

AONews

Published by the members of Alpaca Ontario

Volume 6 - Issue 2 • November 2008



Winter
already? 2008 photo contest winner...pg2

A message from the President



As the Fall colours fade and the simpler colours of Winter emerge, another year approaches its conclusion. By now, everyone has their cria on the ground. It is the time to start thinking about which ones to take to the show. Save yourself the stress of last minute registrations and start the process now.

The Alpaca Ontario Show committee will be meeting soon to get the 2009 show organized.

They say that the only constant in life is change and Alpaca Ontario is not immune from that rule. **James Cole** stepped down as president of Alpaca Ontario this year and, as

acting vice president, I picked up the baton. **Stacey Davis** stepped up to fill James' 2 year term and **Aldo Marascio** joined the board to fill Stacey's 1 year term.

The fibre committee was busy this year with a number of events and displays. They started with the Spin-off and Fibre Art competitions at the Alpaca Ontario Show and then carried on with an education event – "It is all about the fibre" – where students learned how to prepare their fibre for processing on the Saturday and then learned how to use that processed fibre on the Sunday. The fibre committee is currently working on a fibre display board to be used at events such as the IPM and Royal Winter Fair. In co-operation with Alpaca Canada, Alpaca Ontario is helping to sponsor a fashion student at Ryerson who will be putting together a collection of garments made from Canadian alpaca.

The Fall Education Weekend at Guelph University has come and gone and was a great success. The weekend included a presentation from **Dr. Tibary**, an expert on alpaca reproduction and an engaging speaker. The University was kind enough to provide us with a tour of its facilities so that we had a better idea of their services and where we should go if we have to bring an alpaca there. **Melody Macdonald** took us through the process of setting up a farm business, **Dr. Erin Wilson** spoke about parasites in alpacas and **Tyler Allair** described what to look for in a good alpaca photograph.

All the Alpaca Ontario committees and the Alpaca Ontario board of directors are manned by volunteers and we are always looking for more. There is something to be done and a task sized for everyone. If you can spare even an hour a week, then there is something you can do to help. Alpaca Ontario exists because of volunteers and each event is successful because of volunteers. I would like to take this moment to personally thank all our volunteers and to express my hope that all Alpaca Ontario members will also take the next possible opportunity to thank our volunteers.

Dawn Campbell

President, Alpaca Ontario

Alpaca Ontario 2008 Photo Contest Winner

Congratulations to the winner of our inaugural photo contest, **Jerra Anderson**, for her entry 'Almost Spring?'. Thank you to all participants for their entries. Keep those cameras at the ready and be sure to submit all of your amazing shots in 2009.

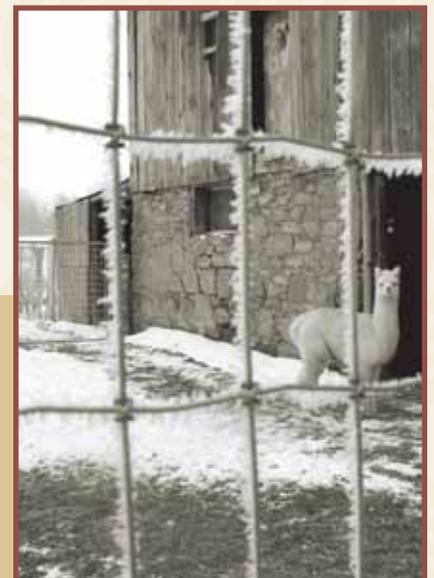
alpaca

ONTARIO

Alpaca Ontario represents the collective interests of Alpaca Owners and Breeders in Ontario to actively promote the awareness of the Alpaca and related fibre industry, encourage through education the highest quality Alpaca husbandry and breeding practices, and foster interaction among its members.

What's Inside

President's Message	2
2008 Fall Education Seminar Recap	3
New Member Profile	4
Agister's Corner	4
Spit Checking Tales	5
Parasitology for Alpaca Owners	5-6
Twinning – An Interesting Case of Early Pregnancy Loss	6-7
AO Marketplace	8-11
2009 Alpaca Ontario Show	12
2nd Annual Alpaca Canada Futurity and Select Sale 2008	12





2008 Fall Education Seminar Recap by Trixi Lloyd

Our 2008 Fall Education Seminar has been a great success. Of course, the reason it was successful was the attendance of our membership. New members and old, we could not have done it without you.

The seminar was 4 months in the making. It took 5 weeks of communication to finally be able to secure **Dr. Tibary**. He is a very busy man and our weekend of August 30/31 was the only weekend he had open for travelling to Ontario, Canada. Once I knew that Dr. Tibary was on board, the rest of the seminar started to take shape. The only thing I knew for certain was that it would take place at the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) at Guelph University.

Pamela Guindon contacted **Dr. Ashley Whitehead** and we were able to get together for a face-to-face meeting and tour of the facilities. The purpose of this meeting was twofold – to set up the seminar weekend and also to establish a relationship between OVC and Alpaca Ontario. Dr. Whitehead is very interested in learning about alpacas and enthusiastic about being a veterinary doctor.

Saturday was completely dedicated to Dr. Tibary, as I was sure he had lots to tell us. There aren't enough words to describe the professionalism, knowledge and commitment to his work that Dr. Tibary possesses. He enjoyed speaking and sharing his knowledge with us, all the while injecting humour and goodwill. Time (unfortunately) flew by and at the end of the day, we felt that we had just begun.

Dr. Tibary talked about male and female reproductive challenges, the hard-to-breed female and common mistakes that we might make in assuming that the female was just "in a mood". The unique challenges we might face with maidens and unproven males were also discussed. There was much additional information provided in print, such as on neonatal care, that we did not even get to talk about due to time constraints. I can only speak for myself but I could have sat in that classroom for a lot longer just to hear more of what Dr. Tibary had to say. Here is what he wanted me to tell you in his own words: "Please convey my best regards to all and thanks for the wonderful book (signed!!). I really enjoyed the company and the dinner."

My next project was filling up Sunday with meaningful topics, many of which had been requested by you, the members. **Melody MacDonald** had the idea of presenting a segment on farm accounting, government grants and contacts. "Great idea, did you want to present it, too?" was my reply and Melody did a fantastic job on Sunday morning. Who knew it was her very first speaking engagement?

In the afternoon, **Dr. Erin Wilson** took us through several important topics, internal and external parasites, including their treatment and control; and optimal alpaca nutrition. Dr. Wilson answered any questions that came up and enjoyed meeting with all of us.

The day concluded with **Tyler Allair's** demonstration of proper lighting and positioning when taking photographs of our animals, both artistically and for marketing purposes. Look for his seminar on marketing strategies, follow ups and follow throughs in the near future.

And not to forget that Tyler also judged our inaugural photo contest. Our very first photo contest saw 42 entries from many of our members. We presented 6 different categories with ribbons awarded 1st to 5th place. Also included were judge's choice and people's choice ribbons. Results and entries can be viewed on our website at www.alpacaontario.ca.



I can't wait to open up the next photo contest later on this year. Again we will include judge's choice and people's choice which will become the cover shot for our Fall 2009 newsletter. This time people's choice voting will be held in Orangeville during our AGM and full fleece halter show. Please note that we will make a few changes to the rules – it is still a learning process for all of us. This contest is designed to celebrate the accomplishments of the people, not the alpacas. So take your cameras into the field and take lots of pictures: then present the best when the time comes. I am excited about seeing the photos you will be submitting in the next few months.

This report would not be complete without giving a big THANK YOU to everyone at Guelph University Conference and Catering! Most of the work there was organized by them. A special Thank You to Lisa, Kristen, Barbara and Elizabeth for putting it all together for me. And the biggest Thank You to Leanne and her assistant, who made sure we were fed and watered. The food was great and I look forward to setting up another seminar with them. That's it for now.

NEW MEMBER PROFILE

Dreams Can Come True

by **Krisztina Mikkelsen**

The very first time I heard about alpacas was when my father purchased a business suit from his tailor made of the luxurious fiber of these striking animals. I was fifteen then, and 25 years later, my fingers still clearly remember the stroke of the exotic shimmering, silky fabric in the tailor's shop. I also remember how proud, handsome and professional my dad looked in that suit.



Photo courtesy of April Metcalf

I believe that was when I truly fell in love with alpacas.

Growing up with the natural love for land and its creatures in a large farming community in Eastern Europe, and later immigrating to Canada, I have always had the desire to be involved in farming activities.

I just didn't know anyone who had shared this very same passion, and who could offer encouragement in assisting my dreams to come true.

That was until I met **Kathy McConnell** and **Larry Hubbert** of Hubbert Farms in 2003. Kathy and Larry already had been involved in breeding and raising alpacas. With Kathy's help I was quickly introduced to other alpaca breeders in the Peterborough area. I was amazed by the close-knit friendship among these people, the wealth of information I received, the encouragement and helping hands I was provided with by all. Within two

months I became the proud owner of my first two female alpacas which I purchased from two breeders who were introduced to me by Hubbert Farms. I then agisted the girls at Hubbert Farms. While I was frightened and excited at the same time, I knew that I could always count on the assistance of the network of alpaca breeders all the way on the path in becoming one of them.

I attended many alpaca halter/fleece shows, fibre shops and seminars in Ontario, learned more and more each time, and within a year I had purchased my third female Suri. With the first cria arriving during the summer of 2006, it was evident that I had reached the "point-of-no-return", and I will spend the rest of my life with alpacas.

In the spring of 2008, I completed the Camelid Fibre Sorter Certification program at the Natural Fibre Centre, Olds College, in Alberta, and in 2009 I will be completing the Camelid Fibre Classer Certification. The education I am receiving from these intense programs is enabling me to appreciate alpaca fleece from the commercial application point of view and to examine existing, while discovering new, opportunities for this industry.

The number of alpacas in my herd boarded at Hubbert Farms had been growing steadily over the last three years. There was just one piece missing from the puzzle – I needed a farm! After careful consideration and planning – and for obviously wanting to stay close to my alpaca friends – I have decided to "settle down" around the Peterborough area. I have finally found the perfect and picturesque 50 acres in Havelock. Marigold Farm with its resident alpacas, goats, and horses will be up and running and welcoming visitors in August 2008.

Heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful Peterborough area alpaca breeders who have contributed to my dreams coming true!

Agister's

by **Mary Anne Mounce**

CORNER Agisting for Everyone

The next time someone exclaims to you: "Oh! your alpacas are beautiful – I would love to own one but I can't because I don't have a farm," don't just let the conversation fizzle. Tell them about agisting! There may even be a trend developing toward long-term agisting. People who don't own a farm are agisting alpacas for the fun of it and as an investment.

And many new alpaca enthusiasts are doing temporary agisting as a transition phase into alpaca farming. This allows time to learn more about these wonderful animals, acquire property and make all the other

arrangements necessary for raising alpacas. So, it is not necessary to have the future all planned and worked out in order to own alpacas. Agisting is a long or short term option.

When I was doing my research prior to purchasing my first alpaca, I had the chance to talk to an alpaca agister who lived and worked in New York city. She was working in the city and agisting a fair number of alpacas at several different farms in the surrounding areas. Most of her weekends were spent visiting her alpacas and showing them. This gave her the opportunity to buy, breed and sell alpacas. She told me that she was having a ball and making money.

Most alpaca breeders face uneven income flows and agisting fees can represent a predictable cash flow. Agisters can even be useful around the farm, as they can be put to work doing chores, assisting at shearing time and helping

out at shows. Meanwhile, the agister has the opportunity to get involved with delightful animals and join a community of people who are excited about alpacas, hopeful for the future of the industry, happy that alpacas are environmentally benign and warmly welcoming of new owners.

There are many variations on the agisting theme: almost as many as there are agisters. The next few "Agisters'Corner" articles will discuss some of the agisting options that have been tried, including their advantages and disadvantages. If you agist alpacas or if you own an alpaca farm on which alpacas agist, please get in touch with me as I would like to talk to anyone about their experiences with agisting arrangements. I can be reached at: mam@blueprintsofthefuture.com

With or without a farm, everyone needs an alpaca in their life!

Spit Checking Tales

by Marj Brady

I personally love spit checks. I think they're reasonably accurate, especially when used with proven animals and they definitely have the potential to become a highly amusing event.

The most entertaining spit checks are the ones that aren't planned, also known as the "spontaneous spit check" or the "oh crap, who left that gate open spit check". These are unique opportunities to develop a story for alpaca breeder friends-people that haven't any alpaca experience really can't appreciate the humour.

We have enjoyed several of these little opportunities and let me tell you, they're a lot easier to manage when you only have one herdsire and a couple of enthusiastic young boys. It is amazing how quickly you can assess the situation, sort through your options and start making decisions when you have a bunch of open girls, some babies and some randy boys all milling around in your barnyard.

Our first unplanned spit check happened about six weeks after the arrival of our animals. Someone didn't practice good gate management at dinner time and the boys thought a barnyard conjugal visit sounded like a good idea. The kids were wailing because they knew enough about breeding to know that it was December and we don't breed for winter babies so Gertie shouldn't have been being bred but Gertie wasn't paying any attention to what the kids wanted and had dropped like a stone at the first O in orgle. Studly had climbed on and was making the most of his opportunity, paying no attention to the annoying human swinging off his chin. Crias were racing around, everyone was sniffing butts and the pregnant girls were screaming and spitting just because it added to the entertainment value.

On another occasion, the girl screamed, ran and spit but got herself wedged in a corner where the boy managed to force her down. The paddock we were using for spit checks is right by the road, it was

eight in the morning on a weekday and drizzling rain. I climbed in past the wannabe Romeo, haltered him and dragged him off: all the while don't wannabe Juliet is screaming and spitting and he's orgling and trying to get back on and hold her down and my neighbors are driving by going to their nice clean office jobs and I'm trying to give the neighbourly country wave to them while I'm involved in this slimy, wet ménage à trois. Yes, a slightly different take on the lifestyle presentation.

On a third attempt, we decided to try spit checking in the barn. Our barn is old and has a somewhat broken up layout but we felt the aisle way would provide sufficient getaway space-it did, the girl leaped right over the half door and wannabe Romeo followed her out into the barnyard where her herdmates were waiting. All the other girls were bred and unreceptive but not quite as athletic, they all ran from him, screaming and spitting and he couldn't decide which one to chase. He was so whipped by the time we got him back into the barn he couldn't have performed even if we had sedated one of the older girls and placed her on a mattress for him. The girls were fine, I don't think they even had to run that hard and from where I was standing it looked like they were running a relay.

Please note that the last two were spit checks that we initiated and subsequently lost control of. I highly recommend that, if you have a choice, situate your spit checking and breeding activities out of sight of the neighbours. On the other hand, it may be an opportunity to diversify your alpaca business... you could probably charge admission!



ALPACAHEALTH by Dr. Erin Wilson, Victoria Veterinary Services, Lindsay, ON

Parasitology for Alpaca Owners

Controlling parasites in a group of animals means just that – limiting the numbers of parasites and their effects on the host. There is no such thing as a host that is completely free of parasites, and trying to reach this goal results in over-use of antiparasitic drugs.

External parasites are those that live on or in the skin. Alpaca come in contact with two major categories of external parasites in our Ontario environment: lice and mites. Lice are big enough to see with the naked eye. They can be divided into biting lice, which live on skin debris from the host, and sucking lice, which live on blood. The difference between the two becomes important when planning treatment. Sucking lice can

be treated with oral or injectable products, while biting lice must be treated with topical products applied directly to the animal. This is a challenge in the alpaca due to their lush fibre, and is most successful after shearing.

In contrast, mites are very small and can not be seen easily. Sarcoptic mange mites live burrowed into the skin, while psoroptic and chorioptic mange mites live on the skin surface. All three cause intense itching. Due to their locations, treatment is as for lice – sarcoptic mange can be treated with injectable or oral products, while psoroptic and chorioptic mange must be treated topically.

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Parasitology for Alpaca Owners

Internal parasites may be more difficult to see, but they can be more devastating to the animal. Collectively, intestinal worms are called gastrointestinal nematodes or GIN. They share a common life cycle where eggs are shed in the manure of an infected host. These eggs hatch into larvae, which climb up onto grass blades on pasture. Grazing alpaca ingest these larvae, which mature into adults and complete the cycle. The critical point in GIN control is that there are no worms if there is no pasture. Deworming treatments should be timed strategically during the year to be given when worm burdens are highest. Fecal examinations are critical to determine which intestinal worms are present and at what severity.

Besides GIN, tapeworms and whipworms are also important parasites in camelids. Tapeworm eggs do not float well on standard fecal examinations and are difficult to diagnose, so it is recommended to institute a regular control program for all animals. Whipworms do show up well on fecal floatations and are more easily recognized. The most important point about whipworms and tapeworms is that they are NOT susceptible to drugs in the ivermectin family, unlike GIN.

Meningeal worm is another important topic in camelid parasitology. This parasite is carried by white-tailed deer. Larvae are released in deer feces, which then are ingested by snails and slugs. Alpaca must eat these snails or slugs on pasture in order to become infected. The larvae do not migrate normally in the alpaca since it is not the natural host. Rather, they become lost and wander in the spinal cord, creating neurologic signs such as weakness, stumbling, and possibly paralysis. Meningeal worm infection can be prevented by regular injections of ivermectin-family drugs to kill larvae before they reach the spinal cord. Treatment once the spinal cord is infected is difficult and often unrewarding.

A last word about coccidia before leaving the topic of internal parasites. Coccidia are one-celled organisms that infect the wall of the intestine. Their eggs, called oocysts, are shed in feces and ingested by the next host. These eggs are extremely hardy and difficult to destroy in the environment. Typically, infection with coccidia results in diarrhea. However, a strain of coccidia called *Eimeria macusaniensis* causes such rapid damage to the intestine that animals can become very ill before diarrhea can be seen. Signs such as unexpected weight loss and weakness can warn that this parasite is present. Cleanliness of the environment is crucial to preventing coccidiosis. Heavily infected farms can also benefit from prescription medication in the feed of young animals.

Parasitology is a huge topic and can not be addressed completely in one article. I would encourage you to communicate with your herd veterinarian about a parasite control program and invest in the diagnostics to determine what parasites are important to your operation.



ALPACAHEALTH by Nancy Carr M.D.

TWINNING

An Interesting Case of Early Pregnancy Loss

On September 7th I was cleaning up in one of the girls' sections in the barn prior to feeding morning pellets. I noticed that one of the females at the other end of the barn had her tail up, and thought it odd that she wasn't very close to a poop area. When I was in that area a few minutes later I noticed what looked like a small blob of white mucous, about an inch in diameter, on the bare concrete floor. I picked it up, wondering if



What appeared to be a small blob of mucous on the barn floor turned out to be twin alpaca foetuses, aborted at 61 days after the last breeding date. The foetus on the right is still in its amniotic sac.

it might be an abortion, and when I examined it closely I thought I could see a tiny fetus enclosed in a little sac. I took it back to the house, put it in a bowl of water, and gently pushed aside what was actually tissue and not mucous. To my surprise, there were two fetuses, both appearing to be less than an inch long – one still in its amniotic sac, and the other not; they were connected by a long strand of placental tissue: twins!

The female who had had her tail up was the most likely culprit, and I saw her with her tail up off and on through the morning (I assume this was because of some cramping). Otherwise she was fine, and I never saw any vaginal discharge or bleeding. I spit checked all the pregnant females two days later and she was the only one receptive (I did not breed her at that point, thinking it was too soon after the abortion.) This female had been bred on June 27. My usual policy is to check again at four days after breeding and to re-breed if it is a whole-hearted 'yes' on the part of the female (any hesitation or equivocation, or of course running or spitting, and she does not get a second breeding.) She kushed immediately for the male on July 1, so was re-bred. At the next check a week later, July 8, she still kushed immediately and was bred again. Since then she had passed her weekly spit checks, the most recent being September 1. She was in good health and good body condition. If both fetuses were a result of the breeding on July 8, this meant the pregnancy was aborted at 61 days, or between 8 and 9 weeks.

>continued on next page

>Live twin births are very rare in alpacas. Twins were never recorded in alpacas in more than 12,000 births over 12 years at the La Raya Research station in Peru. However twins have certainly been recorded in North America and Australia, perhaps due to better nutrition. The vast majority of twins are from two ovulations (dizygotic or fraternal twins, rather than monozygotic or identical twins that result from one ovum). I could not find any information about whether the two ovulations were thought to be the result of one breeding or whether one could be from one breeding and the other from a breeding a short time or even a week later. The ovulations may be from the same ovary, or from both ovaries, and the fetuses may be in the same or in each of the two uterine horns. In my case, I think the configuration of the interconnecting placental tissue between the two tiny fetuses means there was one in each uterine horn.

Alpacas may have a mechanism to reduce twin conceptions to singletons in early gestation. The rate of double ovulations (as evidenced by seeing more than one corpus luteum on the ovaries) has been reported to range from 6% to 11%, but the occurrence of twins is less than 1%. The majority of twins are aborted and never reach full term.

Abortion or early embryonic death is common in alpacas. Some reports estimate a rate of 10 - 15% in the first 60 days of pregnancy. **Dr. Norm Evans** has reported a rate of 20 - 30% in the first 60 days. There have been reports of incidences as high as 60 - 80% in extreme conditions in the first 90 days of gestation. Although often no reason is found, there are numerous possible causes of abortions in alpacas, including infections, poor nutrition, vitamin and mineral deficiencies, drugs, extreme weather conditions, and of course twins. There are reports of several females who have had repeated pregnancy loss between 30 days and 8 months due to twins.

Twins can be detected by ultrasound by a skilled ultrasonographer. Some of these twin pregnancies will reduce to a singleton on their own, and go on to a normal pregnancy and delivery. Twin abortion late in pregnancy causes time lost in the reproductive performance of the female, and there is an increased incidence of dystocia and postpartum



The amniotic sac has been removed from around the foetus that was on the right in the first photo, and that foetus appears on the left in this photo with a ruler in mm. to show the size of the foetuses. The arrangement of the placental membranes suggests that there was a foetus in each of the two uterine horns

complications, which might jeopardize the future reproductive performance of the female. Developmental abnormalities of the reproductive tract, resulting in infertility, have been reported in females born co-twin to a male. For all these reasons, twinning is not desirable. **Dr. Tibary**, a specialist in camelid reproduction, recommends that if twins are diagnosed by ultrasound early in pregnancy, the pregnancy be aborted if the female has not reduced the number of fetuses on her own by day 35 of pregnancy. Obviously this is only feasible if ultrasound is being done routinely early in pregnancy and by someone with a lot of experience in ultrasounding alpacas.

Twins as a cause of abortion are usually only evident later in pregnancy when the fetuses are large enough to be easily seen after they have been aborted. In my case it was quite a fluke finding the aborted twins at two months gestation. If the very small blob of tissue had not just been passed, and if it had not been on bare concrete I doubt I would have seen it. If I had been even a few minutes later in that area the chances are the tissue would have already been



For those who don't think in metric, the two foetuses are now beside a ruler in inches to show their size.

stepped on by some alpacas and been unrecognizable as anything. In this female the only sign was seeing her with her tail up off and on; there was no discharge or bleeding. Alpacas have very 'tidy' deliveries compared to humans – hardly any bleeding during or after, and very little amniotic fluid. (There's a reason why many obstetricians used to wear white rubber boots in the delivery room). So I suppose it should not be a surprise that their abortions are also very tidy and not necessarily accompanied by bleeding.

Although the term resorption is often used for early pregnancy loss in alpacas, implying that nothing was passed, I think it much more likely that, as in my case, the aborted tissue is passed, but because it is so small and is not accompanied by any other signs in the female, the abortion goes unnoticed. I wonder how often twins are the cause of early pregnancy loss when there really doesn't seem to be any other good reason for the female to have aborted. I think I was very lucky to find the aborted twins so that I knew why it was this female lost her pregnancy, and also that it happened so early on in the pregnancy that there was no effect on her, and that she can still be re-bred for a cria next year.

The information on twinning and abortions is taken from several articles authored or co-authored by **Dr. A. Tibary**. Full references available on request by emailing: carraalpacos@sympatico.ca

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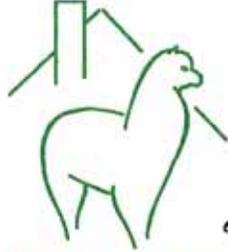


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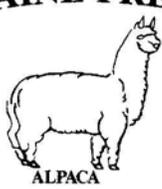
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Alpaca Ontario SHOW

April 18 - 19, 2009
Orangeville Fairgrounds
Orangeville, Ontario

ACSS Sanctioned - 009
Judges Lisa Shimeld &
Sara Jane MacLennan

by Brian Riff

Chair, Alpaca Ontario Show Steering Committee
Alpaca Ontario will be hosting its annual full fleece halter show and fibre fantasy on April 18 -19, 2009 at the Orangeville Agricultural Society fairgrounds. Alpaca check in will be on Friday April 17th. Alpaca Canada has sanctioned the Alpaca Ontario Show 2009 to run under the Alpaca Canada Show System rules. See http://alpacainfo.ca/show_system-01.htm for show system rules and guidelines. Profiles of the judges can be found on the Alpaca Ontario website.

The stage is set. Let the curtains rise on the 2nd Annual Alpaca Canada Futurity and Select Sale 2008 Orangeville, November 7-8

Eligible offspring of the 2008 subscribed studs will strut their stuff to compete for the supreme champion and the coveted sire's cup. Substantial prize money will be paid to fifty percent of class entries with \$1000 going to the supreme champion. Twenty-three quality alpacas from celebrated Canadian bloodlines await your bid on auction night to contribute their genetics to your breeding program. Bid often and bid high, auction prices will be the barometer for Canadian alpacas in the Canadian market. The gala banquet sets the ambience for the quality auction event, which is the culmination of the weekend. Reserve your spot for seminars on the topics of farm business, homeopathy and showmanship on Friday afternoon. Relax with fellow breeders from across the country during the Futurity Social on Friday evening. For all details of the prominent Alpaca Canada Futurity & Select Sale please visit www.alpacainfo.ca/futurity-01.htm. Come and celebrate the quality and power of Canadian alpaca. Your participation is valued and very much appreciated.

The full weekend of events will build on the success of the 2008 show. It will be a weekend you do not want to miss. Where else can you enjoy a great weekend, demonstrate the strength of your farm's breeding program and expand your knowledge of the Canadian alpaca industry?

Organization of the 2009 AO Show is the responsibility of the Show Steering Committee (SSC) consisting of 5 members who each have a specific responsibility and oversee a sub-committee of volunteer helpers assigned to specific tasks. Current members of the SSC are:

Brian Riff (chair) - Facilities;
Glen Finbow - Sponsorship, AO Board Liaison
Suelaine Poot - Full Fleece Halter Show
Deb Griffey - Advertising, Promotion
Melody MacDonald - Financials

You must be a member of Alpaca Ontario to enter alpacas in the full fleece halter show. All alpacas entered in the show must be CLAA registered and all alpacas brought to Orangeville must be tested for the BVDV virus. Proof of both will be required at registration. The BVDV virus test needs only to be done once in an alpaca's life time. Don't wait get those registrations and Persistently Infected BVD virus tests done this fall.

Stay tuned to www.alpacaontario.ca for up to date information on this annual weekend of fun, excitement and socialization with your fellow alpaca enthusiasts.

alpaca

ONTARIO

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