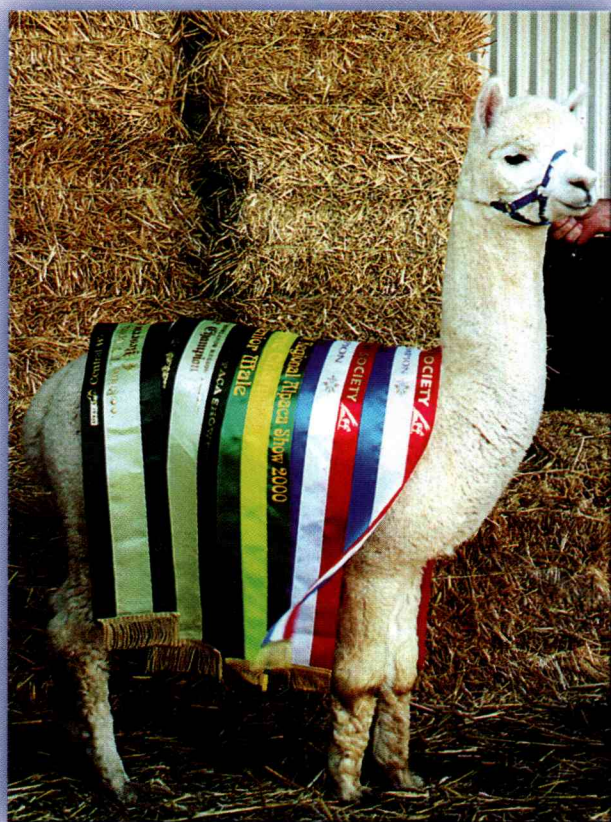
All work and no play ... ain't much fun. So we tried to provide a bit of relaxation in the form of a Saturday night barbeque which was well attended and much enjoyed by all, with good humoured discussion going well into the night (around a warm gas heater). Tea, coffee and bikkies in the administration pen provided welcome lubrication for tired throats as well as a gathering point for informal chats between breeders throughout the weekend.

Next time ... we'll be better prepared. We'll know what we need to achieve so we can delegate more of the tasks (without giving away control of the project). We'll know the strengths and

weaknesses of the field day organisers so we'll be able to work better with them. We'll have more lead time to plan activities and co-ordinate our advertising.

The verdict ... was good. All participants considered the Expo to be highly successful and well worth repeating. The social interaction and co-operation between breeders was, as one older hand put it, "just like the good old days". We were impressed with the quality of serious prospects that came to talk to us. A good number of wethers were sold with many strong leads for further sales established. Several farm visits were arranged which should lead to some of the serious lookers getting started in alpacas ... and that's what it's all about! ■

Paul Haslin, together with his wife Frances, owns Elysion Alpacas at Canyonleigh in the NSW Southern Highlands. They have been breeding alpacas since 1996 and now have a herd of nearly 100 animals, mainly white and grey huacayas and white suris. For any further information on the insanity of organising a field day feel free to contact them on (02) 4878 9429.



The *impeccable breeding* of Shanbrooke **Casanova**

ensures *something special* in your cria

Casanova is a gentle natured solid white male with a dense soft handling fleece and excellent conformation. His genetic background indicates a strong pre-disposition to white. His progeny are either white or fawn even from dark dams.

Mobile matings available

2001 Show Results
Supreme Champion Ipswich
Supreme Champion Nambour

Canberra
Alani Alpacas
Phil & Dot Ware
02 6292 2316
0412 922 776

Port Macquarie
Adori Alpacas
Rick Hodgson
02 6581 0938
0418 810 938

How did we get into this?

by RICHARD DIXON
BERRIDALE ALPACAS, NSW

I was born in Wau, New Guinea, and came to Australia before my first birthday. I grew up in Sydney, first in the suburbs and then on a 5 acre farm at Greystanes, with house-cow, chooks, geese, ducks and turkeys and the odd crop. All my holidays until I was 12, and many thereafter, I spent with relatives on a cattle farm at Goolmangar, between Lismore and Nimbin in far north NSW, so I have always felt easy working with livestock.

Judith was born and reared in Merrylands, and had no experience with any livestock apart from a dog and a cat, yet she is better with alpacas than I am. We met when I was 12 and she was 11 and we have been married for 40 years.

We spent the first 35 years of our married life in ignorance of the charms of alpaca. I am a veterinary surgeon who has lectured in Surgery and Radiology at Sydney and Melbourne Veterinary Schools – *but I had never seen an alpaca!* I studied radiology and radiation therapy at Colorado State University and spent a year at Iowa State University as a visiting Assistant Professor – *but I never saw an alpaca!* For some time the Sydney Veterinary School provided the veterinary services to Taronga Zoo, so I'd radiographed orang-utans, helped operate on Kodiak bears, elephants and tigers, and done radiation therapy on camels, koalas and Death Adders – *but I'd never seen an alpaca!* I spent 17 years running a specialist veterinary radiology practice – *but I'd never been asked to look at an alpaca!*

All this changed at Easter 1995 when we visited the Paddington Pavilion at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. By this time we had planned to retire to a small acreage at Berridale in the NSW Snowy Mountains and were looking for some type of livestock production that did not

something for the attraction of alpacas, and the design of Richard and Julie's pamphlet, that we remembered this in September, and moreover, that we could still find the pamphlet!

Off we went and had a very instructive day made even better by Julie's mother's scones. We came

away quite happy to have alpacas, if it wasn't for the price (those were the days when even pushmi-pullyus were selling for \$20,000 to \$30,000 each).

By March 1996 we had rationalised our horror at the cost of our intended purchases on the basis that we were going to be able to recoup our money over 10 years, and then some. (Having just read the May 2001 ACIL report on the alpaca industry – showing that we now need 9 breeding females as a nucleus enabling us to break even in 7 years – I am tempted to send ACIL my copy of Simon Bird's economic projections. That report, quite soundly based, showed us that our breeding females would result in us recouping \$500,000 in 10 years. It makes much better reading).

We bought our first mother with a three month old female cria at foot. The mother was one of Roger Haldane's original

Chilean imports and the cria was by *Purrrumbete La Mancha*. That line is still breeding us our heaviest cutters in our herd. Two months later we bought a second female just pregnant to *Peruvian El Jefe*, who was the new kid on the block.

Then we decided to get ourselves one of Pat Viceconte's Peruvians, so we put in our order. By this time we



Judith and our best effort yet – Berridale Alice Rawson

necessitate us killing and eating our produce, or sending it to the abattoirs. Enter Richard and Julie Bird of The Gorge Alpacas.

To us, their animals were as appealing as any of the others, but they had brochures advertising an Open Day in September. It says

had succumbed to the lure of the alpaca auction and bought two maidens and a wether at the Lakeview dispersal sale in 1997 and sent them off to Glen and Wendy Riley, and NWA Ltd Don Juan, at Kankinya Ridge for about 4 months.

I left off full time practice in February 1997 and we moved down here at the end of May. We brought our three original purchases and the Peruvian here in October – once we had put up fences and shelter sheds – and deprived Don Juan of his two now pregnant females and the companion wether shortly afterwards.

We now learned about the vagaries of Monaro weather, in spite of having visited here for a week at a time for the past 20 years. When we get any rain, the grass is good (*top right*) but if the rain doesn't come, and we get a hot, dry, windy Summer, then we have the Monaro we know and love (*bottom right*). Don't misunderstand us – we love the climate and the seasons, but it certainly was a change from the lush kikuyu of The Gorge.

We have added to our herd a *Purumbete Highlander* girl from Coonawarra via the auction at Albury-Wodonga, a *Cedar House Iceman* girl from Cedar House Alpacas, a *Jolimont Piero* boy from Beaconshurst Alpacas and a *Purumbete El Dorado* boy from Tarmaroo Alpaca Stud. As well as mating our girls to *Purumbete La Mancha*, *Peruvian El Jefe* and *NWA Ltd Don Juan*, we have used *Jolimont Massimo*, *Purumbete Monarch*, *Schuberts Maestro*, *Cedar House Peru Accoyo Jacomo*, *Wyona Gangster* and – because Judith would love a rose grey – *Merungle Hot Chilli*, as well as *Summerhill Sundance* and *Benleigh Bolero*. We consider that we now have a sufficiently diverse genetic base to allow us to do some selective internal line breeding and outcrossing.

Our natural increase has not gone quite as the 10 year plan would suggest and has reinforced the maxim that if you have livestock you may also have dead stock. We have also come to appreciate that statistical probabilities apply to very large numbers and not necessarily to herds of 10 breeding females.

We lost two cria in 1997, leaving one male to increase our numbers. In 1998 we totalled 5 boys and 2 girls – one by caesarean section. In 1999 we

had 3 girls and 2 boys born alive and one girl born dead – with another caesarean section – and two mums who reneged on the deal some time after 8 months. In 2000 we had another 2 no-shows and 7 live cria – all boys. Our one girl was born dead and her mother died of pregnancy toxemia the next day.

Enough of the bad news. We now have 11 breeding females that are ultrasound positive and two more waiting to be tested. We have found that relying on spit-offs didn't absolve us from the no-shows and the odd persistent *corpus luteum*.

Part of our husbandry is to weigh and body condition score our 29 strong herd every week. We have found they are now very gentle and accustomed to us and the routine – even the crias – and it gives us the chance to detect any weight loss patterns before the results become

significant. It also enables us to examine each animal at close quarters and to assess the fleece growth and characteristics. (Judith is much better at this than I am). We thus feel that we have a reasonably accurate assessment of our herd's health and knowledge of the idiosyncrasies of each member.

In late Spring and Summer we pay very close attention daily to the eyes of our herd. One of the drawbacks of native pasture is the number of plant species that produce awned seeds that get into eyes. Any animal that seems to be squinting is promptly yarded and caught, and on every occasion we have found a grass seed – usually inside the lower lid and usually a Kangaroo Grass seed.

Grass seed also gets into fleeces. The first year we had problems, especially with cria because the pasture was under-grazed. Increasing



Berridale Alpacas in a good season



The Monaro in Summer

the stocking rate and the judicious application of a vintage Ferguson tractor and slasher has largely resolved the pasture side of the problem and shearing in late September/early October does the rest – except for the show team.

We came into the industry at the time the Alpaca JD Market Assurance Program was being conceived. We had a first hand experience of involvement with a contact with a JD faecal positive animal. We saw how difficult it was for the State regulatory personnel to deal with our problem because of the lack of any protocol or time frame that did not involve compulsory slaughter and post-mortem examination. The alternative was a never ending Claytons quarantine.

The parameters of the Alpaca JD MAP offered a way forward for us – and other people similarly involved in such incidents. I have worked in the AAA and the Camelid Veterinary Association to make the MAP user-friendly, based on the excellent groundwork done by Geoff Hargreaves and his team. Hopefully the few changes that seem beneficial will have been approved and be in place by the time you read this.

I have seen the enormous expense and amount of person power involved in the control and finally the eradication of bovine TB and brucellosis in Australia. We no longer have the government person power or funds to do a similar job with JD – in alpaca or any other



Winter cria – they are all happy to sleep out in the snow

species. This time, industry will be doing the work and paying the bills. Hence my concern to get it made as easy and inexpensive for alpaca breeders like us to ensure (and insure) that the low level of JD in alpaca does not increase in our National herd and that we will shortly be able to show that Australian alpacas do not have JD.

How do I see the industry going? I would hope that within three years we do have a commercial register as well as a stud register to accommodate the growing number of people who wish to establish financially viable commercial breeding and wether flocks. I commend the hard work of AAA President, Ian Watt, in this area.

I hope that the members of the AAA back the efforts to assist the Australian Alpaca Co-op Ltd. with cash

and with fibre. I hope to see the day when the Co-op will be the processor of choice for those members who wish to get their processed fibre back so that they can value-add themselves. Further, I hope to see the day very soon when members will consign their fibre to the Co-op instead of the garage or the shed.

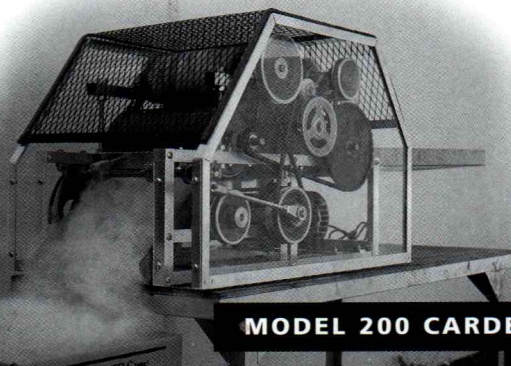
I hope also we will realise that, while some of our animals are producing top quality fibre, some are not. While we are selecting for more of the former, we should come to terms with the concept that some of our fibre may be better used for rugs, felt, insulating batts or other non-apparel uses. George Washington Carver sat himself down for a weekend and thought up 90 different ways to use peanuts. We need to do the same for alpaca fibre! ■

ADD VALUE TO YOUR ALPACA FIBRE

**Enquire about equipment
suitable for your needs**

- Continuous Electric Carders (as pictured)
- Electric Drum Carders (3 Drum Machines)
- Hand Drum Carders
- Electronic Hand Spinners

**PHONE OR FAX NOW
(03) 9725 6253**



MODEL 200 CARDER

ERTOEL WHEELS Specialists in: Electronic Spinners and Carding Machines (Hand & Electric)
FACTORY 7/45 VINTER AVE, CROYDON VICTORIA AUSTRALIA 3136 PH/FAX 61 3 9725 6253



TIMBERTOP "THE SCUD"



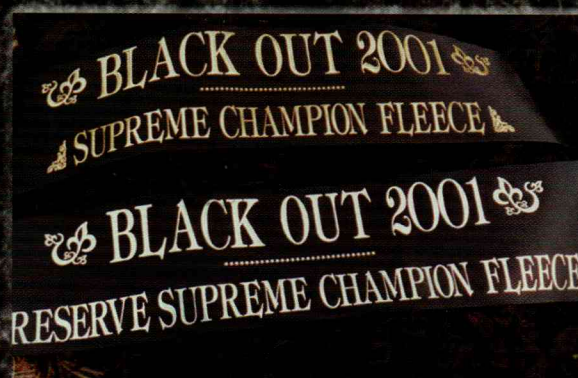
TOP 3 SHOW RESULTS



- ★ 1999 National Alpaca Show Tamworth
Reserve Junior Champion Male
- ★ 2000 National Alpaca Show Tatura
Reserve Senior Champion Male
- ★ 2001 All Australian 'BLACK OUT' Kilmore
Supreme Champion Alpaca Fleece (1st. fleece)
Reserve Supreme Champion Fleece (2nd. fleece)

\$770.00

Inc. GST



1st. Cria
due Aug/Sept

Results Speak for Themselves!

Monthly Mobile Service, Contact Andrew Brown 0409 549 547

Their love story ~ Chic & Jo ~

by JO WILSON
NOOSA ALPACA STUD, QLD

Neither of us could have imagined, back in the late 1940s, that forty years later we would marry and move to Queensland. We were both at school at that time and spent Christmas holidays at Newport Beach north of Sydney. We lived in the same suburb but Chic travelled north to his school and I went south to mine. When we both started work we, along with our friends, caught the 7.40am train to Wynyard in the morning. In our late teens and early twenties we and our friends moved en masse – we went to the same parties, caught the same trains, in fact there was very little ‘pairing off’.

After we had worked for a few years, many of us had saved enough money to take ‘the big trip overseas’. Most of our friends went to England, Chic and his twin brother went to the United States (as they had been born in Ireland they were able to get their Green cards and to work in the USA) and I, with a couple of friends, went to Canada. Chic left on his trip about eight months before I sailed for Vancouver and during that time we wrote bright, newsy letters to one another.

Our ship arrived in Vancouver 31 July 1956 and there on the dock was Chic. Also on board the ship were a couple of school mates of Chic’s so he had decided to drive from San Francisco, his base in the US, to Vancouver to meet us all.

my ticket and he would drive me across Canada but, as he tells it, I said, “Certainly not – I’m a nice girl”, or words to that effect.

Six months later Chic and his brother made a quick decision to return home as Uncle Sam wanted

them for National Service (two years). More letters had been exchanged and I announced my intention to return to Australia in time for Christmas ‘57. The ship left from San Francisco so, with an Australian friend, Sandra, we bought a \$99 Greyhound ticket for unlimited travel from Toronto for a couple of months.

Postcards were sent but for reasons best known to US Mail these travelled surface despite the Air Mail stickers and arrived in

Australia six weeks after I did.

So... Chic, tired of waiting (who could blame him) had fallen head over heels with another mutual friend.

We went our separate ways... he reached heights in his chosen industry, married and produced four



Chic (right) and Jo Wilson

As we docked late in the day, none of us was allowed ashore until the next morning. Chic was there to drive me around, but the train on which I had booked a Pullman berth left at 6pm for Toronto. Chic suggested I cancel

beautiful children... I had wonderful jobs in television and travel. About four times during the ensuing 24 years our paths crossed at dinner parties or lunches with mutual friends.

And then Chic's wife left him to do other things.

He came to my travel agency to book a holiday for his two daughters and, as they say, the rest is history.

We married New Year's Eve 1982. My new family comprised a 90 year old mother-in-law from whom Chic inherited his optimism, gentleness and enthusiasm, two step-sons, 21 and 19, two step-daughters 15 and 13, and a brother-in-law who is a dead ringer for my husband.

We stayed in the former matrimonial home in Sydney with the two boys while the girls divided their time between their mother and us. We escaped as often as we could to the Sunshine Coast. Chic had bought two 100 acre farms just behind Noosa Heads as retirement investments. He retained these in the property settlement (one was in the names of the four children) so we had good excuses to visit the area. Chic had intended to grow tropical fruit and avocados but his farm manager had other ideas. So pineapples it was. Hard work and low returns were the order of the day, but the manager produced the sweetest pineapples on the coast.

After the Sydney home was sold, we bought another farm at Eumundi and this became our home. The boys were old enough to fend for themselves and were through University. Both girls were flattening so we were able to stay with relatives or friends on our visits to Sydney. Chic retained an office and assistant in Sydney while the travel agency was sold.

Eventually we were able to move the Sydney business to our home in Eumundi and become telecommuters. We had the best of all worlds. We played insurance during the week and farmers in the weekend. We had cattle and when pineapples became too hard we sought an alternative. There was

not enough land to run a viable cattle business so we investigated medicinal herbs, wild flowers for export to Japan, lavender, limes... anything but pineapples!

And then I read an article about Coolaroo Alpaca Stud in *Country Style* magazine. At lunch that day I said to Chic and Bob Groves, our farm manager, that I would like to investigate alpacas. Investigate we did. We joined the Alpaca Association, we visited farms, we attended the National Conference, we talked and talked. And eventually we were ready to buy.

After visiting many studs, we made our decision to buy from Jude Anderson and Al Cousill at Pucara. We chose them because we felt comfortable with the way they did business. They had a sales list to take with us into the paddock when inspecting the animals. The list carried details of the animals we were inspecting plus prices – we knew exactly where we stood.

That was four and a half years ago. From the original three pregnant females plus three weanling females and a couple of wethers our herd now comprises some forty plus females and shares in three quality males. We have agisted animals on our farm and own a share in four females at Pucara. Added to this, we have recently joined Pucara in purchasing the Purumbete herd. This has been a most exciting investment for us and we are delighted with the number of additions to the herd already on the ground. Roger Haldane is without equal in his vision for the industry and his herd of coloured suris is testimony to this fact. We thank him for giving us the opportunity to move forward in this wonderful industry.

Chic and I were always anxious that our alpaca stud should run as a business and quickly became aware that the largest market for future sales should be non-alpaca owners. With this in mind, we chose to stay with coloured alpacas to cover as much of the market as possible.

With the purchase of the Purumbete herd we have broadened our market still further.

And now to round out our business, we have opened Noosa Alpaca Shop and Information Centre. We have done battle with our local Council for nearly two years. Development Approval was granted 22 December 2000 at 3 pm – just after local tradesmen and businesses closed for the Christmas break. Our builder, after discussion with us, ordered all the timber and steel before approval was given so that work could begin as early as possible after the holidays.

The building was completed very quickly, but getting final Council approval took a couple more weeks. Eventually, we opened the doors the day before Good Friday.

The first weeks saw mainly friends and 'tyre kickers' but since then we have had genuine interest from many people. We are carrying a very comprehensive range of Australian Alpaca Co-operative products and are featuring knitwear from the Darfield and Alpaca Classica lines. In addition we carry a wide selection of Tumi products from Peru. There is genuine interest in the Co-op garments and we have been very encouraged by the sales. We are advertising in the local press and on television and are now beginning to enjoy repeat sales.

So here we are – a couple of oldies having the best fun ever. We love our alpacas and enjoy telling people about them. We are thrilled with those visiting the shop 'ooing and aahing' as they feel – what we call in our advertisements – "a touch of luxury". And along the way we have won ribbons in local shows and can see the quality of our herd improving with each generation.

As we remind each other every day – we are indeed blessed. ■

Alpacas, Rottweilers & Rammed Earth

by JOY ALLENBY-ACUNA
LA GRANJA ALPACAS, NSW

My first life, as I call it, involved being born in Hampshire, UK, going to Africa for four years, marrying an English Public Servant while there and having my first son in Mbale, Uganda, then moving back to the UK for 10 years before coming to Australia in 1973. Blown out of Darwin by *Cyclone Tracy*, Adelaide became home for the next six months before moving to Canberra where my two sons attended University. One son is now a journalist and the other a computer 'bod'.

After my first marriage ended in 1986 I met a super South American, a Uruguayan, who became my second husband. We travelled to the UK in 1990, on one of many trips to see my 90-year-old mother. We were away for 4 months, touring Europe and South America, including Peru, where a love story with alpacas began.

In 1993 we moved to a 2 acre property outside Canberra and upon my retirement in 1995 our alpaca fantasy began with our purchase of one wether and one pregnant female. By 1997 we had 10 alpacas and so we moved to our current 64 acre property, 64kms from Canberra. We are living in a civilised shed at the moment while building a rammed-earth/re-cycled wood house which is nearly to lock-up stage. My husband, Heroides, works at the A.N.U. and, whilst we both share our love of the alpacas and the workload of their care, I am primarily the 'alpaca lady'.

We are one of the first alpaca breeders to adopt organic farming methods and this property has not seen a chemical in at least 6 years. Nowadays I am only vaccinating the young ones and may even discontinue this practice later. No chemical drench for our alpacas. They have a mix we make up ourselves and I add powdered garlic

and apple cider vinegar via small lengths of copper pipe in their drinking troughs. We have a happy, healthy herd of 32 alpacas – 17 females, 6 stud males, 4 wethers and 5 young males – all colours from white to black. Our breeding program is improving every year and we are working towards producing dense, lustrous, superior fibre.

In addition to the masses of native pasture on our property we also supplementary feed our alpacas once a day, with lactating and advanced pregnant females receiving a second feed to give them the extra nutrients and vitamins.

We are a little different to the rest of the alpaca community, probably known as a little eccentric. We have not shown alpacas yet although we have show quality animals in the

paddock. We prefer not to impose any stress upon our alpacas as we believe that stress adversely affects fleece production.

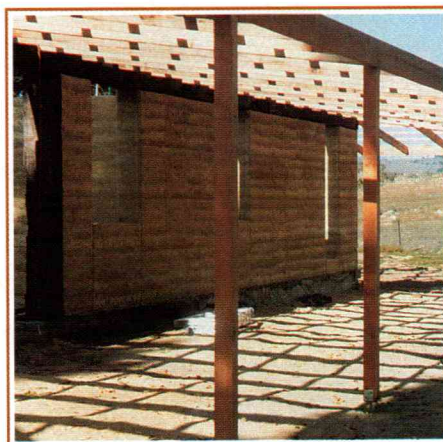
Always very busy here, I am bottle-feeding two crias at present. This season we have had a couple of dystocias, one in a 14 year old foundation animal which we are not re-breeding. We also have three gorgeous dogs – two Rottweilers and a Labradoodle, a 17 1/2 year old Burmese cat, chickens and a flock of geese.

Ciao and happy, healthy Alpaca-ing! ■



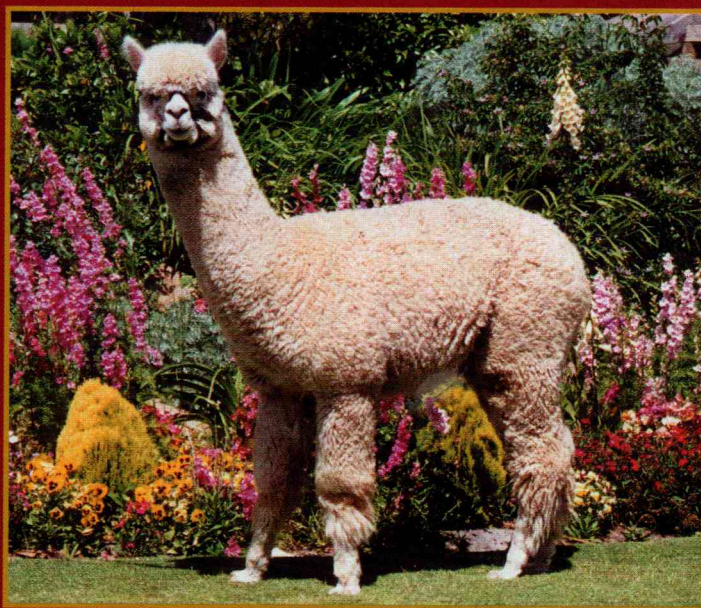
Gaucha and Toya

Rammed-earth house





IT'S ALL ABOUT BREEDING



'WINDSONG VALLEY ICEMAN'

AAA National Supreme Champion 2000 • AAA National Supreme Champion Fleece 2000

**Progeny from our males have won the AAA National
Supreme Championship in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1999 and 2000.**

OUR AIM is to provide the best alpacas and fibre in Australia.

OUR DREAM is to provide the world with these genetics.

OUR WISH is to share our success with those that desire excellence.



Visit us and see for yourself...

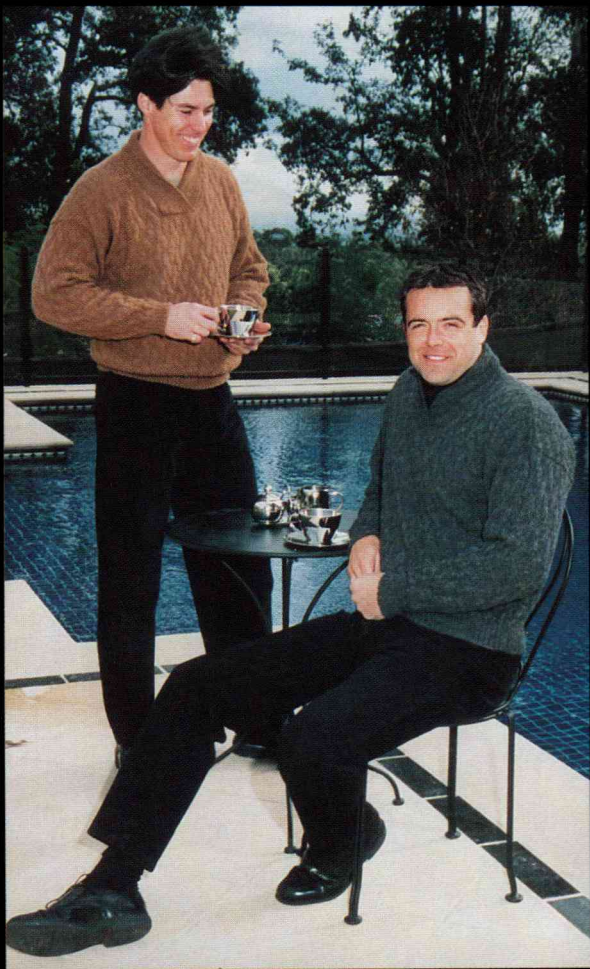
Our males at stud • Our stock for sale • Our facilities

WINDSONG VALLEY ALPACAS ~ 'Windsong Valley' Springfield Road, Bedfordale, WA 6112

Ph: 08 9399 2737 • Fax: 08 9497 2705 • Barn Fax: 08 9399 8762 • Email: windsongvalley@bigpond.com

Or visit our agent: **Coricancha Alpaca Stud P/L**, Ballarat, Victoria.

Ph: 03 5342 0111 • Fax: 03 5342 0999 • Email: alpaco@netconnect.com.au



▶ **'Iquitos'**
Unisex rolled V neck
textured jumper
[black, grey, fawn, dark
brown, brown]
[s, m, l, xl] \$260.00
Creature Comforts
02 4573 6681
02 6355 2477

▼ left and middle **'Cuzco'**
Unisex crew neck stripe and fairisle bordered jumper
[grey/black, fawn/brown] [s, m, l, xl] \$255.00
right **'Pisco'**
Ladies long line, deep V neck tunic with pockets
[brown, black, grey, fawn, dark brown] [s, m, l, xl] \$245.00
Creature Comforts
02 4573 6681
02 6355 2477



© Creature Comforts



© Alpaca Granja



◀ **'Indues'**
Ladies tunic style jumper with
slight curve at hips.
Also available in crew neck.
[black, maroon, beige, navy, white]
[m, l, xl] \$132.00
Alpaca Granja 03 5259 3630

▶ **Tunic style ladies fairisle
jumper**
100% alpaca available in
various colours and designs
[m, l] \$176.00 [xl] \$187.00
Alpaca Granja
03 5259 3630



© Alpaca Granja

▲ **'Valencia'** Jacquard jacket in any natural colour
combination [s, m, l, xl] \$300.00
Skirt made to measure and fully lined \$185.00 long,
\$175.00 short
A Touch of Alpaca
03 5149 2428 / 03 5199 2599



Photography Andrew Dowd



Ladies crew neck jumper
rib knit in 60% fine alpaca, 40% merino wool
[red, olive, black] [s, m, l] \$185.00
Australian Alpaca Co-operative Ltd
03 5229 5100



Photography Andrew Dowd

Mens cable V neck jumper
85% fine alpaca, 15% merino wool
[navy, natural, red] [s, m, l, xl] \$255.00
Australian Alpaca Co-operative Ltd 03 5229 5100

Reversible ruana
\$499.00
Inca Stitches
03 9525 5768

Photography Tom Dimec

Baby alpaca V neck rib tunic [deep cream, light fawn, taupe, silver, charcoal] [xs to xxl]
\$325.00
The Alpaca Centre, Australia
02 4877 1399



Baby alpaca roll collar rib [navy, ivory, mint, lilac, purple, lemon] [xs to xxl]
\$310.00
The Alpaca Centre, Australia
02 4877 1399

Photography Annette Ringrose



Hand crafted Bolivian women's jacket
\$525.00
Inca Stitches
03 9525 5768



MARKET
PLACE

Showing your alpacas without showing your...

by MARTY MCGEE BENNETT
TTEAM

When you showed your animals, did you do as well as you'd hoped you would?

Were you watching and wondering if you could ever learn how to be an effective handler in the show ring?

for many people, showing an animal is the most stressful handling challenge there is. Showing an animal is only slightly less stressful than public speaking, which by the way, is humanity's number one fear... beats going to the dentist hands down! In the show ring, however, not only are you dealing with the normal frustrations of animal handling – which can be considerable, but you are also dealing with it in front of your peers and a JUDGE.

Apart from wanting to get out of the ring without feeling foolish, you also have winning and losing to worry about. There is a lot riding on your ability to get your animal to perform. Pressure is what separates the men from the boys, the winners from the losers, the best from the rest. Athletes and performers of all kinds deal with the difference between what is possible at home and the reality of the final competition or the concert stage. If you are interested in showing, the pressure of performing adds an entire new element to your handling and training efforts. In short, you must develop techniques to deal with what happens under pressure.

Alpacas that cush: When does she first lay down... before you go in the ring, or after you have been in there for a while? I suspect you may be asking her to walk faster. Perhaps you are pulling a bit insistently or inadvertently getting a bit heavy handed. I would bet this is why she is lying down. Try giving her lots of slack in the lead line when you get in to the ring. Wait a bit and don't pull right away even if she gets distracted and slows down. Time does

funny things when you are under pressure. Ten seconds seems like twenty seconds; a minute seems like forever. It may be helpful to institute the Marty's potato rule.

Marty's potato rule: If your alpaca is walking along and stops, count to 10 potatoes before getting busy on the lead.

Imagine watching yourself on video.... come on 'paca darling'... come on 'paca darling'... pleeeaaasseeeee! pull pull PULL! When you begin to pull hard, your alpaca will feel overwhelmed and will decide the safest course of action is to get small or... you got it – cush! From a physical point of view, when you pull from the front, 'paca darling' drops her back and throws her weight on her back end. This physical stance not only makes it very hard to move her, but it also makes her uncomfortable. One way for her to ease the discomfort is to lie down. Remember, 'paca darling' is feeling the pressure of the show ring just like you are. You are probably moving faster because you are nervous, but she needs more time to react to commands because she is not as focused.

Practice: It is important to practice and prepare for an event, but beware of overdoing it. If you are going to a show and feel you need practice, it might be better to practice your handling techniques with a few different animals rather than focusing on the one or two animals that are going to the show. Remember, you may want to practice your showing techniques and may feel better and more prepared with practice, but your alpacas don't necessarily need the practice walking around in circles! Animals and humans all begin with a certain amount of tolerance – don't use it all up before you get to the show ring.

Breathing: I know this may sound hokey, but your alpacas really do know when you are holding your breath. They figure a human holding his/her breath is a human up to no good. Remember to BREATHE!

Body Work: The TTouch is one of the many unique aspects of TTEAM training. A few minutes of the TTouch will help to relax your alpaca, as well as help her/him focus. Try doing a few circles on the neck as you wait for your turn in the ring or while you are in the ring waiting for your turn with the judge.

Alpacas That Rush Forward: If your alpaca rushes forward, try holding a wand (or other extension of your arm) out in front of him during your training sessions. The wand must be far enough in front to be seen (about a foot and a half). Holding your alpaca back with the lead will often cause the alpaca to push forward even harder. Even though you won't have your wand in the show ring, you can use your arm like you do and it will help. Walking over poles will also help teach your alpaca to pay more attention to you and to slow down.

The Toe-Under-the-Rear-Leg-Technique: What the heck is that? Simply put, rather than leaning down and picking your alpaca up, surreptitiously slide your foot under the rear leg so that your foot is actually under the leg bone. Slide your foot up as far as you can or until your alpaca stands up. This doesn't hurt, but it is uncomfortable – and because alpacas are uncomfortable having their legs touched in this manner, this will encourage him/her to stand up. ■

About the Author: *Marty McGee Bennett has been a fixture in the alpaca business almost since there was an alpaca business. After meeting Linda Tellington-Jones in 1987, Marty dedicated herself to bringing Linda's work, known as TTEAM, to the alpaca community. To find out more about Marty visit her website at www.martymcgeebennett.com*

Reproduced with the kind permission of Marty McGee Bennett and Alpacas Magazine, the official journal of the Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association (AOBA), USA.

BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY



Chris Hight & Alan Hamilton
Trimming an Alpaca's teeth.

THE HIGHCROFT TEETH TRIMMER

Used by leading breeders and vets
here and in the U.S.A. and Peru.

Available from
Hight Engineering
PO Box 255
Torrens Park SA 5062

Ph/Fax: (08) 8538 7115
Email: higheten@lm.net.au

MICRON

ACN 090 048 294

MAN - FIBRE ANALYSIS

The Alpaca Breeders Preferred testing service
Using the Latest OFDA Technology
Specialized Alpaca Reports at Competitive Rates

Enquiries Contact : Wayne or Jo Marshall
Address : P.O. Box 1423, Bibra Lake W.A. 6965
Unit 9/28 Salpietro Street, Bibra Lake W.A. 6965
Phone : 08-9418 1733 Fax : 08-9494 2931

SOUTH AMERICA *for Alpaca & Llama lovers...*

Alpaca Odyssey Tour

Departing 16th Nov & returning 4th Dec 2001

19 Glorious Days of Discovery! Spend time on Peru's largest private Alpaca Ranch. Visit breeding centres, mills, markets and more. Archaeology, history, culture and Peru's major highlights.

Please call 1800 024 955 for detailed itinerary and costs

INCA TOURS SOUTH AMERICA LICENCE NO 21A002713

Peppertree
ALPACA STUD
Breeders of Quality Peruvian
Huacaya and Suri Alpacas
Janice & Peter Dow
P.O. Box 367, Capel W.A. 6271
Tel: (08) 9727 2599
Fax: (08) 9727 2842
Member A.A.A.

QUALITY ALPACA SUPPLIES

- BOOKS
- HALTERS & LEADS
- FLOOR RUGS,
MAGNETS, BLANKETS
- TEDDY BEARS

*For a catalogue
please phone or fax
Christine Roffey on*
(02) 4572 5812

ALPACA PEÑA
[al-pah'-cah-pen-yah]
MARK & IRENE GARNER
phone (02) 4884 1222
fax (02) 4884 1233
email garnering@bigpond.com
riverside, lot 4 inverary road
paddys river nsw 2577

We spending mucho pesos on top macho genetics & plenty fiesta on keeping muchachas and bebés fit & healthy

TRULEEN DOWNS



- Mobile or on-farm mating
- Agistment: short & long term
- Group tours and workshops
– spinning lessons
- Alpaca sales – ribbon winning stock
- Gift Shop "PACA SHACK"
– garments, halters, leads etc

940 Toomuc Valley Rd,
Pakenham 3810
Phone: 5942 7417
Fax: 5942 7201
Email: truleen@net2000.com.au
www.truleendownsalpaca.aussie.com.au



Place your business card advertisement in the BUSINESS DIRECTORY
ONLY \$110 PER ISSUE OR \$88 PER ISSUE FOR 3-ISSUE BOOKINGS
FOR BOOKINGS contact Sandra Wright at the Australian Alpaca Association Inc.
Phone: (03) 9873 7700 Fax: (03) 9873 7711 E-mail: sandra@alpaca.asn.au

pacapics pacapics pacapics pacapics



Every picture *does* tell a story!

Alpacas at work, at play, at rest, alpacas at their very best. Send us your favourite snaps of your alpacas and let your photographs tell us about your stud.

'Paca Pics' feature offers you the opportunity to charm our readers with your delightful photos and, as a bonus, the 'Pick of the Pack' winner will receive a complimentary business card size advertisement insertion in the next magazine.

'Alpacas Australia' Magazine front cover is, most importantly, the place where we would like to illustrate the adage, 'Every picture tells a story'. The new look magazine has a truly Australian flavour that we hope will continue to be proudly displayed on the front cover of each issue. We are looking for photographs that have that special 'Australian' feel for our future front covers, so check your albums to see if you have any that fit the bill. (Humor does not go astray!)

The winners of magazine front cover status will likewise receive a business card advertisement insertion in the next magazine as well as five complimentary copies of the magazine bearing their winning front cover photograph. The magazines will prove to be excellent promotional tools for your stud.

We look forward to your continued support of 'Alpacas Australia' Magazine.



< Convenience food >

Jo Delesantro & Wil King
Peak Alpacas, NSW



< Two beers thanks luv! >

Kevin & Heather Austin
Nyroca Park Alpacas, SA



< Sometimes nature needs a helping hand >

Anita & Gerry Maas
Gerita Alpacas, VIC



< How did we get into this muddle? >

Tena & Terry Wheeler
Windsong Valley Alpacas, WA



< At last! I'm a supervisor >

Carol & Charles Lucas
Zeus Alpacas, VIC



*< Those humans have the temerity to say
WE look like aliens! >*

Wendy Beer
Beersheba Alpacas, VIC



< Give us a kiss, cutie >

Amanda Senior
Cobaki Creek Alpacas, NSW



< Orphan comfort >

Marina Pitsonis
Ambelli Alpacas, NSW



< I'm NOT opening my mouth >

Jill Winter
Blue Tor Alpacas, TAS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Alpacas on show at the following venues - All welcome -

August

25 - 26 AGCRAFT SPRING SHOW, NSW

Venue: Hawkesbury Showground

Contact: Anita Neeser (02) 4575 5360

30 - Sep 1 GOLD COAST SHOW, QLD

Venue: Parklands S'ground, Southport

Highlights: Alpaca Judging; Display

Contact: Bob Chessor (07) 5527 3948

31 - Sep 8 ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW, SA

Venue: Wayville Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca Judging (Aug 31);

Shearing Demonstrations

Contact: Lea Richens (08) 8842 2344

or Jan Bentley (08) 8556 0256

September

3 - 5 TOOWOOMBA AG. SHOW, QLD

Venue: Toowoomba Showgrounds

Highlights: Fleece Judging

Contact: Dennis Mycock (07) 5442 8986

5 - 9 FLORA FESTIVAL, NSW

Venue: Event Centre, Gosford

Highlights: Alpaca Show; Shearing Demonstration; Fleece Display; Alpaca Products

Contact: Mike Tanner (02) 4362 8887

7 - 8 BEAUDESERT SHOW, QLD

Venue: Beaudesert Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca Display;

Fun/Promotional Events

Contact: Wendy Summerell (07) 5543 0207

9 MARKETING & MANAGING YOUR ALPACA BUSINESS FOR PROFIT SEMINAR, NSW

Venue: To be advised

Contact: Anita Neeser (02) 4575 5360

15 - 16 CHARLES LEDGER SHOW & SALE, NSW

Venue: Collingwood House, Liverpool

Highlights: Judging; Education Seminar/ Workshop

Contact: Phil Vickery (02) 4885 2852

16 HOBBY FARM EXPO, WA

Venue: Landsdale Farm Resource Centre

Highlights: Alpaca Display

Contact: Ron Raynor (08) 9296 0442

20 - 30 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW, VIC

Venue: Showgrounds, Ascot Vale

Highlights: Judging (22/23 Sep)

Contact: Geoff Hargreaves (03) 9719 7248

25 - 27 PASKEVILLE FIELD DAYS, SA

Highlights: Alpaca display

Contact: Danni Freeman (08) 8846 6043

29 - Oct 6 ROYAL PERTH SHOW, WA

Venue: Claremont Showgrounds

Highlights: Judging (30 Sep/1 Oct)

Contact: Ron Reid (08) 9296 4888

October

1 STRATHALBYN SHOW, SA

Venue: Strathalbyn Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpacas/Products Display

Contact: Wendy Jones (08) 8537 0289

2 - 4 ELMORE FIELD DAYS, VIC

Venue: Elmore

Highlights: Alpacas/Products Display

Contact: Sue Simpson (03) 5825 2895

13 SUNBURY AG. SHOW, VIC

Highlights: Promotional Display

Contact: Meddwyn Coleman (03) 5448 8032

13 CLARE SHOW, SA

Venue: Clare Showgrounds

Contact: Andrew Chapman (08) 8528 6165

16 - 18 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FIELD DAYS, ORANGE, NSW

Venue: ANFD Site, Orange

Highlights: Alpaca Expo & Fleece Show

Contact: Julie Lawrie (02) 6846 7292

18 - 21 GEELONG SHOW, VIC

Venue: Geelong Showgrounds

Highlights: Judging (21 Oct)

Contact: Lynn Jacoby (03) 5283 1081

19 - 21 NSW BREEDERS SEMINAR

Venue: Merroo Conf. Centre, Kurmond

Contact: Phil Vickery (02) 4885 2852

20 KELMSCOTT SHOW, WA

Venue: Kelmscott Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca Show

Contact: Greg Smith (08) 9525 2084

20 - 21 ALPACAS IN FOCUS, VIC

Venue: Rowville Community Centre

Highlights: Alpaca Judging

Contact: David Daddo (03) 5989 2866

20 - 21 MURRUMBATMAN FIELD DAYS, NSW

Venue: Murrumbatman Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca Display/Merchandise/Info

Contact: Bob Richardson (02) 6227 6147

24 - 27 HOBART ROYAL SHOW, TAS

Highlights: Alpaca & Fleece Judging

Contact: Alison Brolsma (03) 6222 7147

27 BENDIGO AG. SHOW, VIC

Venue: Bendigo Showgrounds

Highlights: Huacaya & Fleece Show

Contact: Geoff Cook (03) 5439 2588

27-28 WARRNAMBOOL SHOW, VIC

Venue: Warrnambool Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca & Fleece Judging

Contact: Lynn Jacoby (03) 5283 1081

28 PET EXPO/SHIRE OF NILLUMBIK

Venue: Nillumbik Park, Diamond Creek

Contact: Bob McLeod (03) 5629 1140

28 NEW BREEDERS INFORMATION DAY

Contact: Ron Raynor (08) 9296 0442

or Geoff Fysh (08) 9574 6635

November

2 - 3 COLAC SHOW, VIC

Venue: Colac Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca & Fleece Judging

Contact: Lynn Jacoby (03) 5283 1081

3 - 4 WHITTLESEA SHOW, VIC

Venue: Whittlesea Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca Judging

Contact: Geoff Brennan (03) 5782 1800

Max Kinnerlesley (03) 5786 5344

9 - 10 ALBANY AGRICULTURAL SHOW, WA

Venue: Albany Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca & Fleece Judging

Contact: Helen Allen (08) 9844 6265

10 - 11 NATIONAL SHOW & SALE

Venue: E.P.I.C. Centre, Canberra

Highlights: Alpaca & Fleece Judging (10 Nov)

Alpaca Auction (11 Nov)

Contact: Kerry Dwyer (02) 4847 5020

17-18 QUEANBEYAN SHOW

Venue: Queanbeyan Showgrounds

Highlights: Alpaca Display/Merchandise/ Demonstrations/Information

Contact: John van der Straaten

(02) 6238 3590

December

1 TRARALGON SHOW, VIC

Venue: Traralgon Showgrounds

Contact: Lynne Holloway (03) 5941 2828

1 WINDELLAMA SMALL FARMS FIELD DAY, NSW

Venue: Windellama

Highlights: Promotional display

Contact: Jacki Waugh (02) 4829 8157

9 PENINSULA PET & PONY EXPO, VIC

Venue: Olympic Park, Rosebud

Contact: David Daddo (03) 5989 2866

Stella Butler (03) 5983 1927

Rates

All prices below are subject to 5% discount if paid within 14 days of invoice

	Casual Rate		x 2 issues		x 3 issues		Production*	
	\$AUD Incl. GST AUSTRALIA	\$AUD OVERSEAS	\$AUD Incl. GST AUSTRALIA	\$AUD OVERSEAS	\$AUD Incl. GST AUSTRALIA	\$AUD OVERSEAS	\$AUD Incl. GST AUSTRALIA	\$AUD OVERSEAS
4 colour								
Full Page	1,097.25	997.50	1,022.15	929.25	866.25	787.50	323.40	294.00
1/2 Page	773.85	703.50	716.10	651.00	612.15	556.50	242.55	220.50
1/4 Page	669.90	609.00	612.15	556.50	519.75	472.50	161.70	147.00
Mono								
Full Page	773.85	703.50	716.10	651.00	612.15	556.50	231.00	210.00
1/2 Page	542.85	493.50	508.20	462.00	438.90	399.00	161.70	147.00
1/4 Page	311.85	283.50	288.75	262.50	254.10	231.00	92.40	84.00
Bus. cards	115.50	105.00	103.95	94.50	92.40	84.00	N/A	N/A

Loading for Specified Positions

Outside Back Cover	+ 25%
Inside Front Cover	+ 20%
Inside Back Cover	+ 15%
Right Hand Page	+ 10%
Specific Positions	+ 10%

*Production costs include

Layout, typesetting and electronic finished artwork and low resolution proofs (high resolution extra)

Additional Costs

Colour scanning	\$40.00 per photograph
Mono scanning	\$30.00 per photograph

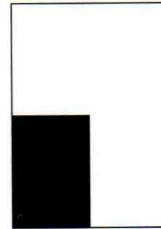
Space and Sizes (mm)



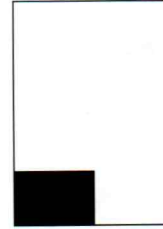
Full Page
Image: 188 x 275
Trim: A4 (210 x 297)
allow 3mm bleed all sides



1/2 Page
188 x 123



1/4 page
91 x 123



Business Card
90 x 55

Material

Editorial Material. If possible, all editorial contributions should be typed and preferably submitted electronically or by floppy disc in Word format. Visual material preferably supplied as colour photographs or transparencies. If supplying digital photography ensure that it is in high resolution of at least 250 dpi. We will endeavour to return all photos and slides.

Advertising Material. Please supply electronic artwork on disc to correct size. Include all screen and printer typefaces, high resolution pictures, logos etc associated with the advertisement. Colour adverts to be supplied in CMYK (not PMS or RGB). Please supply hard copy proof in colour or mono (as applicable). We cannot guarantee inclusion of late advertisements.

Further advertising material enquiries can be directed to:

Irene Garner

Garner Graphics

Phone +61 (0)2 4884 1222 Fax +61 (0)2 4884 1233

Email garnering@bigpond.com.au

Deadlines

Issue 36

Due: December 2001

Deadline: Friday 12 October

Issue 37

Due: April 2002

Deadline: Friday 15 February

Issue 38

Due: August 2002

Deadline: Friday 7 June

Please book and send all editorial and advertising material to Sandra Wright
Australian Alpaca Association Inc, PO Box 1076, Mitcham North, Victoria 3132
PHONE + 61 (0)3 9873 7700 FAX + 61 (0)3 9873 7711 EMAIL sandra@alpaca.asn.au

Now...

Let

Purrumbete **Monarch**

Set the Royal Tradition for your girls



Realistic Stud Fee
Multiples Discount
Mobiles / Drive Thru
JD MAP Status MN 1
Cert: A010/99/05 & A010/99/03

Discuss your
requirements
with us – we listen !

Royal in every way...

Sire: Purrumbete Ledgers Dream,
Dam: Purrumbete Compass Rose*
 (*by Purrumbete El Dorado from Purrumbete Sundial)
Genetics & Fleece – Conformation & Presence
And check that HEAD!

Now you can see for yourself ...
His Progeny consistently bear the Royal Stamp!



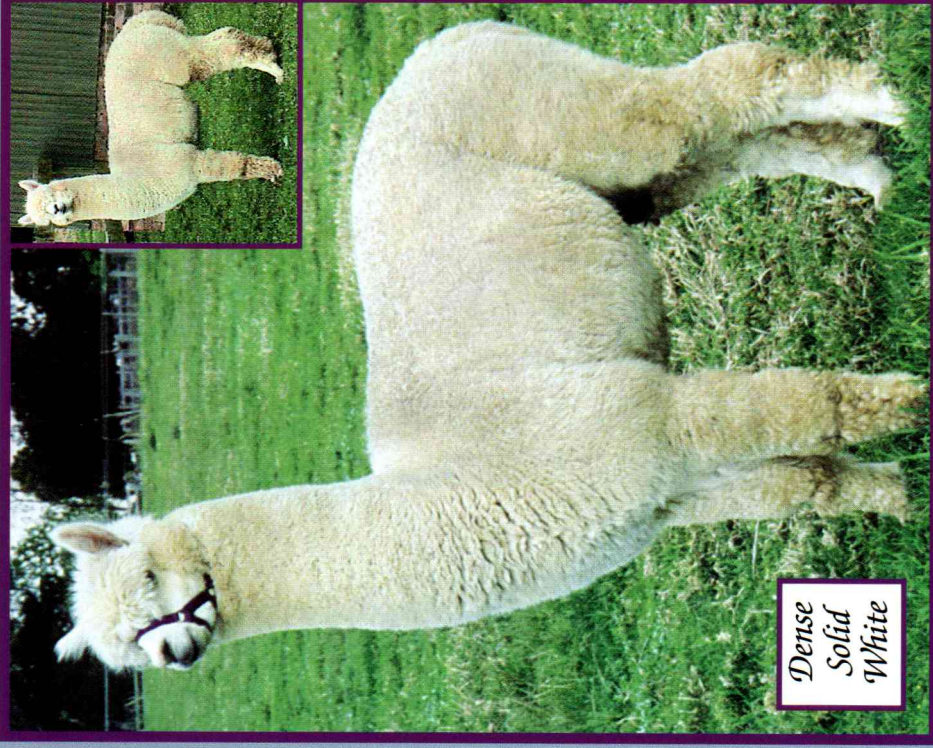
Jewels from the Crown!

Gorge
Alpacas



Richard & Julie Bird

Arcadia, NSW
Ph: (02) 9655 1122
Mob: 015 226 470



*Dense
 Solid
 White*



**Lorraine Cooper
 & Roger Porter**

LIFESTYLE

Alpacas

Glenorie, NSW
Ph: (02) 9652 2119
Fax: (02) 9652 2157

Almora Alpacas

Is pleased to Announce

KINGSTON PARK

DRYSDALE



**Is now available for stud duties!
Mobile or Drive By matings.**



His show record includes:

Victorian Eastern Region Alpaca of the Year 1999-00
2nd Victorian Eastern Region Alpaca of the
Year 2000-01 (by one point!)
1st in class Vic Eastern Region Fleece Competition '01
3 Supreme Championships
2 Junior Championships
1 Intermediate Championship
6 Senior Championships including Blackout 2001



*Drysdale is a solid black huacaya
with lustrous bundling fleece
and even crimp all over his body.
An outstanding male
with stunning conformation*

Contact:
Joy Skinner
Almora Alpacas
Cardinia



**Phone: (03) 5998 8305 Fax: (03) 5998 8409
Mobile: 0418 346869 Email: accurate@satlink.com.au**