

JOURNAL
OF THE

RMLA

May
1997



ROCKY MOUNTAIN LLAMA AND ALPACA ASSOCIATION



1982 - 1997

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Special thanks to Lougene and Kristin Baird for proofing this issue.
Associate Editors: Marilyn Arnold, Sharon Beacham, Bob and Barbara Hance, Stanton Lacher and Gail Segreto, Candy and Tracy Montgomery and Kristin Baird.

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	January 1, 1998 issue December 1	March 1, 1998 issue February 1
	May 1, 1998 issue April 1	September 1, 1998 issue August 1
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**Headin' to
6 issues/
year**

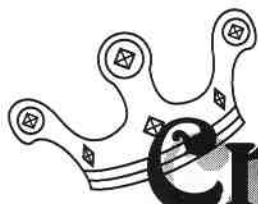


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NOTE: The information contained in this Journal is not intended to be a substitute for qualified professional advice. Our readers are encouraged to consult with their own veterinarian, accountant, or attorney with any questions concerning their animals or business operations. RMLA is not responsible for any losses resulting from reader's failure to heed this caution.



Crown your Cria with Majestic Array

Lazy K Bandito (M)



Bo-Jac's Cookies and Cream (F)



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Communicator (M)



Calico Lace (F)



Evita Peron (F)



Juans Majestic Array
.....and some of his offspring.

Smoke 'N Fire (M)



Juans Majestic Array and some of his offspring will be shown at Estes Park.... some will be for sale.

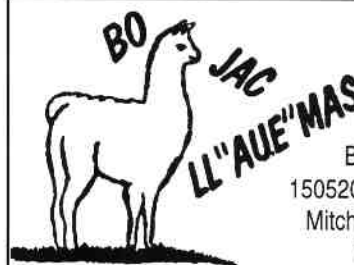
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See
you
in
Estes
Park!



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(306) 623-1321

“Calendar of Events”



May 3rd - 4th; WILA Jubilee, Western Idaho Fairgrounds Call Nancy or Wayne Cobler for info at (208)922-4203.

May 3 - 4, 10 - 11, 17 - 18: Learn-to-Shear and Humane Grooming Clinics, Boulder CO Free. Learn the basics of hand and electric shearing and minimal-stress grooming. Bring your own llama or practice on one of ours. Please call for details and to make your reservations. Pheasant Hill Farm, John and Sharon Beacham, (303)666-9437 (Denver area) or 1-800-465-2567

May 17th : Jelly Bean Classic, Arvada, CO, Indiana Equestrian Center . Mary Mauz and Jerry Dunn (303)277-1129

May 17th-18th; South Central Llama Association (SCLA) Private Treaty Sale and Youth Show ; Corsicana, TX Contact Nell Graham (903-463-2615) or Delores Gardner (817-572-5140).

May 23, 24, 25 & 26; John Mallon Training Clinic; Boulder, CO Pheasant Hill Farm and Rocky Mountain Llamas are again sponsoring this annual event. Still the only location in the Rocky Mountain area. Levels 1 and 2 will be offered on consecutive days, For detailed information and reservation packet, call Sharon Beacham, (303)666-9437 or Bobra Goldsmith, (303)530-5575

May 23rd-25th; Intermountain Llama Classic; Farmington, Utah; Davis County Fairgrounds.. Sponsored by the Utah Llama Association and cosponsored by RMLA. 6th annual ALSA show, moved this year to the Davis County Fairgrounds just north of Salt Lake. Easy access from interstate or airport. Near Lagoon Amusement Park. Fun for the entire family! Pre-show clinics, auction, and lots of fun! Western regional qualifier, judged by Ron Baird. Lodging near or camping available at fairgrounds or KOA at Lagoon. Call Linda Kyriopoulos at (801)245-3329 or Daryl Wood at (801) 846-2323.

May 23rd-25th; Millenia Llama Sale, Monroe, MI, McRoberts Game Farm

Millenia Sales Corp/Twin Lakes Llama Ranch present the 1st annual Milenia Llama Sale featuring the McRoberts Game Farm 1st Annual Production Sale and full South American consignment sale. Ranch displays, vendors, stud row, all weekend. 23rd-Llama Sale Preview all day, Yak, Elk and wild game dinner 5:30 PM, hosted by McRoberts Game Farm. 24th - 11:00 AM Llama auction of 100 llamas featuring Col. Stanley Stout, Auctioneer. 25th - Twin Lakes Llama Ranch Peruvian import open house. More information contact Mark Brant (313)241-4621 (313) 241-7734 fax

May 24th; Great Western Roundup Llama Auction; Farmington, UT, Davis County

Fairgrounds A great selection of quality llamas presented for sale during the Intermountain Llama Classic just north of Salt Lake. Easy access from airport or interstate. Come for the entire weekend! Next to Lagoon amusement park, bring the family and have some fun! Call sale organizer, Steve Kyriopoulos for information at (801)245-3529.

June 6th; Driving Clinic, Estes Park, CO, Fairgrounds. Contact Jerry Dunn for reservations at (303)277-1129

June 6th - 8th; 2nd Annual Rocky Mountain Alpaca Roundup at the Estes Park Wool Market, Estes Park, CO - Fairgrounds.

Sponsored by The Alpaca Breeders of the Rockies, this event features an Alpaca ALSA show, fleece judging, barn demonstrations and educational seminars on Alpacas. Plan to visit Estes Park and get some hands-on with Alpacas. ALSA judge will be Carol Hicks. For more information or registration call Marie Hinds, (303)841-4889 or write "ABR", 9349 Tammy Lane, Parker, CO, 80134-7511. e-mail: sdflama@jceinc.com



June 7th - 8th, 1997: Estes Park Llama Show at the Estes Park Wool Market, Estes Park, CO - Fairgrounds.

Sponsored by RMLA. Come visit the beautiful Rocky Mountains and participate in the largest Llama show. This long time ALSA show has always been a wonderful event for Llama lovers. For more information contact Lougene Baird at (303)688-1187.

June 11th - 15th; Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association Annual Conference, Pueblo, CO - Colorado State Fair - Fairgrounds. Conference Packets will be mailed in early spring to members. For more info

contact: Hobert Office Services, Ltd., 1140 Manford Ave., P.O. Box 1992, Estes Park, CO, 80517-1992, (970)586-5357, (970)586-6685 fax.



Continued on next page ----->>

June 18th - 22th ILA Annual Conference, Bend, OR. Three days plus of speakers, demonstrations, product display booths and lama exhibits. Pre-conference workshops and activities on June 18 and post-conference activities on June 22. Full registration materials will be sent to all ILA members in March. For more info contact ILA at (303)756-9004

July 19th & 20th; 4 Corners Llama and Alpaca Network Bazaar, Montezuma Fairgrounds, Cortez, CO.
For more information contact Ted Earley at (970)327-4511 or Pete Peterson at (970) 565-0785

June 27th-29th; 3rd Annual Classic 2000 Packerama, Pocatello, ID Llama pack trails, structural types clinic, demonstrations, private treaty sale, llama history and anthropology seminar, vendors and fun events. Contact Wes Holmquist, The Llama Connection, 8005 W. Buckskin, Pocatello, ID 83201 (208) 232-6456 (800)398-0832 or e-mail-wesc2000@nicoh.com

July 12th - 13th; Northwest Llama Classic Sale and ALSA Show, Monroe, WA, Evergreen Fairgrounds.
For more info contact Marilyn Larson at (360) 428-8098 (702)428-5601 fax or newhorzn@sos.net.

July 17th - 20th; LANA EXPO '97, Carson City, NV - Fuji Park. Seminars, show clinic and llama olympics on Thursday and Friday. ALSA sanctioned show will be held Saturday and Sunday, and is open to the public. Camping available, family oriented, BBQ and picnic get-togethers. For more information contact Nelson Leonard at (541)830-LANA or for show details contact Virginia Christensen at (702)265-3177 ----- Contact Debbie Ullrich at (916)832-6362 to volunteer!!!

July 26th; Fairplay Pack Llama Race, Fairplay, CO. Join in the fun of the 15th annual running of this event, held in conjunction with Fairplay Burro Days! There will be activities for all ages and abilities. See related article on page 52 and attached entry form.... or call Roger Miller at (719) 749-0119.

August 7th; Douglas County Fair Summer Classic ALSA Youth Show, Castle Rock, CO, Douglas Co. Fairgrounds. This all youth ALSA show is in it's third year and growing each year. Plan to attend. For an entry form contact Ron or Marie Hinds, 9349 Tammy Lane, Parker, CO 80134-7511, (303)841-4889, (303)841-7635fax or e-mail at sdflama@jceinc.com .

August 8th & 9th; Second Annual Uintah County Fair Llama Show and Fun Days, Vernal, UT (Dinosaur Land)- Western Park. Featuring halter and performance classes. No entry fees or stall fees. All indoor facilities. New Llama area-good opportunity to advertise your ranch and meet prospective customers. Register as soon as possible so we can make sure we have enough stall space. Contact Lee Ann Walker (801)722-2603 or write Route 2 Box 2615 Roosevelt, Utah 84066 for more information.

August 22nd & 24th; Nebraska State Fair ALSA Llama Show, Lincoln, NE. For more information contact Superintendent: Eunice Cernohlavek • 6405 West "O" St • Lincoln, NE 68528-9129 • phone/fax (402)475-8636. ALSA Judge: Mary Beth Hartsough.

August 25th - 28th; California State Fair ALSA Show, Sacramento, CA. Sponsored by CAL-ILA. Redesigned to meet exhibitor requests. Contact: California State Fair, Attn: Livestock Office, Jay Carlson, P.O. Box 15649, Sacramento, CA 95852, (916)263-3010, Or call: Sharon Griffiths (916)878-1040 or Lora Crawford (209)632-6891.

September 13th-14th; L.O.C.C. Fall Classic Llama Show, Colo. Springs, CO - Penrose Equestrian Center
ALSA sanctioned & RMLA sponsored indoor arena, 400 Stalls, Halter and Performance classes, Adult and Youth classes, outdoor races and obstacle course. Had 228 llamas at last year's show. For information contact Mark Wittrup at 719-683-2834.

October 4th & 5th; Click and Reward Clinics with Jim Logan, sponsored by Bobra Goldsmith, Rocky Mountain Llamas, and John & Sharon Beacham, Pheasant Hill Farm. Contact: Bobra Goldsmith, 303-530-5575, e-mail:RkyMtLlama@aol.com

October 11th & 12th; RMLA Conference '97, Montrose, CO, The Business Meeting and Dinner will be held at a local conference center. Workshops will be held Saturday and Sunday. The RMLA Fiber Coop Booth will be there. Registration is \$25.00, and that includes dinner! Take this opportunity to visit the Western Slope of Colorado. More information will be in the August issue of the Journal. Erma Hast is the Chairperson, you can call her at (970)249-3083 if you need more info before August.

October 18th; 1st Annual Fall Alpaca Festival, Parker, CO, High Prairie Farms Equestrian Center
This one day event is sponsored by the Alpaca Breeders of the Rockies. Come for some hands-on with alpacas. Lots of many breeders will be there as well as vendors. Free to the public • held indoors • lunch will be available. For more information contact Chuck Stewart, 190 Steinmeier, Cañon City, CO 81212 (719) 275-2701 phone/fax or e-mail at alpacastew@aol.com .)



October 18th; Llama Private Treaty Sale & Bazaar with Fall Fiberfest, Auburn, CA, Gold Country Fairgrounds. Llamas & Alpacas for sale, vendors, demos, wool products in conjunction with The Sierra Shepards. Under the trees at the beautiful Gold Country Fairgrounds in Auburn. Covered facilities available in case of showers. Ranch displays encouraged. Reserve space now! For details, call (916)273-2998 or (916)273-2568. Free to the public.

Every Journey Begins With a Single Step.....

This three page article is from the 1982 Winter issue, No. 16, of "3L Llama". Published in Herald, CA.

RMLA is off to an Exceptional Start!

A report by Betsy Bell

In spite of an early snow, 130 highly congenial llama lovers from nine states made their way to the Falcon Inn at Monument, Colorado, just north of Colorado Springs, for the first meeting of the Rocky Mountain Llama Association (RMLA), October 8 and 9, 1982.

The evening of the 8th was spent in renewing the friendships made at the organizational meeting last April, and in meeting the new members who have joined RMLA since then. We were entertained with an engrossing slide show of a trip that Wally and Suki White took to Peru with some other llama-owners earlier this year. For many of us it was a first look at that spectacular Andean country.

Saturday morning we viewed displays of various items that some of our members had brought for sale, and visited briefly over coffee and rolls.

RMLA President, Howard Kerstetter, started the business meeting with a report on the two organizations desiring RMLA affiliation - International Llama Association (ILA), and Llama Association of North America (LANA). He told of their aims, similarities, and differences. Due to a last-minute change in the ILA by-laws, he was able to report that ILA had met both of the stipulations that RMLA had charged him to present to ILA at their conference the end of May. That prompted a majority of RMLA members to vote for affiliation with ILA.

Bobra Goldsmith gave a report on the beautiful and inexpensive Conference Facilities she has booked for the ILA Conference in Boulder, Colorado next June, and asked that anyone with ideas on subjects or people for the program contact her.

Other important business was the selection of Santa Fe, New Mexico for the October, 1983 meeting, and the election of officers. Those elected were; President - Wally



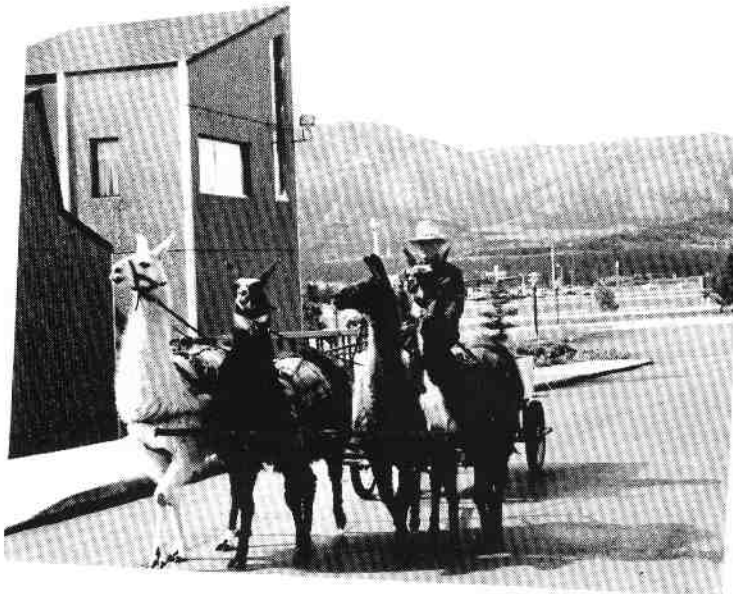
Howard Kerstetter opens the business meeting at the Falcon Inn at Monument, Colorado.



RMLA members at the morning meeting and lectures - Falcon Inn.



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Buck Tinsley drives team of four Kahura Uyu Ranch llamas.

viewed some of the data derived from South American Lama management and the breeding of llamas. He gave each of us a report and a chart with suggestions for using progesterone testing as a tool in herd management.

While we were waiting for the Falcon Inn to set up our lunch buffet, we went out to the front of the motel where Buck Tinsley, a retired military animal trainer who now resides in Fountain, Colorado proudly displayed a team of four Kahura Uhu llamas he has trained to pull four-across. He thinks that four-across may be a first in llama team-driving. It was obvious that he was thoroughly enjoying himself and his woolly charges.

Although the Falcon Inn had readily consented to our bringing llamas into the motel meeting-room for our demonstrations - which is a real testimonial to the terrific job that Howard Kerstetter has done in educating the people of the area in regard to llamas - it was decided that the day had warmed enough to proceed to Howard's ranch for the hands-on part of the agenda.

Howard welcomed us to his place by explaining that KAHURA UYU (Cow-roo oh-u) is Aymara Indian for "The Place Where the Llama Sleep." The place where his llamas sleep is a beautiful setting of hills and woods with a view of Pike's Peak beyond pastures full of llamas. His spacious corrals and pastures are enclosed with log fencing. Many of us were surprised to learn that Howard runs all of his studs together in one large area.

It was not on the agenda, but Dr. John Wade of Colorado Springs brought a young male he had just purchased which had quite a case of the mange. We all got a look at the

White, Durango, Colorado; Vice-President - Betsy Bell, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Secretary/Treasurer - Erma Hast, Montrose, Colorado.

The meeting then turned to that for which we had all gathered, learning more about our favorite animals.

First on the program was LaRue Johnson, DVM, PHD, of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at Fort Collins, Colorado, who gave a stimulating, informative and clear explanation of the workings of the llama rumin and some good data on llama nutrition in the Rocky Mountain area.

Robert Lantz, PHD, Rocky Mountain Laboratories, Colorado Springs, gave us some technical background on the hormonal systems and the cycle of blood progesterone levels in llamas. He told us of his success in pregnancy testing on the Kahura Uhu herd.

Howard Kerstetter, PHD, re- search in regard to herd



RMLA members viewing mange mites on slide prepared by Dr. Johnson.

crusty yellow lesions, and then Dr. LaRue Johnson took a scraping and prepared a slide for the microscope which Bob Lantz had been kind enough to provide. We all had a chance to view the mites, and I can assure you, that after seeing them, most of us checked our animals as soon as we returned home!

Stan Ebel of Loveland brought his portable chute, which created quite a bit of interest among the "handymen" present. It has two vertical poles that can be adjusted to fit snugly on either side of a llama's neck, and thus humanely prevent movement. The chute was loaded with a stud llama Wally had brought to be defanged.

Those people who had never had a good look at the fighting teeth filed past before Jim Hook and LuAnne Johnson of Fort Collins showed us a technique for sawing the teeth off

with an OB wire. Jim held the lips back and little LuAnne removed all six teeth within minutes. While the animal was still in the chute Wally showed us how to trim the toenails.

We moved to another corral where Howard and Bob showed us how to take blood from the jugular and the ear. By that time there was a sharp wind blowing down from Pike's Peak, and we all learned that blood cannot be taken from the ear when it is very cold.

I was next on the program with a short talk and demonstration on tools for and methods of brushing a llama to collect the fibre. Howard prepared my llama subject by showing Bobra's method of cleaning the llama with a leaf-blower, before I started brushing. (3L #10 of 6/81)

Bobra followed me with her excellent demonstration on



Howard Kerstetter, center, welcomes RMLA members to his Ranch at Black Forest, Colorado.

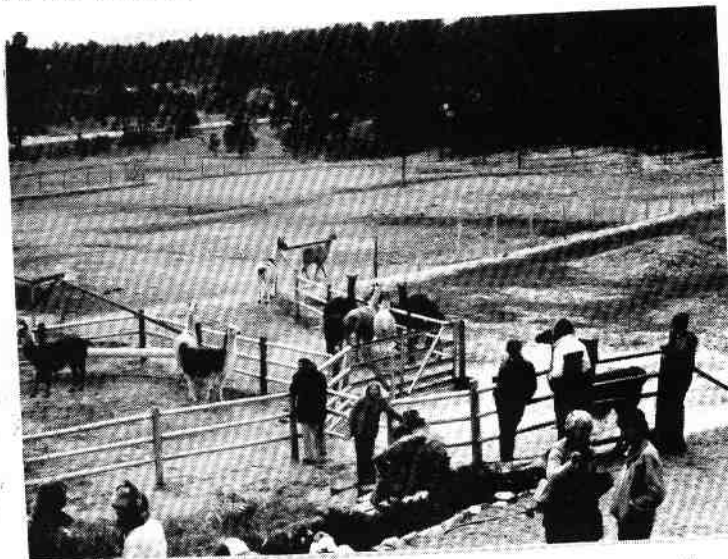
how a person working alone can catch, halter and lead-train a llama. She was assisted by Dorene Leonard, Loveland, who narrated at the microphone so the Bobra could use both hands. Bobra is so good that she will probably do it one-handed next year!

People interested in packing met with Jim Hook to discuss that topic and to look at an instant-adjust metal pack frame he had brought. Others split into groups to talk further on the subjects that interested them the most, or, as we had a good supply of studs, to try their hand at removing teeth or trimming nails.

By late afternoon a storm moved in and it began to snow lightly. People said their farewells and went off to find a warm place and a warm drink.

It was a wonderful meeting; packed full of ideas, new information, delightful new and old friends and good fellowship.

It is clear that there is a great deal of knowledge and expertise among the llama owners in the Rocky Mountain Region, and that llamaphiles planning to attend the Llama Conference in Boulder, Colorado, June 20-23, 1983, can look forward to an exciting and highly informative meeting.



Overall view of the demonstration corrals at Kahura Uyu.

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.....and the Journey Continues.... into the next century.

Reflections from the 1st RMLA Conference.

By Bobra Goldsmith • Rocky Mountain Llamas • 7202 N. 45th Street • Longmont, CO 80503 • (303)530-5575
e-mail: RkyMtLlama@aol.com

Re-reading **Betsy Bell's** report of the first RMLA Conference in October 1982 brings back lots of memories and snippets of history from that period when our llama organizations were just in their infancy. But above all, what this report conveys so clearly is the true purpose we had in founding the Rocky Mountain Llama Association, that is, to educate ourselves, learning and sharing as much information as we could gather about every aspect of llamas, their care, breeding, uses, and educating the public. Just looking over the entire weekend's agenda reveals the breadth of our purpose and the success of our cooperative effort.

Evening slide show: **Wally White**—pictures illustrating the roots our budding industry has in Peru and llama breeding there. That llama-owners' trip was organized and led by **Andy Tillman** and **Dr. Jane Wheeler**, still a primary researcher in the archaeology concerning llamas.

Llama driving: **Howard Kerstetter**, had taken his four llamas to a local horse trainer, who demonstrated well what could be done with a four-llama team.

Planning for the first national llama conference to be held outside of Oregon, under the auspices of the newly formed ILA. I became the chairman, and the Conference was held at the University of Colorado-Boulder, with hands-on demonstrations at the Boulder County Fairgrounds in Longmont, June 1983.

Dr. LaRue Johnson: The anatomy of llamas as ruminants and their nutrition—including why fresh alfalfa can cause bloat.

Dr. Bob Lantz: Using progesterone levels for testing pregnant females. His lab has now moved to Ft. Collins and still provides this service.

Howard Kerstetter: Ideas on herd management. Howard had only recently returned from living in Peru for two years and moved his herd from Oregon to Colorado.

Dr. John Wade: a serious llama disease—mange, no longer a big problem, thanks to Ivomec.

Stan Ebel: A safe restraint for managing llamas for medical procedures,—the principle still stands, with minor modifications.

Jim and LuAnne Hook: Demonstrating La Ru Johnson's solution to removing the male llama's fighting teeth, safely and without its being a major surgical operation—thank heavens!

Wally White: Toenail trimming—how to do it well.

Howard Kerstetter and Bob Lantz: Drawing blood from the ear for pregnancy testing.

Betsy Bell: Llama grooming and collecting fibre, and using a leaf blower.

Bobra Goldsmith: Catching, halter and lead training.

Jim Hook: Packing and a newly designed llama pack.

There is a lot more history that precedes this conference, why and how we came to form RMLA, etc., but the outstanding characteristic of RMLA has always been its focus on the well-being, care, and uses of these wonderful llamas (yes, with one "I" now that alpacas have joined our community). As long as we keep that focus, RMLA will continue to thrive and serve the best ends of the llama community.

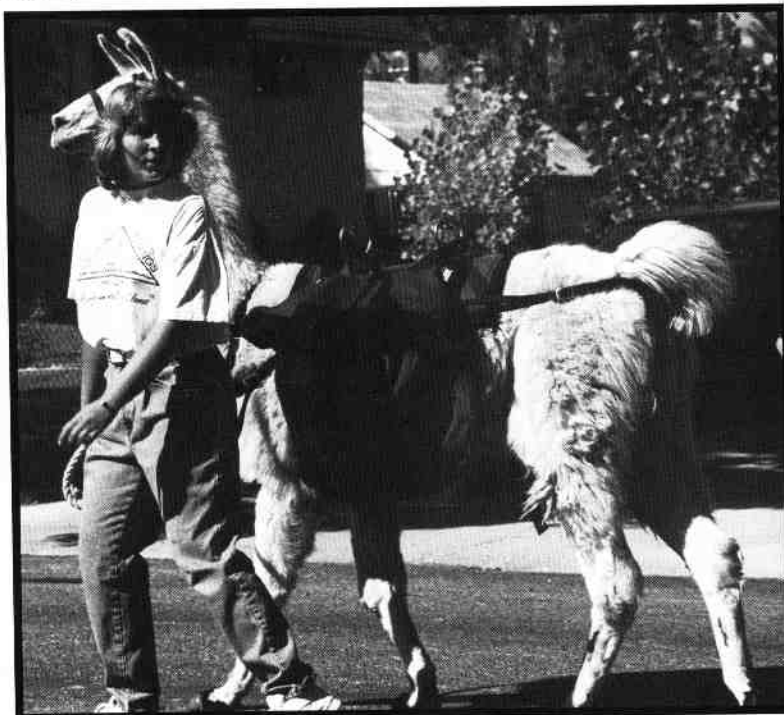
Bobra Goldsmith

President's Message

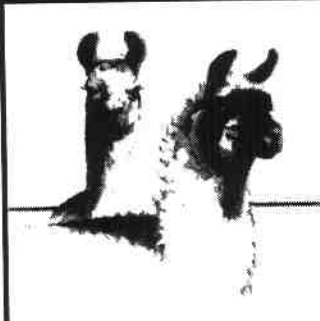
Linda Kyriopoulos • Sterling Springs Ranch • 2680 West 5700 South • Mt. Sterling, UT 84339 • (801)245-3529

As I stood out in my pastures today enjoying the early Spring weather, I smiled and thought, "how wonderful it is that we are blessed to share our lives with these wonderful critters we call llamas." After a busy week at work it is nice to relax among these curious creatures. They are magnificent! With their beautiful faces and their interesting personalities, they draw us near. I am enchanted by llamas. They bring a smile to my face and enlighten my soul on the worst of days. Wow, this is what they are all about. It is refreshing to leave the politics behind that enter into any industry and organization and to focus on what's really important; these wonderful animals. Enjoy them! Relax with them! Play with them! Involve your family. All other aspects of your life will come into perspective. As the old saying goes, "try it, you'll like

it". Make it your goal to renew your enthusiasm for llamas, they will enrich your life. If you don't have llamas yet, run right out and buy some! You'll be glad you did.



Linda and Crown Royal in the Wellsville Founder's Day Parade, 9/96



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CAÑON CITY, CO 81212

There are only two houses on the market: the kind you don't want, and the kind you can't afford.

The minute you read something that you can't understand, you can almost be sure it was drawn up by a lawyer. *Will Rogers*

BEAR TRACK FARM

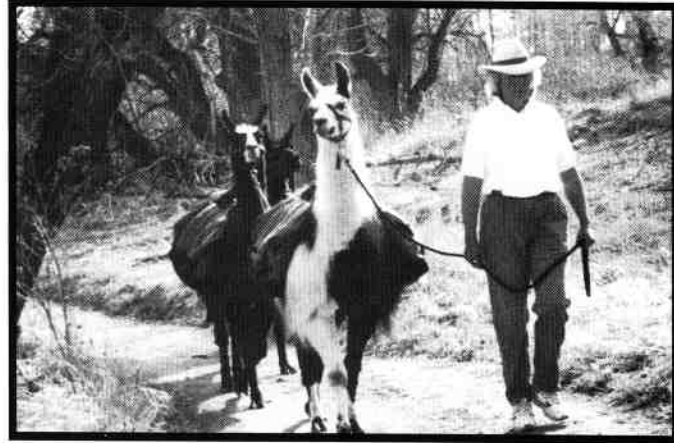
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Photos and layout by Lloyd Wamsley

Is the Science of Today the Truth of Tomorrow?

By Howard Kerstetter • Kahura Uyu Llamas • 2050 Ward Road • Bozeman, MT 59715 • (404)586-3191

The practice of alternative or complementary medicine for humans and other animals is rapidly gaining acceptance. Recently, Robert J. Pollard, D.V.M., wrote an illuminating article titled, "Introduction to Basic Homeopathic Medicine in Alpacas and Llamas,"* that has appeared in a number of llama and alpaca magazines and newsletters. My purpose here is to share another form of detection and solution that can certainly have widespread impact on the care of our llama livestock.

In April 1996, we found that one of our juvenile females had lost all of her fiber from the fetlocks to the toes on all four feet. The skin was tough and thick like elephant skin, and hair was beginning to fall out on other portions of the inner legs. Conventional laboratory tests found nothing out of the ordinary.

During a llama show that same month, a colleague suggested I call 3R LABORATORIES, INC., of Tatum, New Mexico, and talk with Anna Burnett about my llama. Ms. Burnett has been successfully testing cattle, horses, chickens, and ratites, to mention only a few, for years using novel approaches and possible solutions. Feeling I had nothing to lose, I called the lab and spoke with Ms. Burnett. Anna spoke impressively about her methodologies, was enthusiastic about the future of her science, and was confident she could be of help to us. With full concurrence of my veterinarian, we sent blood serum from the affected female but did not tell Anna what exactly the symptoms were with my female. The results were amazing.

Within 24 hours of her receipt of the blood serum, Ms. Burnett faxed me the test results. Through her techniques she provided me with a general immune profile of B-cell and T-cell responses as well as parasitologic, hematological, endocrine, chemical, and neurological profiles. She stated that the problem of hair loss has often been associated with an excessive number of tripanosoma parasites attached to compromised liver tissue, along with large numbers of other parasites and alien fungi. In short, my young llama's immune system was compromised.

Within the parameters of the testing results on many natural and prescription drugs, it has been found that using Nutrapathic Liquid Herbal Feed Supplement created by Bill Reineger and manufactured for him by Parametric Associates, Inc., of St. Louis, Missouri, WORKS. This supplement has been used to cleanse the body and allow the body's compromised immune system to regain proper function. The procedure was nonintrusive and simple: isolate the llama and put the proper amount of supplement in her daily drinking water. In ten days, the hair began to emerge, and within two months all affected areas had normal hair coverage.

Intrigued, I decided to conduct some controlled studies on my herd with Anna doing the blood serum workups after the treatments were concluded. I divided my herd into three study groups: (1) those who had not had any deworming treatments, (2) those who had only had Ivomec, and (3), those who had different treatments. Each group contained both sexes and a variety of ages but the identification of which animals were in which groups was known only to me. We experimented with several formulations of the herbal supplement over different time periods to determine effective dosages. Our tests indicated there was a general overall reduction in the number of parasites and an overall restoration and maintenance of immune system integrity.

Enthusiastically, I began telling my llama friends about Anna's work, and found that, like she, I met with skepticism from the scientific community. A friend of mine who is a toxicologist talked with some of his parasitologist colleagues about Anna's work, and they emphatically rejected the idea that it was possible to detect parasites in blood serum. So how did Anna do it? Anna graciously invited us to see for ourselves.

In November of 1996 we were able to visit Anna at her laboratory in Tatum, New Mexico, and see how the system works. 3R Labs utilizes a microscopic technique called confocal microscopy which produces sharp two- and three-

Is the Science of Today the Truth of Tomorrow?, cont.

dimensional images magnified at least 6,000 times. Anna can see into layers of blood serum because she uses a technique which immobilizes enzymes in the serum in order to examine it under the confocal microscope. It was an amazing experience to actually see various kinds of parasites, yeast and other fungi, chemicals, or sloughed-off tissue of the gastrointestinal system in the serum I brought with me. Unfortunately our time was truncated due to a travel schedule, but we were thoroughly impressed.

Other llama friends have enjoyed success similar to ours. One friend has a female whose defecation has been soft, never pelletized, for three years. 3R Labs helped resolve the problem in one week. Another breeder's llama was lethargic and off feed. Anna Burnett found insecticides and pesticides in the animals system. My veterinarian has used 3R Labs for assistance with buffalo.

Both Anna Burnett and Bill Reineger are on the threshold of complementing and enhancing

traditional medicine. They do not claim cures for anything but they do believe that when the immune system of an animal is compromised, that animal can no longer protect itself from harmful bacteria and parasites. By providing healthy diets, adequate exercise, and a diagnostic program for determining when an animal's system is unbalanced, we as caretakers should be able to maintain healthy livestock. Along with traditional veterinary care, Anna Burnett and Bill Reineger provide their nontraditional services to animal breeders.

For further reading on this subject:

1. Lichtman, J.W., "Confocal Microscopy," Scientific American, August 1994.
2. Goldman, 1968. Chapter 1 in Biochemistry. American Chemical Society.

For further information call 3R-Labs, Anna Burnett, 505-398-2385. (Be patient, she may be busy.)

* The article "Introduction to Basic Homeopathic Medicine in Alpacas and Llamas," by Robert J Pollard, D.V.M. was reprinted in the Nov. 96 issue of the RMLA Journal, page 44.



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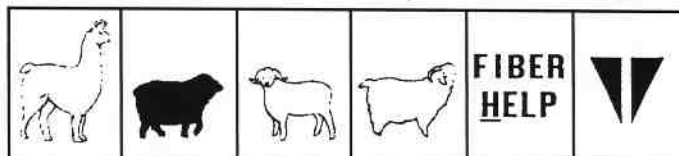
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Just For Your Information.....

MORRIS ANIMAL FOUNDATION

Founded in 1948 by veterinarian Mark L. Morris, Morris Animal Foundation is supported entirely by gifts from people and organizations who care and want their animals to have a longer, healthier life.

Keeping animals healthy- -Morris Animal Foundation is dedicated to better health for animals.

Credibility and quality of Morris Animal Foundation projects are assured by a special scientific Advisory Board. This eight-member board is composed of leading veterinary specialists who generously volunteer their time and expertise to the mission of Morris Animal Foundation.

The Advisory Board evaluates and selects projects with great care, recommending for funding only the finest of the nearly 200 proposals submitted each year. But their work does not end here. Each Foundation-sponsored project is carefully monitored by regular visits from an Advisory Board member.

Quality and integrity result from the efforts of Advisory Board members. Scientific excellence is assured in each Morris Animal Foundation funded project.

Foundation work does not stop with the funding of vital health projects for animals. Information from Foundation projects is sent to veterinarians, animal owners, clubs, and others interested in improving the health of animals. Newsletters, articles, press releases and special reports contain latest findings. Results are published in leading professional journals.

A large corps of volunteers across the United States represents the Foundation by taking information directly to fellow animal enthusiasts at shows, club meetings and other events. They also assist with fund raising activities.

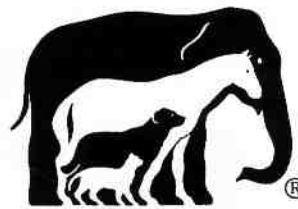
The Foundation funds hundreds of studies at veterinary colleges to find cures for the health problems of dogs, cats, horses, camelids, zoo animals and wildlife.

A gift to Morris Animal Foundation promises a better tomorrow for animals. Your gift may be earmarked for dog, cat, horse or zoo/wildlife health, and will be used only for this purpose. An endowment fund pays day-to-day operating costs, so your gift can be used entirely for animal health studies.

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For more information, receiving additional information or volunteering contact:

MORRIS ANIMAL FOUNDATION
45 Inverness Drive East
Englewood, Colorado 80112-5480
(303) 790-2345 800-243-2345 (303)790-4066 fax



A great deal of time and money is donated to this organization for the welfare of camelids and many other animals.

In the latest edition of MAF's "Animal News", an article on Immunodeficiency Syndrome in Juvenile Llamas is discussed in detail. It is a Morris Animal Foundation sponsored study at Washington State University.

I thought it might be interesting to publish a little information about the Morris Animal Foundation. This information was taken from their brochure, ed.

Don't Throw Away That Llama Fiber!

Now is the time to plan for your spring shearing. Please, don't just throw away your fiber. There are llama people who would gladly pay you for your postage if you would just mail it to them.

You can also be an active part of a llama fiber pool by having your fiber processed into yarns. Some pools will buy quality llama outright, others will share in the yarns, and yet others produce finished items, etc.

To find out what your area llama pools are doing, write or call your regional contact person.

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Boulder, CO 80301-4937
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Mid-West

Jenny Deters
Hickory Hollow Llamas
P.O. Box 624
Chandler, IN 47610
(812)925-7801

East

Elena Stamberg
Graceful Legend Llamas
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Barnesville, MD 20838
(301)349-3149

We are here to help organize llama fiber use all over the country for that national llama co-op. If you have a pool started and you want to be included on our sharing list, please let us know.

These are two of our male llamas who love to do things together. They are half-brothers and you know the saying about "brotherly love". Well it holds true for them. This picture was taken after a hike and we removed their packs. They decided to do a potty stop before loading into the



trailer and I couldn't resist taking it. Notice how their legs are crossed over each other. They always 'go' together.....

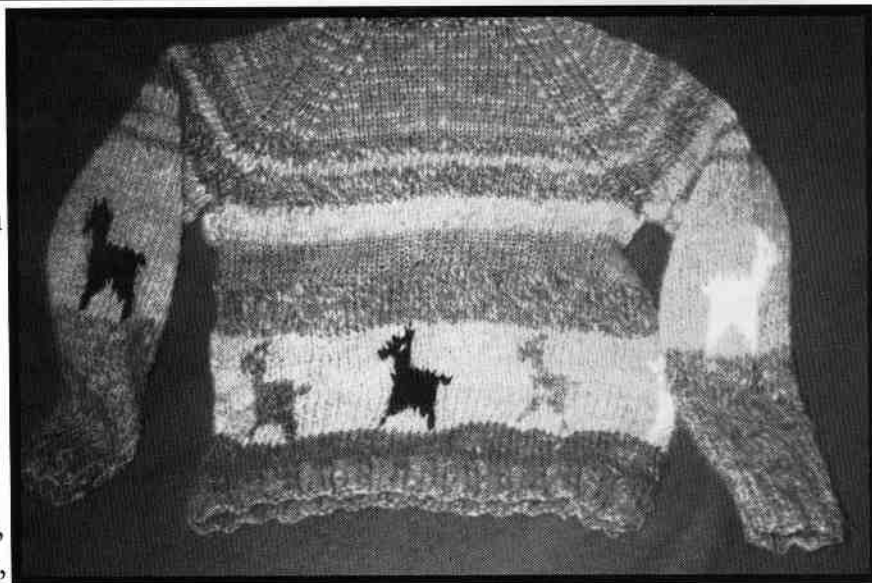
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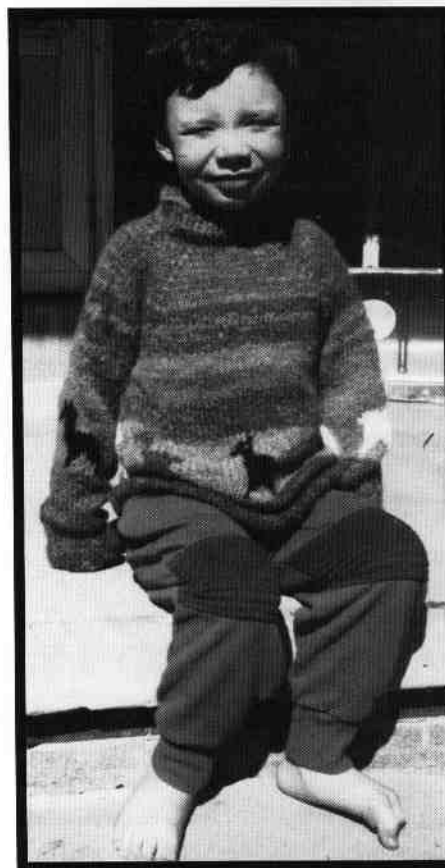
THE RMLA COMMUNITY SWEATER

By Barbara Hance • Hance Ranch • 11818 W. 52nd Ave. • Wheat Ridge, CO • 80033-2032 • (303)422-4681

Do you all remember the September RMLA Conference in Longmont? Sharon Beachum sheared her beautiful fawn colored llama and I sheared the light brown alpaca. I know a lot of you were most interested in the shearing and asked very good questions. Before the shearing was finished, some wonderful ladies took the shorn fleece from both animals into the "Wool Room" and started carding and spinning. As soon as enough yarn was spun, others took it and started weaving, locker-hooking, crocheting and knitting and maybe felting. The attendees watched and tried your hand at all of these projects. You know who you are: you, who had your first lesson at spinning. Then after dinner that night RMLA held this really exciting auction - remember? - and the finished items were auctioned along with many really nice donated items. I bought the left over balls of yarn. Some spun super tight, some not plied, solid caramel color from the llama or red-brown from the alpaca, some mixed colors, etc. This sweater is the final disposition of the yarn you all spun! I needed to purchase 2 ounces of commercial alpaca. I who own 40+ alpacas? But I don't spin and it was supposed to be a surprise Christmas gift for my grandson, AJ, and I didn't want my daughter in law Mary to know about it. It didn't quite work out in time for Christmas. I also needed to use the llama yarn that Judy Brock spun from my "Querencia" for the 1996 National Western Stock Show Llama Fleece Contest. These two yarns were used in the yoke and in the collar. The alpaca/llama critters marching around are from alpaca yarn I had on hand. I think this sweater is pretty neat and you all deserve a pat on the back for helping me make it!



RMLA Community Sweater



A.J. Hance (He'll grow into it, you can be sure.)

Barbara Hance, and her husband Bob, have been raising llamas and alpacas since early in 1990. Their farm is not far off I-70 in NW metro Denver.

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A Great Workbook!

Written by camelid photographer Susan Ley, this is a MUST for every animal photographer who wants to produce excellence with their camera.

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Celebrating the joy of our youth and their future needs is one of our highest commitments in RMLA. In 1989, the RMLA Youth Foundation was enthusiastically sparked by RMLA president Scott Welles and formed to celebrate and promote the involvement of our youth within the organization. It was Scott's goal to raise \$56,666 to support the needs of our young members. Through auctions and individual donations that goal was met. The money has been invested to maintain the balance and only draw on the interest for the special requests.

A variety of options are offered to encourage young people to stay involved in the industry. Youth may apply for any of the options if they are a member of RMLA and have an adult sponsor that is also a member.

Stipends can help offset the expenses for workshops, conferences, clinics, or shows and are available up to \$56.

Loans up to \$566 for the purchase of the first llama, cart, or pack equipment are available. The applicant only pays

back on the interest on the loan quarterly at the prime rate only. Three of our RMLA members applied for loans to acquire their first llamas.

Scholarships for \$356 per semester may be applied for by graduating high school seniors. Recipients of the scholarships have been Joy Herbrode, Kim Hartsough, Heather Hartsough, and Nick White. Kim and Joy have already graduated and new applicants are being reviewed at this time.

In return the foundation encourages recipients of Foundation funds to continue to demonstrate their support for the llama community by helping others at shows and special events.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this program please contact Jerry Dunn, 14550 W. 56th Avenue, Golden, Colorado 86463-1707. (303) 277-1129.

Congratulations to Touch the Earth Snickerdoodle, Bob, Jan, and Alissa Veuthey of Dancing Pines Ranch, Black Forest, Colorado, for their outstanding performance in 1996.

ALSA Central Regional Championship in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma:

First place Junior Showmanship (with Alissa). First place Advanced Public Relations (with Bob)

Estes Park Wool Market Llama Show:

First place in Light Wool Two Year Old Male Reserve Grand Champion Light Wool Male First in the Rocky Mountain Race (with Bob)

LOCC Fall Classic Llama Show:

First place 3 mile pack llama race (with Bob) Second place Light Wool Adult Male Second place Novice Pack Llama (with Bob) Third place Novice Public Relations (with Bob)

Fairplay Pack Llama Race

First place in Amatuer Division, sixth overall (with Bob)



Alissa Veuthey and Touch the Earth Snickerdoodle
Mama Cara x Mr. Homer

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He who laughs last - thinks slowest.

C. Montgomery

Special Events

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Llamas and alpacas offer a great reason to get together with friends at a fun event or a walk in the park. Wherever we go people are curious and want us to stop and talk and let them pet the llama. Schools, churches, hospitals and senior centers love experiencing our woolly companions. In every community there are dozens of opportunities to promote our animals.

As Vice-president elect, I was given the opportunity to coordinate Special Events for RMLA. What are special events? All llama and alpaca shows, Fairplay Pack Race, llama caddies, Lamas and Kids in the Park, Driving clinics, Llamathon, 4-H Youth shows and workshops, 4-Corners Bazaar, Pack Festival, RV shows, play days, adopt a highway, special parades to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Green Peace, and even Buffalo Bill. There are undoubtedly many more that we haven't mentioned or heard about yet.

What I'm encouraging all of you to do is to let me know when you plan a get together to celebrate your commitment and love for llamas. The event doesn't have to be large, just a sincere involvement with your llama and the public. We want to help you promote your activities with llamas and alpacas.

We can support your event by making RMLA materials available to you, such as event guidelines, the RMLA booth, service directories and liability insurance when the general public is invited. If you have an idea but don't know how to get started or make it happen contact me and I will help.



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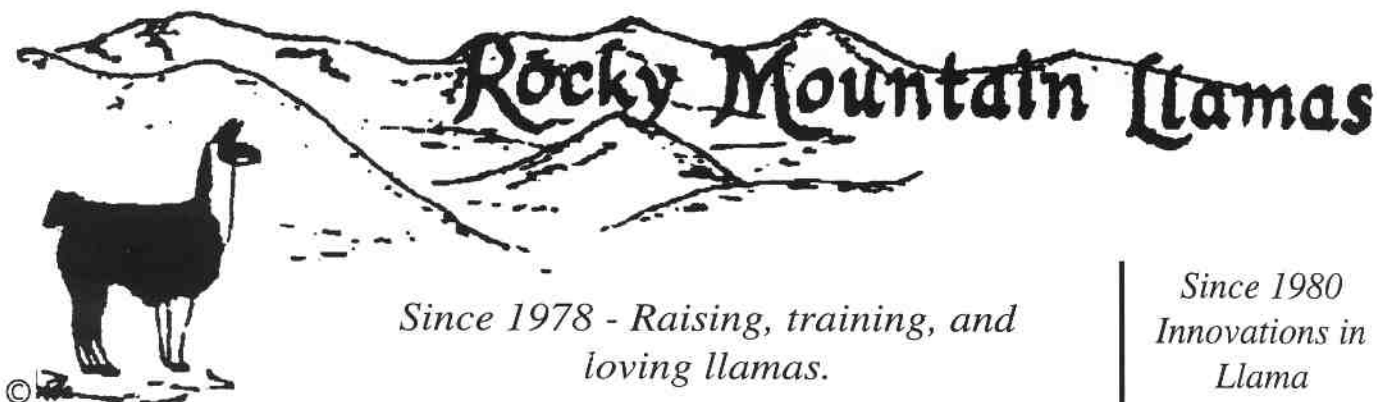
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LLAMA PEOPLE ARE THE BEST!

I feel extremely fortunate to be a part of the llama community! Even before I purchased my first llamas four years ago, I became aware of the close bond among llama people. Never before have I met so many people willing to share their love and knowledge of these wonderful animals with a potential newcomer to the community.

And today that bond is felt even more strongly. To me, it's a comfort that there's always someone close by should I need to call upon their guidance and input, as has been the case from time to time. Suffice it to say, I've had the need to call upon my extended family for advice and help more than once, and have always been readily helped. Llama friends are really the greatest!

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Cochee	7/26/93	< Comanche < Rocky Mtn. Harlequin

Males: Gandy's Knickels 9/1/91 < Knic-Knac x Gandy Dancer

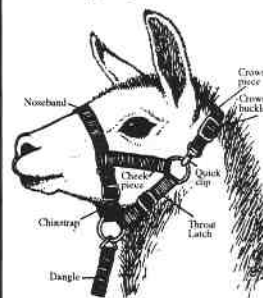
Jettson 11/8/92 < Knic-Knac x Camanche

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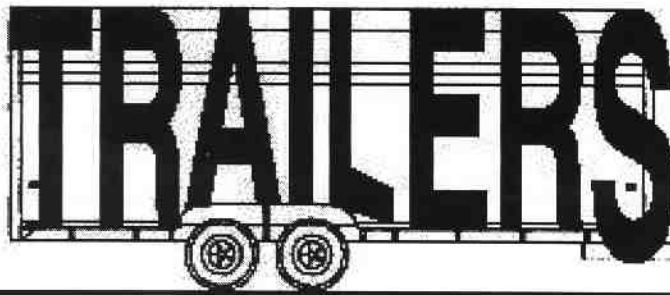
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Choosing a trailer can be an overwhelming decision when you look at the plethora of options out there. We decided to do a small survey of a few long time llama and alpaca owners and to gather some information from some local trailer dealers and try to develop a summarized resource for our readers use. With that background in mind here goes!!!

We talked to several breeders following is a summary of their comments. The major things to think about when considering your trailer purchase and the reasons why are the meat of this article. Some of them may seem pretty obvious others may be more obscure. First, how many animals are you going to be hauling? This seems quite simple but here are some concerns: Will you be hauling males and females at the same time if so you may want to consider a divider of some sort. I know when we started out we just purchased a two horse trailer with nothing on the inside. It works great for just a few animals but is very limited for the transportation of males who may not get along well or for males and females in the same trip. The next important issue is the weight of the trailer. The concern here is what are you going to pull it with.. Another thought in this area is where are you going to be pulling your trailer in the mountains or on the flat lands. In conjunction with what you are pulling it with is the issue of the hookup to the vehicle are you going to have a hitch or a gooseneck type of trailer. Some of the comments from breeders are that the goosenecks pull easier. They say there isn't the sway you sometimes get with a regular hitch.

Phil Switzer of Switzer-Land Alpacas believes we should all ride in the trailer before you purchase. It is probably illegal to do so, but he has ridden for a short distance and he says the noise when you are on the road is very scary especially when you pass a big truck. His suggestion is that you insulate the trailer with Styrofoam and plywood or that you purchase it insulated. They purchased an old cargo type of trailer in 1985 which was 5 years old and then insulated the inside and installed a couple of RV windows in

it. They also put a vent in the top. They can use this vent to put an RV air conditioner on top of the trailer which they run with a generator mounted in the trailer hitch if they are traveling into hot climates. Another concern is that you need either rubber mats, a carpet or a thick layer of straw in the bottom of the trailer because of the dust and fumes which can come up into the trailer. Some of the above concerns will determine if you want an open or closed type of trailer. If you have a closed type of trailer (cargo) you will need windows or vents and if you have an open type you will need a way to close up the openings if the weather is very cold. You can purchase Plexiglas slates to slide into the openings with a little work on your part to mount clips to hold them in place.

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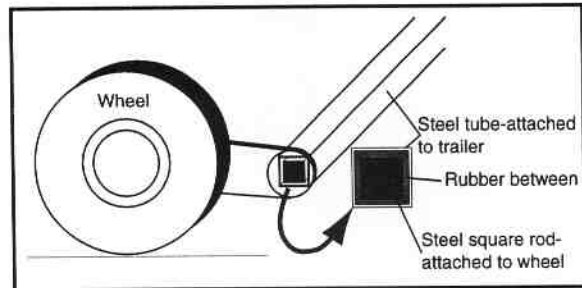
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Trailer Suspension

There are generally two different types of suspension for trailers. The traditional leaf springs and some type of the rubber torsion. The torsion axle is composed of two square rod inside a square tubing. Between them is a layer of rubber. The outer square tube is attached to the trailer, the inner rod is attached to the wheel axles on a short arm. The rubber between the two acts as a cushion to soften the ride.

The rubber torsion suspension is less expensive than leaf springs and you will find it on most livestock trailers.



Rubber Torsion Suspension

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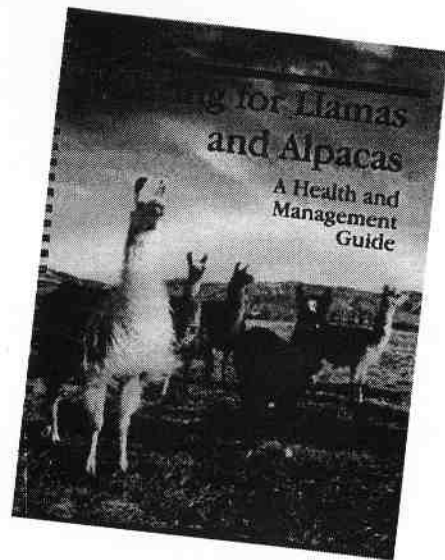
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WRITTEN BY:
CLARE HOFFMAN, DVM
AND
INGRID ASMUS



**EVERY
LLAMA AND ALPACA OWNER
NEEDS ONE OF THESE
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Trailers, cont.

Two other important issues come to mind, do you want dual wheels or single wheels and brakes. Some things to consider in this area are the added weight of dual wheels versus the greater stability. Plus if you have a flat or worse yet a blow out with dual wheels it is not as dangerous and the tire is a lot easier to change. I believe all the brakes on new trailers are electronic but some old trailers may have a different kind of brake system. Some of the people who had older trailers did not like the old brake system.

Some other features to consider in your trailer purchase are do you want a side door, what is the configuration of the back door, does it close in the middle, slide only or open out from just one side. Do you want a light inside (very handy, but something you can add later.). One thing you might not think about being an extra can be a jack for your hitch. Without one it can be very difficult to hitch your trailer up by yourself.

The table on page 30 lists several brands of trailers, but by no means all trailers. If you are interested in a particular brand I am sure you could call your local trailer dealers and find one who sells that particular trailer.

The Trailer articles are a consortium effort by the following people:

Marilyn Arnold, *Dancing Llama Ranch* • 11483 Ponderosa Lane • Franktown, CO 80116 • (303)841-5126
Stan Lacher & Gail Segreto • *High Hopes Llamas* • P.O. Box 506 • Elizabeth, CO 80107 • (303)646-0989
Tracy and Candy Montgomery • *Prima Llama Ranch* • 1001 Haystack Drive • Castle Rock, CO 80104 • (303)688-2422
Jerry Dunn • *Bear Track Farm* • 14550 W. 50th Ave. • Golden, CO 80403-1707 • (303)277-1129
Ron and Marie Hinds • *Serendipity Farm* • 9349 Tammy Lane • Parker, CO 80134-7511 • (303)841-4889



ALSO: Empty hitch weight usually equals 10% to 15% of Curb weight. Essentially GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating) is the curb weight of the trailer. The weight may change based up options you add to the trailer. Also add the weight of the animals you plan to carry. So, determine the weight of the trailer and add the weight of the animals. Take 15% of that total for the hitch weight. From those numbers look at your pulling vehicle and compare those numbers to what your vehicle will pull and hitch weight. Hitch weight is sometime stamped on the hitch.

More Trailers----->>

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More on Trailers.....

Hitches:

A gooseneck is a 5th wheel. You need to put a hitch (ball, etc.) in the bed of your pickup to pull one of these. There are various types, but the more popular one fits below the bed of the truck and is rotated above the bed when needed. It disappears below the bed when not in use. This allows you to carry 'stuff' in the pickup without having to deal with a 4" high steel protrusion in the middle of the pickup bed!

The pull hitch is a bit more traditional, but you still need a hitch on your vehicle. The best ones and least expensive are the ones that are built to bolt to your vehicle frame, leaving a square opening at the rear for the actual hitch. Using this method also allows you to adjust the height of the hitch for the trailer. You can buy two ball assemblies and have one for different trailer heights and/or different ball sizes.

Generally the place where you buy the trailer is the best place to have a hitch installed. It should be a little less expensive there.

Electical hookup:

You need a 6 or 7 wire hookup for the trailer for: running lights, 2 turn signals, ground, backup lights, brakes and sometimes an accessory connection for internal lights, etc. (Generally the lights only work in the trailer when you have your lights on in the pickup, unless you have a separate accessory wire for them.)

When you get the trailer home, get a roll of electrical tape and your grubbies on and crawl around under the trailer and truck where the connections were made, and look for any wires that may get caught in brush, snow drifts, etc. Make sure there are no wires touching the tires. If you find any problem areas put some more tape over them and get them out of harms way. I have yet to find on trailer hookup that did not

fail later and a simple rewrapping of the connection could have prevented problems. It's no fun losing brakes on a hill, lights in a blizzard at night, etc. and it is no fun working on a trailer electrical system during a snow storm.

Brakes:

Electric brakes are the best these days. The old style hydraulic hookup for the trailer brake control is quickly going by the way-side. All of these items can be installed by you, if you're handy with wires and a multi-meter, but let the trailer shop hook it up for you. Again, once you get the trailer and pickup home, look over the wiring job and rewrap any suspicious connections.

The trailer brakes work on the principal of magnetics. When you press the brake the braking device under the dash will regulate the flow of electricity based up on the braking movement of the pickup. Yes it may be complicated, but the idea here is you CANNOT hook up your stop light wire to your trailer brakes, you'll have smoke rolling everywhere.

There is a magnetic disk in the wheel that is attached to the trailer. This disk attaches (through magnetics) to the inside of the tire wheel when electricity is sent to the magnet. Friction slows down the wheel, thus the trailer brakes.

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Specs for the trailers are just a click away on the internet. There is not that many trailer manufacturers on the internet, but try these: <http://www.wellscargo.com> • <http://www.featherlitemfg.com>

TRAILER EXPLORATIONS

By Jerry Dunn • Bear Track Farm • 14550 W. 50th Ave • Golden, CO • 80403-1707 (303)277-1129

Over the years my llamas have been transported in a variety of vessels and trailers. We first started out with a homemade stock rack made with 1" tubular steel that fit my little S-10 Chevy truck. Because the animals grew and the distances to the trail head became further away from home I decided to purchase a full sized Chevy truck and install a topper to protect the animals from the elements. The llamas kept growing and I needed something that was more suitable to transport them.

In the late 1980's Jartran trailer rental went out of business and made all of their aluminum Freuhauff trailers available for sale. They came in 5' x 8' and 6' x 12' and cheap. Several llama owners jumped on this opportunity and cleaned out all of the dealers in a three state area. We fixed them up with windows, insulation and paint. These little trailers were light and well suited for transporting our llamas. I purchased a 5' x 8', lined the inside with 3/4" foam board for insulation, 1/4" paneling and installed two bus windows and a ceiling vent. This size trailer was great for two full grown llamas but very tight for three.

Destined to have more llamas, I purchased another trailer! This time a 6' x 16' stock trailer with no frills became our new means to travel. We could transport up to 10 animals in this trailer behind the full sized truck. This trailer serviced us well but I was always concerned about the llamas who felt a need to pop their heads out the openings to supervise my driving skills and entertain passing cars.

Vans looked like fun so I special ordered a big red Chevy one ton van with lots of windows a big block motor, power steering and air conditioning and sold the truck. This vehicle was nice for one or two adult animals or three youngsters.

I then became interested in a trailer made by Pace American. This company builds custom utility trailers and fancy trailers for race cars and now llamas. I met with the dealer at Classic Trailer Sales, Inc. in Wheat Ridge, Colorado and they help me design the my ideal llama transportation. The trailer is 6' x 10', steel tubular studding, insulated, panel lined, individual tie rings inside and out and sliding windows with screens.



Windows and tie rings are 30" off the floor so the animals can sit down and look out the windows. There are two ceiling vents for excellent air circulation, double doors in the rear and one side door towards the front. The trailer has a dual axle with independent torsion suspension for an easy ride. I installed 3/4 inch rubber floor mats for added comfort. Additional features: running lights, a covered exterior spare tire mount, swing-up tongue jack, emergency brake away system, stone guard, electric brakes, interior lights. I added a chain link gate in the middle to protect the more mellow from the more socially aggressive. Four and sometimes five animals can ride comfortably. The trailer is reasonably priced and exhibits quality workmanship. With this trailer I don't have a dressing room or a microwave but the llamas seem to be comfortable and arrive at their destination with style and class in their red trailer.

I sold my old 16' stock trailer and soon will have a 6' x 14' Pace American red trailer of similar design with seven windows, eight tie rings and three ceiling vents. Who knows what will come next!

SCHEDULE OF ENCLOSED TRAILER CHOICES

This is by no means a complete list,
but it should give you a start.

Brand Name	Length	Width	Height	Suspension	GVWR	Brakes	Jack Ram		Price
							Hoist	Number of Axles	
Enclosed Trailers									
Wells Cargo									
Service Wagon	12' to 13.5'	5'	6' 3"	Torflex Rubber Ride	2200#	Optional	Yes	1	1,721 - 2,162
Cycle Wagon	13' to 17'	6'	7' 2"	Torflex Rubber Ride	2990#	Optional	Yes	1	2,476 - 2,868
Tote Wagons	13' to 17'	6'	7' 2"	Torflex Rubber Ride	2990#	Optional	Yes	1	2,214 - 2,606
Tote Wagons	15' to 19'	6'	7' 9"	Torflex Rubber Ride	7700#	4-Wheel Electric	Yes	2	3,430 - 3,926
Cargo Wagon	16' to 18'	7'	7' 10"	Torflex Rubber Ride	3850#	2-Wheel Electric	Yes	1	3,024 - 3,254
Cargo Wagon	16' to 24'	7'	7' 10"	Torflex Rubber Ride	7700#	4-Wheel Electric	Yes	2	3,786 - 4,775
S & H									
Cargo Trailers	8' to 14'	5' to 7'	Unk	Rubber Torsion Axles	Unk	Optional	Unk	1	1787 - 2,963
Cargo Trailers	14'	6'	Unk	Rubber Torsion Axles	Unk	Electric	Unk	2	3,943
Pace Trailers	8' to 12'	5' to 6'	Unk	Rubber Torsion Axles	Unk	Unk	Unk	1	1,726 - 2,366
Pace Trailers	14' UP	6'	Unk	Rubber Torsion Axles	Unk	Unk	Unk	2	3,662
Featherlite									
Cargo Trailers	12'	8'	6' 10"	Unk	2300 #	Brakes	Unk	2	8,400
Cargo Trailers	16'	8'	6' 10"	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk	2	9,400
Eco-Lights by Featherlite									
Utility Trailer	10'	6'	72"	Unk	1400#	No Brakes	Unk	1	2,300
Utility Trailer	16'	7'	72"	Unk	Unk	Brakes	Unk	2	4,100
Cargo Mite									
Cargo Trailer	10'	6'	6'	Unk	1490#	Brakes	Unk	1	2,300
Cargo Trailer	16'	7' 10"	6' 6"	Unk	3490#	Brakes	Unk	2	4,300
TravAlong									
Cargo Trailers	14' to 16'	6' 8"	6' 6"	Lube Torsion Axle	6000#	Lube Axle	Yes	2	Unk
Cargo Gooseneck	14' to 18'	6' 8"	6' 6"	Lube Torsion Axle	3500#	Lube Axle	Yes	2	Unk

Unk = Unknown or not indicated on manufacturer's brochure.

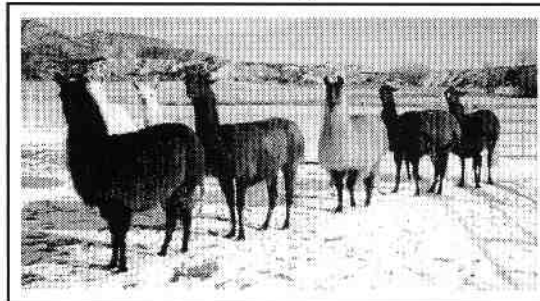
GVWR=Gross Vehicle Weight Rating. Despite the name the term is used for both vehicles and trailers.

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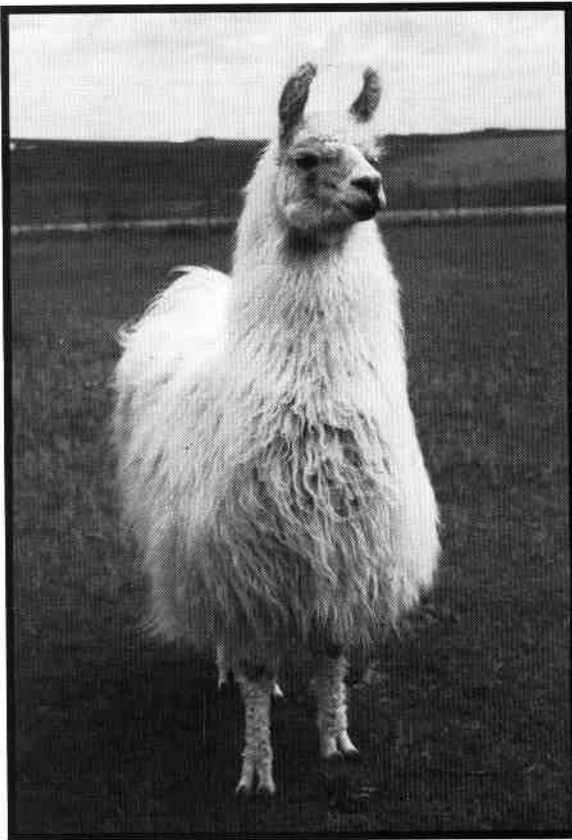
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May, 1997 - RMLA

Hand Shearing

By Sharon Beacham • Pheasant Hill Farm Llamas • 2380 -N. 95th Street • Boulder, CO 80301-4937 • (303)666-9437

This is an update of instructions from an article written in May, 1995. I'm still learning, even after 8 years of shearing experience.

1. The English brand "Burgon and Ball" self-opening, hand held sheep shears is my preference. Five inch long blades work well for a person with average size hands. If your hands are small, you'll find the 3 inch blades more comfortable. Hand shearing can be a quiet, gentle process that produces a very natural looking surface. It's the easiest way to leave an inch or two of fiber on the llama. Learn to sharpen the shears yourself as this might be necessary 2 or 3 times when giving a complete cut. A thin leather glove on your shearing hand will help prevent blisters.

If you need to shear more than a dozen or so animals, electric shears will get the job done quickly. Last summer I purchased Heiniger shears with a 17 tooth mohair comb and 4 point cutter. They're so powerful that they're rather intimidating, but they do an excellent job of cutting and hold their sharpness well.

2. Before shearing, give the llama a thorough surface cleaning with a blower and brush. This should be all that's required. However, if the natural architecture of the fiber — the arrangement of undercoat and guard hair — has been destroyed by brushing to the skin, you might want to clean as deep as the debris is found. Vegetable matter is easier to remove while the fiber is still on the animal. Deep cleaning is best done several days before shearing so the lock structure can re-form and help keep the fleece in one piece. Plan to shear the llama annually and you can promise that it's the last deep cleaning you'll ever subject it to. Keep the blower nozzle far enough away that the fiber fans out rather than cupping in and tangling.

If the coat is matted, don't try to brush it out. Use the blower only to remove as much dust as possible. Dirt dulls shearing blades

quickly. Sweep the floor, or stand the llama on a tarp, to help keep the shorn fiber clean.

3. Think safety and confine the llama according to its degree of cooperation with the shearing process. Ideally, you've worked with it enough that it will stand quietly in a small pen, perhaps distracted by a flake of hay. If it won't settle down, confine it to a chute - don't take chances hurting it or yourself. When the llama has had enough, stop and give it a break. There's no rule that shearing must be done in one session.

4. Start at the front, on the llama's right side, if you're right handed. The first cut is the hardest; just grit your teeth (but keep your eyes open) and do it! According to the style you've chosen, shear from top to bottom, in horizontal rows about one inch wide, from neck or shoulders to rump. You'll work from back to front on the llama's left side.

5. Before making each cut, use your free hand to gauge the distance from the body. This will keep you from cutting the llama. After several rows the weight of the fleece will begin to pull on its skin resulting in a closer cut. To prevent this, have a helper support the fleece or pull it off gently.

6. To produce a relatively smooth surface and reduce the number of second cuts, keep these things in mind: Hold the flat side of the blades parallel to the llama's body at all times (this is also a safety measure). You'll need to change the position of the shears in your hand as you follow the contour from the back bone down under the stomach. Also watch the angle of the shear tips to avoid making "v" shaped cuts. Lift the section of fiber that you intend to cut with your left hand and slide the lower blade of the shears into that section 1 - 1½ inches down from the previous row. Position the upper blade so that it cuts at the intersection of the previous row and the

Hand Shearing, cont.

new section to be cut. If the lower edge of the previous row is uneven, use the upper blade to push those edges out of the way. Don't cut them along with the new row or your fleece will contain second cuts. Yarn spun from fiber with second cuts will be full of noils (lumps).

7. Spread the shorn fleece out, cut side down. If you do this on a frame covered with hardware cloth, gentle shaking will cause some dirt or debris to fall away. Separate neck and leg fiber from the prime areas on the sides. Pull off the weathered strip from the backbone area and any dirty or matted fiber from the stomach area. Discard any mats that can't be pulled apart with your fingers. Pull out guard hairs. Cut off weathered tips if they're brittle enough to break when you pull on them. Don't let cut pieces contaminate the rest of the fleece. Turn the fleece over and remove any second cuts. Keep prime and secondary value fiber separate.

8. Put the shorn fiber into old pillowcases

or large paper bags, never plastic. Label and store with a natural moth repellent, such as cedar blocks or small bags of dried lavender and rosemary, until you're ready to process it. If you're shearing to remove accumulated debris and mats, it's best to discard the fiber — give it to the birds or cut it into small pieces for garden mulch.

9. Blow and brush the llama thoroughly, then trim up any spots you missed. Hold the shears in a vertical position — at right angles to the horizontal rows - when smoothing the surface. Keep the blades parallel to the llama's body. These second cuts can be mixed in with lower quality fiber for felting.

You'll notice an immediate improvement in the llama's attitude now that brushing no longer hurts. In a few weeks, new growth will soften the just-shorn appearance.

10. Record the date and amount of fiber removed each time you shear. This will give you a measure of the llama's fiber growth rate. Consider having a micron analysis done. These figures could become useful in your promotional efforts.



We've found Our Pot of Gold!

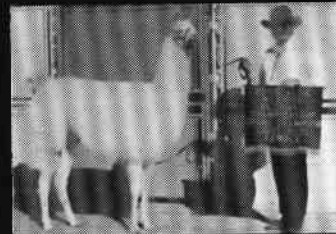
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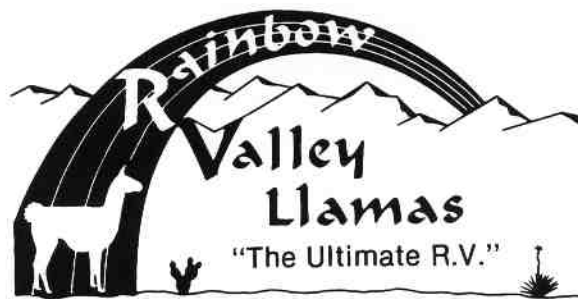
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May, 1997 - RMLA

You don't want to know.....

By Ron Hinds • Serendipity Farm Llamas and Alpacas • 9349 Tammy Lane • Parker, CO 80134-7511 (303)841-4889

My wife and I attended an animal auction in mid-March just a little north of Denver. We were called by Lynley Nichols (Colorado Llama Rescue) and told that an owner of a llama that we sold under consignment was at the auction. Before my wife got off the phone I had the trailer hooked up. We had just sold him less than a month before. It was all a bit confusing when we got there and a few tempers flared, but we did buy the llama back. The llama is Lazy K Conté. He is one very sweet boy.

The reason why Lynley was at the sale was because she was notified there were three llamas at the auction sale. (Lynley has quite a few friends that look out for llamas that need to be rescued.) Bart Anderson, Twin Peaks Llama Farm in Platteville, came to the auction later in the afternoon to help out.

These three remaining llamas were pack animals, gelded, no papers. They had belly sores from pack straps, teeth problems on one and other visible problems. They were all underweight, virtually skin and bones. They had been tied up so they couldn't lay down or eat, and no water to drink.

The technique is a classic according to Lynley, auction people buy these animals and then rotate them at the local auctions to hopefully bring in a few more dollars and to get the public to come to the sale because of the unique animal. They said a pack went with each of them, but it turned out to be a simple white canvas blanket laid over their back with straps.

The auction came and the first two went for about \$250/each to different owners. The third was purchased by Lynley for about the same.

It was very depressing to watch such uncared-for llamas even walk around the sale ring. You would never see anything like that at a llama sale. They were pitiful and we were saddened by the whole event. I heard stories about how the other animals were treated in the show and decided to spend the rest of the time in the pickup waiting for the sale to finish so we could pick up Conté. Lynley said before she left, she would have liked to buy the other two llamas but funds are a problem. She did say she would get

another chance to buy them, probably in two weeks at another local auction. These llamas just move between auctions until Lynley buys them. Lynley works with the llamas getting them back on their feet, eating correctly and the correct feed and bringing up their weight, getting vet care (Tim Thompson, D.V.M.), necessary shots, toenails trimming, etc. Eventually they are placed in the llama community as viable animals ready to spend the rest of their life as productive and well-cared-for animals.

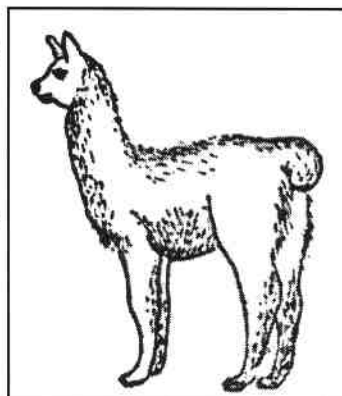
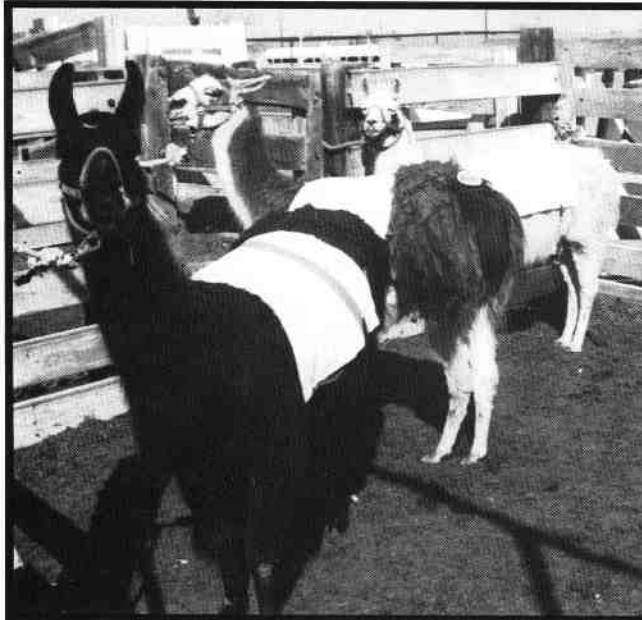
We need to get these animals out of the sale auctions. It doesn't do them any good, or the llama community, to be moved between owners just for the sake of a few dollars.

We all take our animals to local events, schools, day care centers, etc., to show them off, to educate the general public and to hopefully bring in a little

business, maybe? The next time you go, ask for a donation and indicate the money goes to the Colorado Llama Rescue.

CLR is a nonprofit Colorado organization, all donations are tax deductible.

It's a win-win proposition. You win because you've advertized your animals and not taken the money for yourself (a humble gesture), you've taken it as a donation that's tax deductible for the doner and most important, you've helped out Llama Rescue and other lost llamas.



Lynley's Llama stamp. You'll find it on all of her letters.

COLORADO LLAMA RESCUE

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Longmont, CO • 80501 •
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It's a
worthy
cause.....



For the past 2 years the **North-ern Rockies Llama Classic** has been offered to the llama community and will again in September, 1997. But due to computer error (me) 2 entire lists were erased. One was for those who wanted the Classic Sales Catalog and the other was for those who wanted to receive consignment information. If you had requested to be on either list please contact us at: *NRLC c/o Jonathan Blacher, 5255 Jackson Creek Rd, Bozeman, MT 59715 phone (406) 587-8077 - fax(406) 586-5687 email -jonathan@alpinet.net*



Ron & Marie Hinds
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One of the advantages of being disorderly is that one is constantly making exciting discoveries.
A.A. Milne



Photo © James Frank
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On January 2, 1997, the Colorado llama community lost one of its "famous faces." Sandstone (pictured left on the postcard) died with bladder stones. Born to Bobra Goldsmith's herd in 1987, he was owned by two others before I bought him for my fiancé, Jeff, in 1994. At that time he was severely brain damaged as a result of Enterotoxemia. In a few months he was back to normal and willing to do whatever Jeff asked. It will be strange to see the large, dark haired man without the beloved sandstone colored llama of which he was so proud. We will miss you, Sandman!

From: Lynley Nichols • Colorado Llama Rescue • 12925 Linda Vista Dr. • Longmont, CO • (303)684-6443

"Estes Park, Colorado A Great Place With Great People"

by Debbie Ohl • Eagle Creek Llama Ranch • Findlay, Ohio

Reprinted from ORVLA (Ohio River Valley Llama Association) Newsletter-Feb 1996

One of the highlights of our past year was our trip to Estes Park, Colorado. Last June, David and I were there because we were given the opportunity to apprentice judge their great llama show. Along with much concentration and hard work we enjoyed ourselves immensely.

There were many animals entered in the halter classes. We always enjoy looking at llamas and seeing how proud their owners are of them. It was great! This fulfilled our need for the time being of being llama-less ourselves. This was the first time in years that we went someplace without our own llamas to do something with.

The obstacle course had been carefully planned, and we are now seeing some of these same details on our courses in Ohio. Some of the llamas on these courses had definitely seen the real obstacles on the trail before they did in the show ring. The pack class in mountainous Colorado had participants (human and llama) who had spend many hours, days, weeks and more on the trail in real life. I enjoyed seeing the interaction between handler and llama.

We have beautiful locations here in Ohio, and enjoy the lovely scenery on our many trips to our southern states, however, there is a reason that Colorado is know as "God's Country". We have never really witnessed anything quite as breathtaking as the settings at Estes Park, nestled in the colorful (notice the word "color" in the name Colorado) countryside.

When visiting Colorado, be prepared for the weather in order to fully enjoy your visit. We experienced being intensely hot from the heat, freezing to death because of the coldness, wind, rain, hail, and getting sun burnt - all in the same day! Now we know why the answer to our question on the type of apparel to bring was "everything - you never know about the weather out here". David and I were in awe, but loved every minute of it. Whatever kind of weather you have a preference for you will find it in Colorado.

The best part of our visit was the incredible, marvelous, and remarkable people. There were many llama people who we had met before on our travels. We now had the opportunity to see them in their environment. We had developed close relationship with some of the people over the phone because of our having llamas in common. What a treat to finally meet them in person! David & I can hardly wait to visit again to get to know more of the super llama people.

The exhibitors at Estes Park Llama Show were mostly from Colorado, but also from southern and western states - a good cross hatch to represent the people from the west. When you hear the phrases, "Llama people are so nice", "Llama people are great", "Llamas bring out the best in people" - think of these people. They all helped each other, were concerned for each other's animals, and kept competition in the show ring, where it belonged (sounds like Ohio!). These people were very competitive in the ring yet retained their genuine caring nature when not in the show ring. A good example for all of us who participate in showing and exhibiting to continue to follow.

If you are planning a trip next year and want to see a well organized llama show, Estes Park should be a consideration for your destination. The llama show is at the same time as the Wool Market so there is much to see and do. The alpaca conference coincides; there are vendors, demonstrations and forums to enroll in, and much more. All of this surrounded by great people and gorgeous scenery.

Perhaps David & I will see you there
Debbie Ohl, Eagle Creek Llama, Findlay, Ohio

This year's Estes Park Wool Market Llama (and Alpaca) events will be held on June 6th through the 8th. RMLA and ALSA will be there, hope to see you there too. Oh yes, and thanks Debbie for great review! ed.



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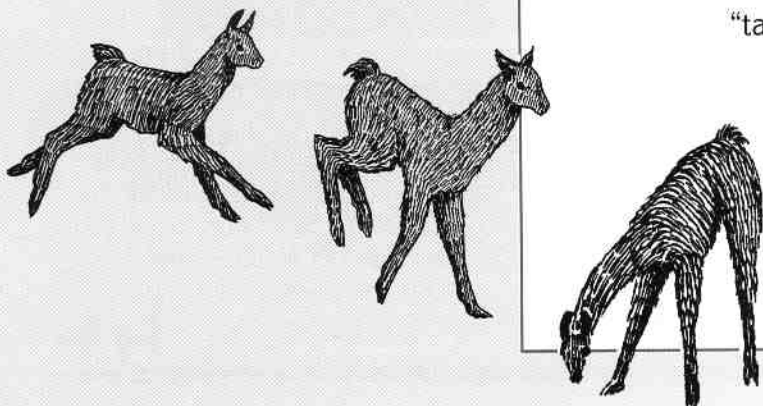
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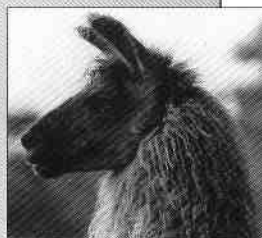
PHF Solomon's Seal (aka Burrito - King Solomon x PHF April)

Burrito is the foundation of Pheasant Hill Farm's breeding program. 16 of his 23 crias are appaloosas. All have his straight, heavy legs, calm disposition and fine, dense fiber. In '95 - '96, his offspring accumulated 6 Grand and 3 Reserve Grand Championships. Fee: \$500*



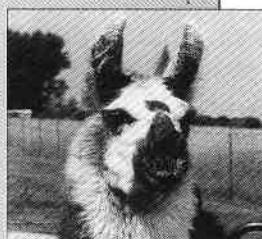
Peruvian Picacho (1993 Peruvian Import)

Picacho has heavy bone, perfect balance, a sweet, intelligent nature and beautiful dark red fiber. We purchased him, in partnership with Bob Riley, to add genetic diversity and quality to our herds. The results have exceeded our expectations. His 30 crias are all an improvement over their dams. Fee: \$1500



Cadfael (*El Fuerte x *Cantilena)

Cadfael is Pheasant Hill Farm's junior Peruvian herdsire, purchased from Kay Patterson-Sharpnack. She's described his sire, El Fuerte, as the best stud she's ever owned. We expect to say the same of Cadfael. His heavy bone, gentle disposition, gold fiber and long, elegant neck will combine well with our Burrito and Picacho daughters. His first 6 crias are due this fall. Fee: \$1,000*



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SOPRIS PACK SYSTEMS

The invention of the Sopris Pack Saddle in 1982 marked the beginning of Mt. Sopris Llamas Unltd. It was designed by the brilliant Francis (Uncle Tant) Benson and myself, Charlie Hackbarth, (whose keen eyesight, steady hand, and perpetual, eternal, everlasting patience seemed to compliment Tant's brilliance). Some of you who have had the pleasure of meeting Uncle Tant will be glad to know that at 95 years old he is not only still brilliant but was recently voted 1997 Valentine King Lover at the nursing home where he resides in Iowa. I don't know exactly what that means but I do know that, at fifty I am half blind, I shake like a dog passing peach seeds, my patience has run out and....let's see, where was I.... Oh yeah, on Valentines Day I can't even remember to pick up flowers.

I have, however, taken good notes on what I have learned about llamas and llama packing since 1982. I have continually updated and refined the original Sopris Pack System to where there is no doubt in my mind, that it is the most functional, comfortable and convenient llama pack on the market. It is recommended by Commercial outfitters and recreational packers across the U.S. It has been tested on many long distance treks, most notably Peter Illyn's 1,000 mile Pacific Crest Trail hike and Cindy Ross's 470 mile Colorado Trail hike.

The SOPRIS SADDLE is hand crafted of White Ash, brass, and leather. Five slats which form each side are riveted to flexible brass straps and attached to two saddle horns. The saddle arches over the llamas spine resting on the llamas back muscles and upper ribs to support the load being carried. No matter how heavy the load is, the arch will always clear the llamas spine. Slat ends are rounded and turn away from the llama to prevent digging and bruising. These slats are also bent to conform to the curve of the llamas back to provide an excellent fit. The unique Sopris designed SPLIT PAD, velcros to the bottom of the saddle, making saddle and pad one unit. Our Split Pad concept provides ventilation and does away with pad pressure on the spine. With the addition of two small velcroed pads, a llama with a severe curve in his back can easily be custom fit.

In 1993, after deciding to design a pack to compete with the inexpensive soft packs on the market, my first challenge was to resolve the problems associated with soft saddles, namely support and spinal clearance. I came up with a semi-flexible saddle design I call the SOPRIS LUMBAR. Basically the design consists of two cylinders made of Cordura® nylon material. The cylinders are lined on the inside with closed cell foam, and then stuffed tightly with lama or sheep wool. Like the Sopris Saddle design, the load rests on and is supported by, the back muscles and upper ribs rather than just being draped across the llamas back. Although not as versatile as the Sopris Saddle, the Sopris Lumbar Saddle will carry heavy loads comfortably, and is highly praised by commercial outfitters and recreational packers across the U.S.

The SOPRIS CHEST STRAP AND BREECHING is designed to ansure the saddle stay in place when going up or down steep inclines while carrying heavy loads. The straps also help to stabilize any side to side movement of the load. They are interchangeable with either saddle. The BREECHING also works well as a training harness.

SOPRIS PANNIERS designed for these two Sopris saddles are interchangeable. For overnight packing you can choose our STANDARD one compartment panniers or our DELUXE panniers which have a main compartment plus two additional pockets on each pannier for easy access to water and other items. Both designs feature Sopris designed PANNIER STABILIZING STRAPS which hold the panniers down through jumps, and the LASH\ COMPRESSSION STRAPS, which compress and pull bulky panniers in close to the llamas center of gravity, helping to create the ideal load.

To complete our over night SOPRIS PACK SYSTEMS we offer a light weight SOPRIS RAINCOVER which attaches quickly and easily to the panniers to keep your top load dry. The SOPRIS RAINCOVER doubles as a raincoat for your llama. Straps for this use are stored in a convenient zippered pocket.

For those who don't do overnight packing but enjoy taking their llamas on day hike picnics, obstacle course competitions, parades etc., the smaller SOPRIS DAY PANNIERS would be a good choice. Our Day Panniers can be used with the Sopris saddle or the Sopris Lumbar saddle.

The SOPRIS ROOKIE PACK SYSTEM is a scaled down version of The Sopris Lumbar System. It comes complete with two cinches, chest strap and breeching, and a small set of panniers. This system was designed to fill the need for a comfortable basic training and trail training pack for llamas, but also works well on alpacas and small adult llamas who can't wear a full sized llama pack. It can also be used to train full sized adult llamas, or for use as a day pack, obstacle course pack, or a parade pack.

Other Sopris designed products include our popular Halter, Picket Lines, Picket Stake Bags, Bungie Link, Bungie Pack String Loop, Grain Bag with collapsible Pans, Hay Feed Bag, Cria Warming Shawl, and Riding Pad for the Sopris Saddle.

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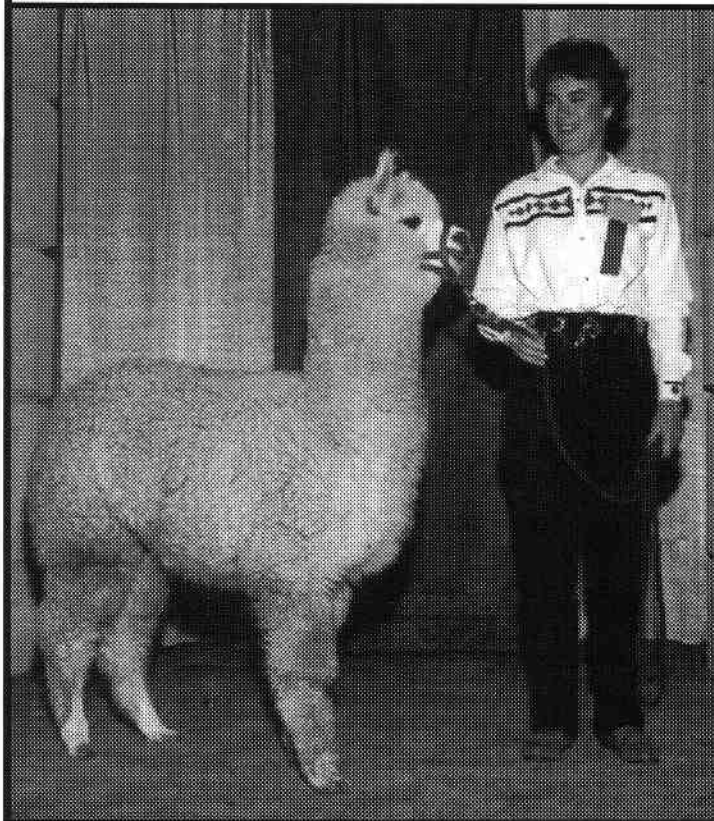
This is the third in a series of articles on llama packing systems. You're welcome to send in your article about your pack system. Limit it to 400 words, drawings are ok, but no photos, please. Editor reserves the right to edit articles for content and length.

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Missing a Llama? Here's some ideas...

By Ron Baird • Plum Valley Llamas • 2210 Pine Wood Road • Sedalia, CO 80135 • (303)688-5445

Several months ago, we had a horrifying experience when one of our juvenile (eight months old) llamas disappeared. We discovered others have had llama thefts, right out of the pasture. The circumstances surrounding "Boy's" disappearance caused our Sheriff and the Brand Inspection Division of the State of Colorado to think that he had been stolen. We found ourselves very unprepared for attempting to recover Boy and wished we had done a few things differently. Some of the things that we learned during this episode ought to be routine herd management; we are making them part of ours.

I had gone down to our lower pasturage to do the nightly check and feeding. Three pregnant females and Boy's yearling male companion, Pisco, were in their respective pastures; but not Boy. I put food out, but Boy did not appear. It began to snow. I walked all the fence lines to check their security and crawled through all the oak patches to determine if he was entangled. The small gate to the males' pasture was not fastened in the usual way. Boy was gone.

I drove the roads looking for the llama. When I came back to our house, I asked Lougene if she had sold Boy while I was out of town, as he was gone. We immediately started calling neighbors; one had seen the five llamas around noon. Another said that at 2 p.m. she had driven past the pastures and made her usual observance: three females in one pasture and two boys in another. But, she also had seen an unknown woman standing near the small gate to the boys' pasture. By now, it was nearly 7 o'clock and a spring blizzard was in full force.

We called the Sheriff to ascertain whether he had any reports of a loose llama. There was none, but a Deputy took a detailed report due to the suspicious circumstances gate & a strange woman. We drove to some friends' who have llamas; Boy was not there. We drove every road in our area, looking for tracks crossing the road (lots of rabbits, elk,

deer, dogs, coyotes, foxes; no llama). We rechecked our upper pastures, where most of the females and where Boy's girlfriend were. No Boy.

About 10 p.m., the storm ceased and a full moon came out. We re-drove the roads and re-checked all the pastures. We walked the fence lines looking for tracks. Perhaps he was on the outside, trying to get in. Again, lots of rabbits, coyotes, dogs, and some deer prints. Lougene re-walked the perimeters about 1 a.m. with the same results.

The next morning, another neighbor reported he had seen a "strange" car slowing down and watching the boys. The Sheriff reconfirmed his department had no reports of a loose llama. He suggested we contact the Highway Patrol and the Brand Inspector and report the animal as a suspected theft.

The Highway Patrol (at least in Colorado) does not routinely look for stolen livestock unless a vehicle has already been stopped for another reason. Ports of Entry only require that you stop if you are a "commercial livestock hauler" small livestock trailers are not considered commercial and a thief is not going to stop.

The Brand Inspection Division expressed its belief the llama was stolen and suggested we get him detailed information. There are 28 states that have inspection offices and jointly maintain a list of stolen livestock. Colored pictures, identification details such as microchip information, and other information about a stolen animal are sent twice daily to all network members. Each state then communicates this information to sales barns. We considered it fortunate that Boy was double microchipped.

We began preparing such a package. Lougene talked to Bruce Ellis, who volunteered to put the information immediately on an internet page. I inspected every tall tree within a half mile, on the chance a lion had killed Boy and stashed him for a future meal. I drove the paved road 10 miles in

each direction. Post Office and U.P.S. carriers volunteered to look for Boy as they plied their routes through our valley. We began calling llama friends in the immediate vicinity to tell them of the possible theft and ask them to network with others in their area.

We talked to llama auction managers that we knew would be coming up in the next few months. Most were very helpful: if we would get them an information package, they would watch for and closely check out animals meeting the description. The meat auctions would be another problem. We formulated a plan to circulate the descriptive information to veterinarians. Some day, somewhere, every llama needs medical attention - you can hope vets might remember the information. The local Post Office and school district agreed to let us put up "wanted" posters about Boy, in hopes that if he were in someone's back yard we would learn of it.

I called the I.L.R. to see how it could do to help. The answer we learned, unfortunately, is that the I.L.R. really is not in a position to help if an animal is stolen. While two pictures are required to be filed with every registry application, it is not possible for the I.L.R. to screen each application against those already on file. If a thief wants to register a stolen animal, it can be done. He could provide two pictures and use the name of his own sire and a dam that did not have a cria within the time period of the stolen animal's birth. Blood typing could disqualify the indicated parents but is not required unless the parentage is called into question for some other reason.

A tracking organization used by a local police department, offered to send dogs the next morning to follow a trail - whether it be into the bush or a dead end where a van or trailer had been parked. Some hair or piece of equipment (like a halter) used exclusively by the missing llama was necessary to establish a unique scent. We found a show halter that only Boy had worn and hoped it would work. We walked the fence lines and drove the roads again.

On the third morning, Lougene noticed

our herd sire in a very agitated state. Three dogs were chasing crias in the adjacent pasture. We took care of the dogs and Lougene went down the road to follow one. A jogger told Lougene she had seen a llama run through her acreage two days previously, chased by a pack of dogs! We were elated, Boy might still be alive! The trackers were called; they said they would be up despite the outlook being for snow.

We halted Pisco, grabbed Boy's halter, and went to the neighbor's house about two miles away. When we arrived, she pointed up the hill to a neighboring ranch where she had seen the llama run. The hills, thick with scrub, were covered with patches of snow and ideal camouflage for a black, white, and brown llama. Walking from small meadow to small meadow and looking for any kinds of tracks, Pisco eventually stopped and gave out that unique hum of welcome to a friend.

Boy stepped from behind a thicket of scrub and snow just 25 feet away and came to his friend, Pisco.

Badly spooked and missing tufts of hair where a pack of dogs had bit at him, Boy had been held at bay for 2 1/2 days. High on a hill 2 1/2 miles away, Boy could see his home and his llama friends - but could not return because of the pack of dogs. Boy nervously followed us a long way to a fenced area where we could put a halter on him. I think he might have been happy to have been found, as he not only followed on a loose lead but walked on my heels all the way home. We put him in our weanling pasture with his buddy so we could keep an eye on him for a week or so before turning him back out. Other than an overriding fear of dogs, he is now none the worse for wear. Case closed, except for continued dog removal.

Lessons we learned and that every llama owner should be prepared for - whether it turns out to be a chase off or a theft:

- First Guide: from a very early age, walk your llamas on every

Continued.....



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road in your area - they will become used to the way to the mother herd and be better equipped to find their way home if they get out of their pastures.

- Second Guide: padlock all outside gates with locks using a common key for your convenience.
- Third Guide: have a complete identification package on each of your animals: *recent* color pictures and *complete* identification data such as: recent weight, height and as the type of microchip (Destron appears to be the most widely understood by the readers the traditional livestock industries use) or the location of tattoos and their numbers and letters.
- Fourth Guide: have a plan of quickly disseminating information throughout the local llama, neighborhood, and vet communities-schools, Post Offices, and newspapers are all good locations for posting information.
- Fifth Guide: clip some hair from each llama, store in an air proof bag, label and put in a safe place it. Hope you never have to open it.

- Sixth Guide: Be prepared to contact llama and livestock auctions within several days drive with information packages. Use national publications to advertise the loss.
- Seventh Guide: **Tolerate no dogs** bothering your llamas - in many areas such as ours, dogs on your property can be shot if they are menacing your llamas. Always check with your local law enforcement agency before going to this extreme. Neighbors should know llamas are your business - their destruction or loss is as if you wiped out your neighbor's business.

A big thank you goes out to Deputy John Cameron of the Palmer Lake (Colorado) Police Department and his German Shepherd, Amanda and Ms. Janice Armstrong and her Tracking dog, Whitney. Both the persons and these dogs were willing to help us find our Boy, and are affiliated with the Search Dog Network, located in the Monument, Colorado area. It always is helpful to know people who are so willing to help the public this way!!



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25 lbs., \$29; 50 lbs., \$55; 200 lbs., \$198

NATIONAL FIBER POOL UPDATE

The RMLA Fiber Pool is a step towards the formation of a National Pool. This regional pool is ready to accept your shorn llama and alpaca fleeces any time in June, before the July 1st deadline. The fiber will be sorted by color and quality and shipped to The Taos Valley Wool Mill in July. They have recently installed new 2 ply worsted yarn equipment and sent a very nice sample of the llama it produces. In October, you'll receive your percentage of the yarn to sell, for at least \$5.00 an ounce, or use for Christmas projects.

At this point, we're not able to buy fleeces. We estimate that it will cost \$18.00 for each pound to wash, card, comb, and spin the fiber into yarn. Fiber pool expenses for phone, postage and shipping are included in this cost. Please include your check, made out to RMLA, for \$18.00 for each pound of fiber you send.

Your fiber must be CLEAN, well skirted, with weathered tips and guard hairs removed, if present. If it's more than 6 inches long, you'll need to cut it into 3 to 4 inch lengths. With the volume of fiber expected, our crew of 3 volunteers won't be able to do this preparation work for you.

Please see your November, 1996 RMLA Journal, page 49, for an article on producing quality fleeces. The February, 1997 Journal includes a fiber grading article and worksheet on pages 46 and 47.

Information on shearing and preparation of fleeces for the Fiber Pool is on page 33 of this issue of the Journal.

Send fleeces to:

Sharon Beacham, 2380 - 95TH Street, Boulder,
Colorado 80301-4937

or
Karen Kinyon, 2933 East Mulberry, Fort
Collins, Colorado 80524



RMLA Membership

By Judy Sealy, Membership Chair • Grand Valley Llamas • 593 3/4 Road • Grand Junction, CO 81503 • (970)241-7921

The RMLA Membership Committee is the place where all questions about RMLA are directed. Last year, the RMLA web site (<http://www.llama.org/rmla>) was initiated and since then, lama folks from all over the United States have shown interest in our organization.

A packet containing a copy of the Special Edition of the RMLA Journal is forwarded to each person inquiring about our organization. The Journal contains a membership form and information about an RMLA publication,



Judy Sealy, Membership Chair. Shown here with her llama, Tiara. Judy lives in Grand Junction, CO.

“Caring For Llamas and Alpacas”. Also included in the packet are the Service Directory and “LLAMAS”, an information brochure by RMLA. After joining, the new member then receives a welcome letter, complete library list of books and videos available to borrow, and a copy of the **Membership Directory** along with the current Journal and Journals for the remainder of the membership year.

One of the special tasks for the committee each year is the compilation and production of the Membership and the Service Directory.

Directory. Peter Nichols suggested the idea and designed the original issue which has become known as the RMLA Yellow Pages. The Directory has grown over the years from simple listings to now include business cards and email/web site information. The Service Directory is included with each purchase of “Caring For Llamas and Alpacas”, as well as those seeking general information. This year a new milestone in marketing will be reached. The directory will be mailed to 2,300 lama owners in the Rocky Mountain states who are not currently members of RMLA.

Erma Hast has just completed her 13th year as “Manager of Information” for the **Service**



Jo Riley, Lyons, CO, is in charge of production for the Service and Membership Directories.

Jo Riley is in charge of production for the **Membership Directory** and the **Service Directory**. Once compiled, all information is sent to Jo. Many hours are spent in typesetting, makeup and design. Once together, each Directory must be proofed for accuracy. Jo tries to incorporate other information on RMLA events into the directories to make them useful to each member.



Erma Hast, Montrose, CO, has organized the information for the Service Directory for 13 years.

In 1995, RMLA’s membership exceeded 500 and since then we have continued a strong growth trend. Twenty four states and Italy were represented in the 1997 Membership campaign with inquiries answered daily from all over the country.

RMLA established a Life Membership in 1996 with Betty Robertson being the first Life Member. Today, RMLA has seventeen Life Members.

Just for Kids! (.....and a few adults, too)

by Ron Hinds • Serendipity Farm • 9349 Tammy Lane • Parker, CO • 80134-7511

F I N D T H E W O R D S

A	M	U	M	B	I	L	I	C	A	L	G	I	L	B	P
L	A	M	A	A	N	J	Q	H	T	R	R	R	E	T	Y
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C	R	I	M	P	B	U	O	N	F	I	G	U	A	R	D
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ALPACA
BOLIVIAN
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LLAMA
MACHO
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NEONATE
PACK
PASTURE
PERU
RMLA
UMBILICAL
VICUNA

ETHICS - A SMALL WORD WITH HIGH IDEALS

By Gail Segreto • High Hopes Llamas • P.O. Box 506 • Elizabeth, CO 80107 • (303)646-0989

People have varying ideas on what is essential and where the limits of ethical standards become personal preference rather than public responsibility. We wish to invite you to express your ideas on ethics as they relate to llamas. We believe that by sharing our ideas we can raise everyone's consciousness of our responsibilities to these wonderful animals and to each other.

There are ethics as related to breeding and to selling and to just about every aspect of llamas. We have chosen to use this opportunity to share our ideas of ethics for all llama owners and caretakers. The laws of nature, providence, survival of the fittest. . . that is what determines the fate of animals in the wild. But when we keep an animal in captivity we determine his or her fate. We place ourselves in a position of responsibility to provide for their well being.

We have the responsibility to provide adequate feed.

- recognize that pasture grazing alone may not be sufficient
- supplement with minerals and salt
- supplement with grain in severe weather and for youngsters and moms
- supply clean, fresh, unfrozen water

We have the responsibility to provide shelter.

- protection from the wind - at least
- a basic 3-sided shelter is adequate
- a shelter that insures a dry place for hay and minerals
- it provides shade during hot months
- provide facilities for birthing moms in adverse weather conditions

We have the responsibility to provide protection from unnecessary hazards.

- remove barbed wire, broken glass, scrap wood with nails from llama pastures and pens

- have proper fitting halters that are used as needed, not as a permanent fixture
- have adequate fencing, depending on your environment

We have the responsibility to provide routine health care.

- seasonal worming or steps to prevent parasites
- annual shots for C&D/tetanus and/or other vaccinations.
- well trimmed toenails, removed fighting teeth
- shear heavy wooled animals in warm climate
- gelding
- have a basic reference guide (such as "Caring for Llamas and Alpacas")
- find a vet **before** you need one

We have the responsibility to observe and learn what is normal for our animals. We can help these silent and stoic creatures so much more effectively if we can identify unusual behavior early. Taking the time to know your animals will benefit their health and, as a bonus, it will benefit you on levels too deep to describe here.

I also believe we have the responsibility to socialize (train) our animals so that they can be caught and handled. Without this component, health care is difficult and often bypassed. There are many approaches to training. Most include the belief that your respect will earn their trust.

Respect - the word that sums up the ideas of why we should even be concerned with ethics.

To some of you these ideas may seem like common sense and others may be reject some of my points. Please contribute your thoughts for all of our benefit.

Gail Segreto along with her husband Stanton (Stan) Lacher are llama caretakers in the little community of Elizabeth, SE of Denver. They are also associate editors of the Journal.



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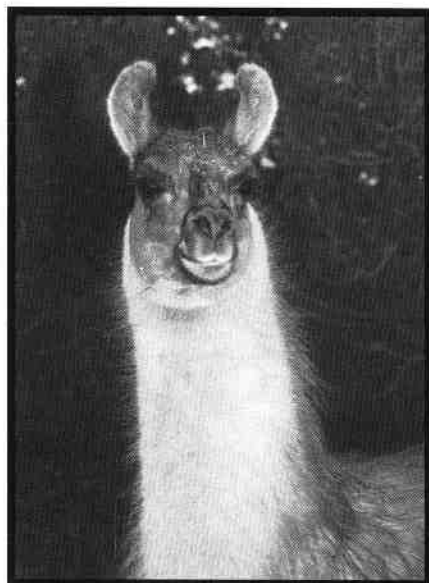
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VISITORS WELCOME, CALL FOR DIRECTIONS

THE LLAMAS ARE ON THE RUN AGAIN!

By Roger Miller • Escarpment Llamas • P.O. Box 17658 • Colorado Springs, CO 80935 • (719) 749-0119

With the ice and snow melting from the house and barn yard and the recovery from cabin fever, we start looking forward to those summer outings with our llamas. So, I guess it is time to remind everyone of the RMLA's 15th annual Fairplay Llama Race that will be held during the 49th annual World Championship Pack Burro Race at Fairplay, CO. The Llama Race will be held on the 26th of July and the Pack Burro Race on July 27, 1997. The race will be approximately 3 miles in length, through South Park City, down Front Street in Fairplay, crossing the South Plate River several times, over and through man-made and natural obstacles.

Consider this is your invitation to attend the Fairplay Llama race at Fairplay, CO.

If you have never joined in with the race and the town's celebration, give yourself a treat. If you have been to the race before, come on out and get some high altitude fresh air, exercise, and meet with some old friends and find out what's new. Bring plenty of llamas, and we will make every attempt at locating a runner/walker to help your animals get back into shape. Who knows, after you get there and get pulled into the excitement of the moment, we may find a race number for you. As they say of Christmas, this comes but once a year and you can pay for it throughout the year.

The llama people camp ground will be open Friday and marked with camp signs starting just west of the park as you drive west on State Highway 9 (Main Street), then simply follow the signs. The town of Fairplay has again arranged with the Forest Service to provide a llama camp ground approximately 5 miles northwest of Fairplay with port-a-potties, trash facilities, and beverages for Friday night. There will be plenty of grazing and companionship for llamas and camp fire talk for the rest of us.

The Llama race starting time is at 11:00 a.m., late registration will be held starting at 9:00 a.m., pack weigh-in will start as soon as the racers have registered and received their race numbers.

The first heat will be the Pro and Amateur pack racers, followed about 15 minutes later by the walkers. Shortly after the last racer /walker has crossed the finish line and while the results are being tabulated the Llama Lunacy for the children will begin. Again, we invite everyone to bring your children and/or your PR llamas to participate. This is the best part of the day, after you have run the race, simply sit back and enjoy the craziness, the energy, and the joy of youth.

Watch children that have never handled a llama or gone through an obstacle course demonstrate their abilities and the ease of handling llamas.

**Fairplay, Colorado
July 26th, 1997
BE THERE!**

We will attach a Fairplay Llama race form to the RMLA Journal: pull out the registration form, complete it, and mail it back. The Amateur pack division will be broken down into Male and Female with six age divisions (to 19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, and 60 and above), then Open Walk which will be timed for those that are interested in those things. There will be premiums for the PRO division - 1 st place -\$50, 2nd place - \$25, 3rd place - \$15, there will be ribbons for the 1st through 3rd positions in gender and prizes donated by the community's businesses for the top amateur winners. Ribbons will be handed out for the first 10 walkers crossing the finish line. Also, ribbons will be handed out to the children participating in Llama Lunacy.

Fairplay welcomes you to spend Saturday night in the camp ground and participate with your llamas in the Burro Day celebration on Sunday including the parade at 11:00a.m., just after the starting gun for the Burro race.

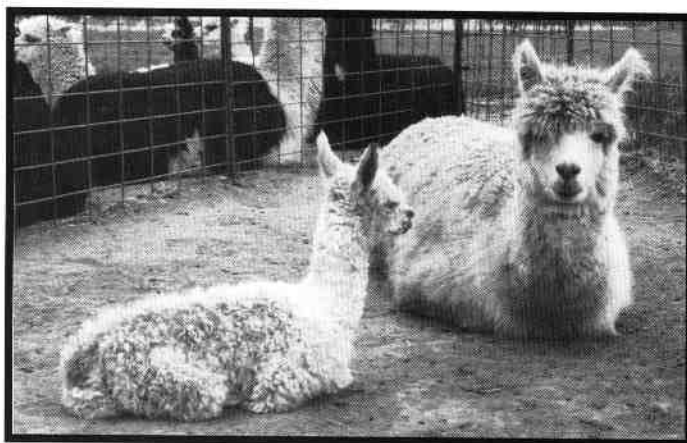
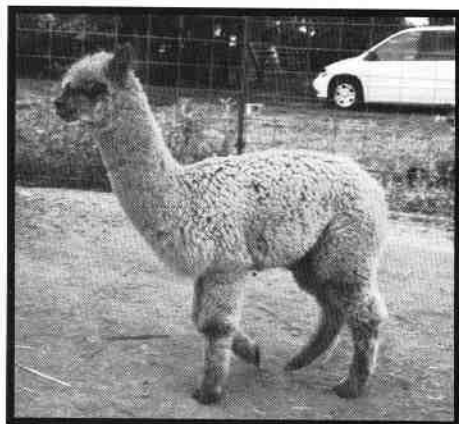
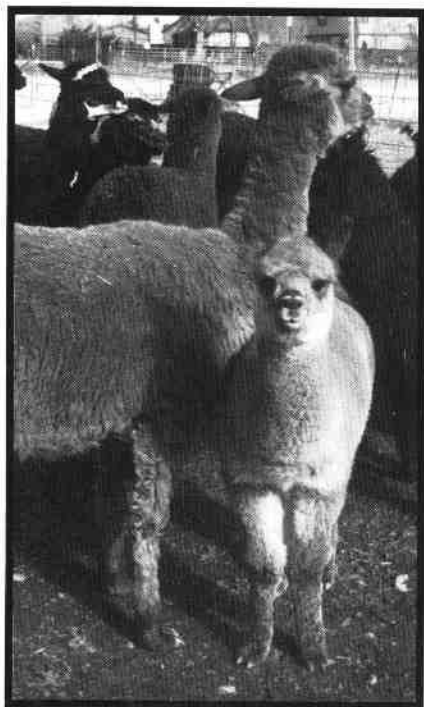
Race entry form is attached.





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HAY ANALYSIS

By Bob Hance • Hance Ranch • 1818 W. 52nd Ave. • Wheat Ridge, CO • 80033-2032 • (303)422-4681

In the May 1996 RMLA Journal, I wrote an article about "Hay Selection". In that article, I mentioned "Hay Analysis". An analysis of the nutrients in your hay is helpful if not vital. Most of the vets advocate knowing what you are feeding, and the only way to know for sure is to have your hay tested. This can mean a bit of work, if you have purchased hay from different sources or at different times even from the same source. The testing starts with using a "forage core sampler". This resembles a round key hole saw about 1 inch in diameter and about 18" long, drilled into 8 random hay bales with a "Brace and Bit" or an electric drill or one that is battery powered. The cut samples from all 8 bales are placed into a plastic sandwich bag, labeled with a description of from where or from whom it came, for example: "Bill's upper field 1st cut grass" or you can just put "Sample 1" etc., and keep the other information yourself. Then send or carry your samples to the lab. The most important test is "TDN (Total Digestible Nutrients) or RFV (Relative Food Value)" this will give you the percentage of nutrition in the hay sampled. Some labs may give you either of these and some may give you both. Next in importance may be "Percentage of Protein". Camelids usually do not need as much protein as other livestock, and this can help you decide about feeding other rations such as grain, etc. Figure #1 & #2 Sample of Tests. Nitrates are very important to understand, because they are not assimilated and can build

up to a toxic level. As I understand, plants create nitrates themselves in stressful situations such as too much or too little water. "Nitrate Fertilizers" may have some effect on the nitrate levels in the analysis. Labs may analyze nitrates differently, make sure you understand the safe levels. The labs each have a selection of tests, and the prices vary from lab to lab. The basic test at most labs includes: moisture, crude fiber, crude protein, and TDN. Additional tests may or may not be included in the basic test price. Figure #3 Price List Sample. Based on studies done by Murray Fowler, DVM and Larue Johnson, DVM, alpacas and llamas need 1-2% of body weight per day, of

	DRY MATTER BASIS	AS RECEIVED BASIS
MOSTURE %	0.0	8.9
CRUDE PROTEIN %	16.4	14.9
CRUDE FIBER %	26.5	24.2
NITRATE %	0.07	0.06
ACID DET. FIBER %	31.8	29.0
NEUTRAL DET. FIBER %	64.8	59.0
RELATIVE FEED VALUE	92.1	83.8
TDN %	63.0	57.3
NE M MCAL/KG	1.36	1.24
NE G MCAL/KG	0.76	0.69
NE L MCAL/KG	1.42	1.29

FIGURE 2

dry matter (hay or forage) for a maintenance diet. Working, growing, pregnant or lactating animals need more. David Pugh, DVM, recommends the 1% to 2% forage should contain: TDN=55%, crude protein=8%-10%, crude fiber=25%, calcium=0.6%-0.8%, phosphorus=0.3%-0.5%. You may need to know the selenium content for your area. Following is a list of testing laboratories:

	DRY MATTER BASIS	AS RECEIVED BASIS
MOSTURE %	0.0	8.9
CRUDE PROTEIN %	4.4	4.0
CRUDE FIBER %	42.5	38.7
NITRATE %	0.09	0.08
ACID DET. FIBER %	52.8	48.1
NEUTRAL DET. FIBER %	79.2	72.2
RELATIVE FEED VALUE	56.1	51.1
TDN %	50.6	46.1
NE M MCAL/KG	1.09	0.99
NE G MCAL/KG	0.32	0.29
NE L MCAL/KG	1.13	1.03

FIGURE 1

1. Colorado Analytical Lab., 240 S. Main St. Brighton CO 80601, mailing address: PO Drawer 507, Brighton CO 80601, phone 303-659-2313

2. Northeast DHIA Forage Lab., 730 Warren RD., Ithaca, NY 14850, phone 607-257-1272.

Continued.....

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& KIDS!



**MCF SNOWY
MOUNTAIN MAN**



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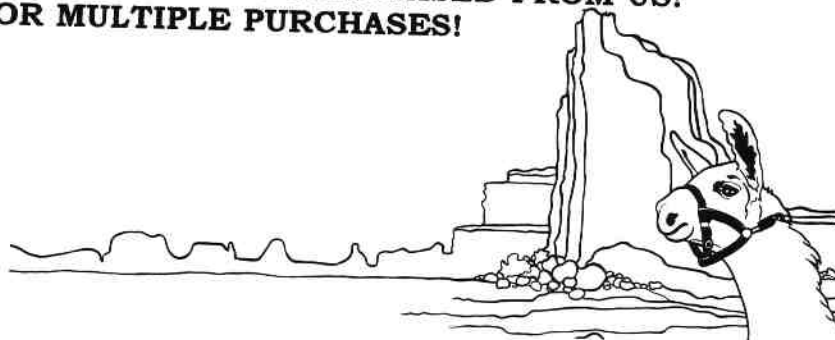
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3. Accutest Forage Lab., 416 Linden St.,
Ft. Collins, CO 80524, phone 970-482-1662

(Triple S Lab, mentioned in the May '96 issue, is no longer in business.)

Most of the labs will have a core sample tool that they will loan you to use. The forage sample tool is sold at NASCO - phone 1-800-558-9595, ask for "Farm & Ranch Catalog".



Notes: (From Colorado Analytical Laboratory)

It is important to take a representative sample when obtaining samples. In order to obtain quality results we strongly recommend using a core sampler on forages. Typically one-half pound of sample is needed (1/4 pound for forages) and should be placed in a sealed plastic bag that is clearly marked.

Animal Feedstuffs	Feed Test Packages
Moisture \$4.00	#1 Proximate \$19.00 (Appropriate for rations or other grain based mixtures.)
Crude Fat \$5.00	Moisture Crude Fat Ash Protein Fiber
Acid Detergent Fiber \$5.00	#2 Relative Feed Value \$15.00 (Appropriate for alfalfa, grass hay and silages.)
Neutral Detergent Fiber \$5.00	Moisture TDN
Crude Protein \$5.00	Crude Protein NDF
Relative Feed Value \$15.00	Acid Detergent Fiber Net Energy (NEg, NEI, NEm)
Pepsin Digestible Protein \$19.00	#3 Proximate with Minerals \$59.00 (Appropriate for rations or other grain based mixtures.)
Heat Damaged Protein \$8.00	Moisture Copper Manganese
Ash \$5.00	Crude Protein Calcium Sulfur
Nitrate \$6.00	Crude Fat Magnesium Zinc
Nitrite \$6.00	Acid Detergent Fiber Potassium
Lignin \$7.00	Net Energy (NEg, NEI, NEm) Phosphorus
Total Nitrogen \$10.00	Ash Sodium
Non Protein Nitrogen \$9.00	TDN Iron
Salt \$5.00	#4 Ration \$19.00 (Appropriate for feedlot ration.)
Total Sugars (Liquids) \$25.00	Moisture Calcium
Acid Hydrolysis Fat (Liquids) \$10.00	Crude Protein Phosphorus
Aflatoxins (Mini Column) \$25.00	Crude Fiber
Calcium \$7.00	#5 Moisture Protein \$9.00
Phosphorus \$7.00	#6 Moisture Nitrate \$10.00
Magnesium \$7.00	#7 Moisture Starch Availability \$15.00 (Includes Protein)
Sodium \$7.00	
Sulfur \$7.00	
Copper \$7.00	
Iron \$7.00	
Manganese \$7.00	
Zinc \$7.00	
Molybdenum \$7.00	
Cobalt \$7.00	
Arsenic \$12.00	
Lead \$10.00	
Cadmium \$7.00	
Mercury \$12.00	
Selenium \$12.00	
Aluminum \$8.00	
Prussic Acid \$6.00	

*All analysis are conducted by wet chemistry. Metals are done by atomic absorption.

This information is from Colorado Analytical Laboratory. Dated: Dec. 1996

FIGURE 3

Conversions:	
ppm = parts per million	% x 10,000.0 = ppm
ppm x 0.0001 = %	Mcal = megacalorie
Mcal/kg = Mcal/lb x 2.2	

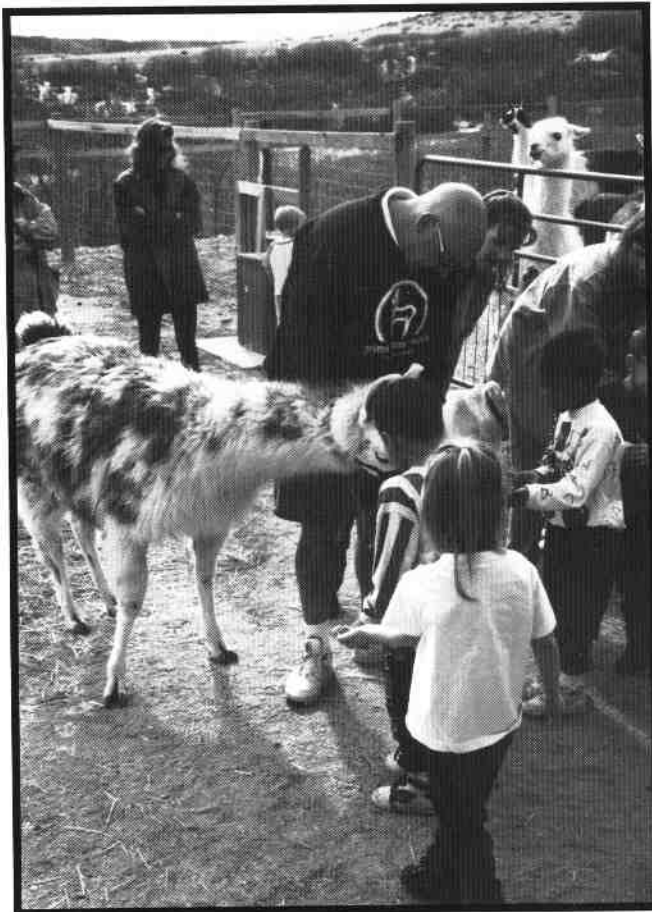
Bob Hance, and his wife Barbara, have been llama and alpaca owners since 1990, and hay producers since 1980.

Future Llama Owners!

By Candy Montgomery • Prima Llama Ranch • 1001 Haystack Drive • Castle Rock, CO • 80104 • (303)688-2422

Oh the joys of sharing our llamas. We recently had the pleasure of a visit from the Capitol Hill Children's Center - eleven highly enthusiastic pre-schoolers with a minimal knowledge of llamas. They did know llamas are related to the camel, but have no humps, and that they SPIT! Well, there were the brave and the timid, but with big brown eyes, soft wool, a little grain in the hands, tickling lips and giggling youngsters, soon everyone had conquered any fears they may have had. Considering the largest animal that most of them had ever seen was a dog, this is a real tribute to the llamas ability to make friends and influence kids. I wanted to share with you the comments I

received on the thank you card they sent. The front cover was an outline of a llama with glued-



on cotton for the body, and a big "Thank You". Inside, the teachers informed me the kids had a great time and that they talked about llamas all week. They even read a book called:

"Is your Mama a Llama?"

My favorite part is each individual page with a child's hand print and his or her comment about the visit. They read like this.....

I like playing in the field and feeding the llamas. - Andre

I liked feeding the baby llamas, playing with the dog and seeing the horses on the way up. I like their long furry hair & soft mouths. - Taylor

I had fun feeding the animals and getting muddy! I didn't like the pickers in my hand, but I got them out. I liked the Llamas. - Victoria

My favorite thing is to feed the llamas. - Simon

It tickled when they ate from my hand. - Beau

Future Llama Owners!, cont.

The ranch was beautiful. - Marissa

I liked to touch their soft fur. - Deven

Feeding the llamas tickled. - Zane

I liked feeding the llama food. One tried to eat my pinky. I also liked to play with the doggy and run. - Emily

I liked petting & feeding them. And I liked to play in the woods - Marco



After spending time with the llamas, the kids hiked up our hill and had a picnic in the field (they all brought a bagged lunch).

I was told it was a much needed break from being couped up during the recent (January) cold spell. I hope someday soon you have the pleasure of sharing your llamas with such an enthusiastic group. God Bless the future llama owners.



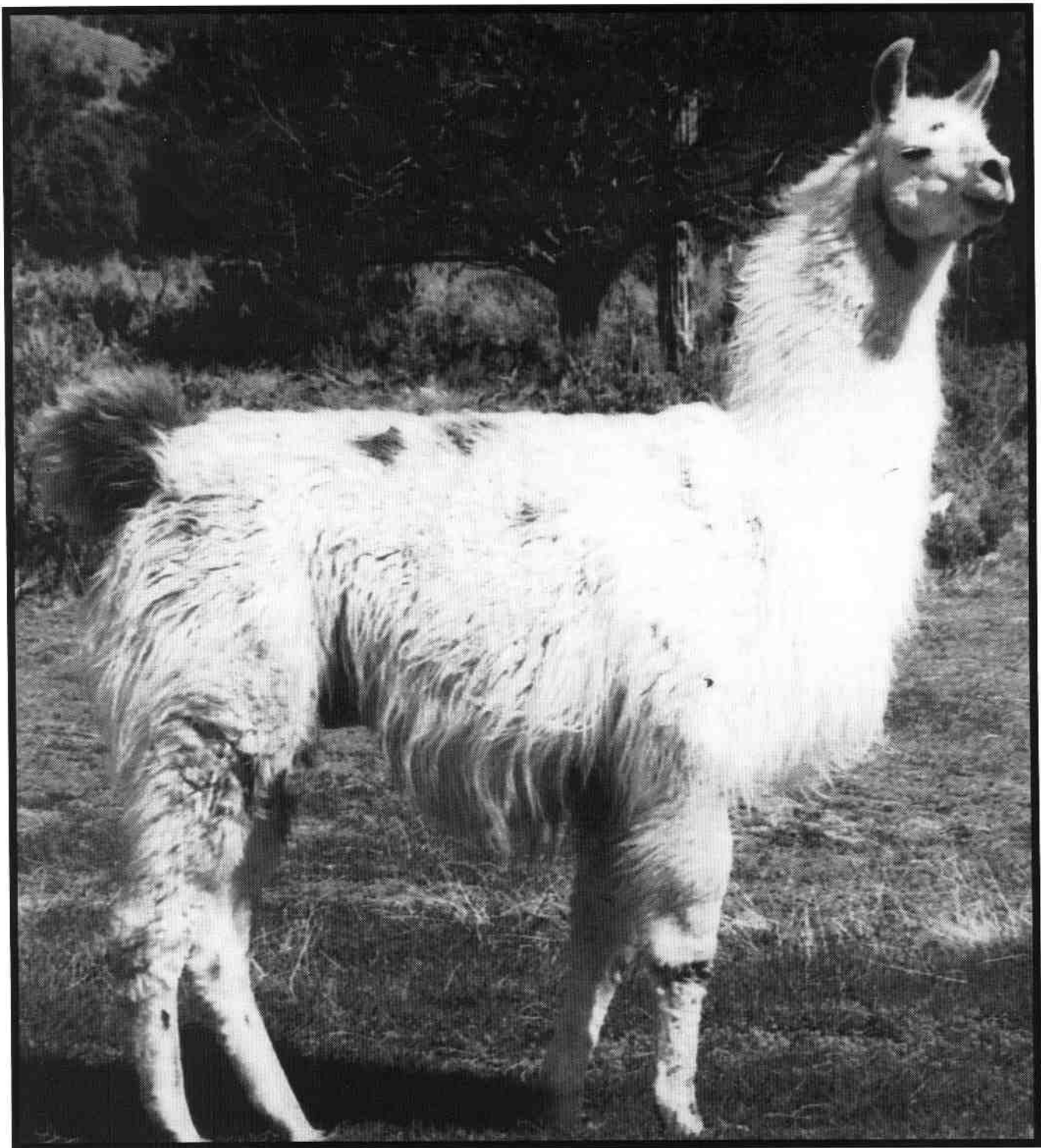
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Bear-proof Containers Now Required In Colorado's San Juan and Rio Grande National Forests!

By Julie Messick, Lla Mariposa Llamas, 7411 North Road 2 East, Monte Vista, CO 81144, 719-852-4852

For those of you planning camping and/or hiking adventures into southwestern Colorado this summer, you need to be aware of some new rules regarding bear-proof containers, which go into effect this year.

The San Juan-Rio Grande National Forests and the Colorado Div. of Wildlife have enacted new rules regarding the storage of food, garbage and other items with odors attractive to black bears (such as toiletries, bird feeders, pet food, cooking utensils and food packaging). As of April 15, 1997, these items must be stored in bear-resistant methods while you are in the National Forests, unless it is being eaten, prepared for eating, or being transported.

Approved methods include:

- inside an approved bear-resistant container (a cooler is not considered bear-resistant);
- inside a hard-sided vehicle or camper;
- within an electrified enclosure;
- hung at least 10 feet above the ground and four feet out from a tree, post, or

other support.

Exemptions:

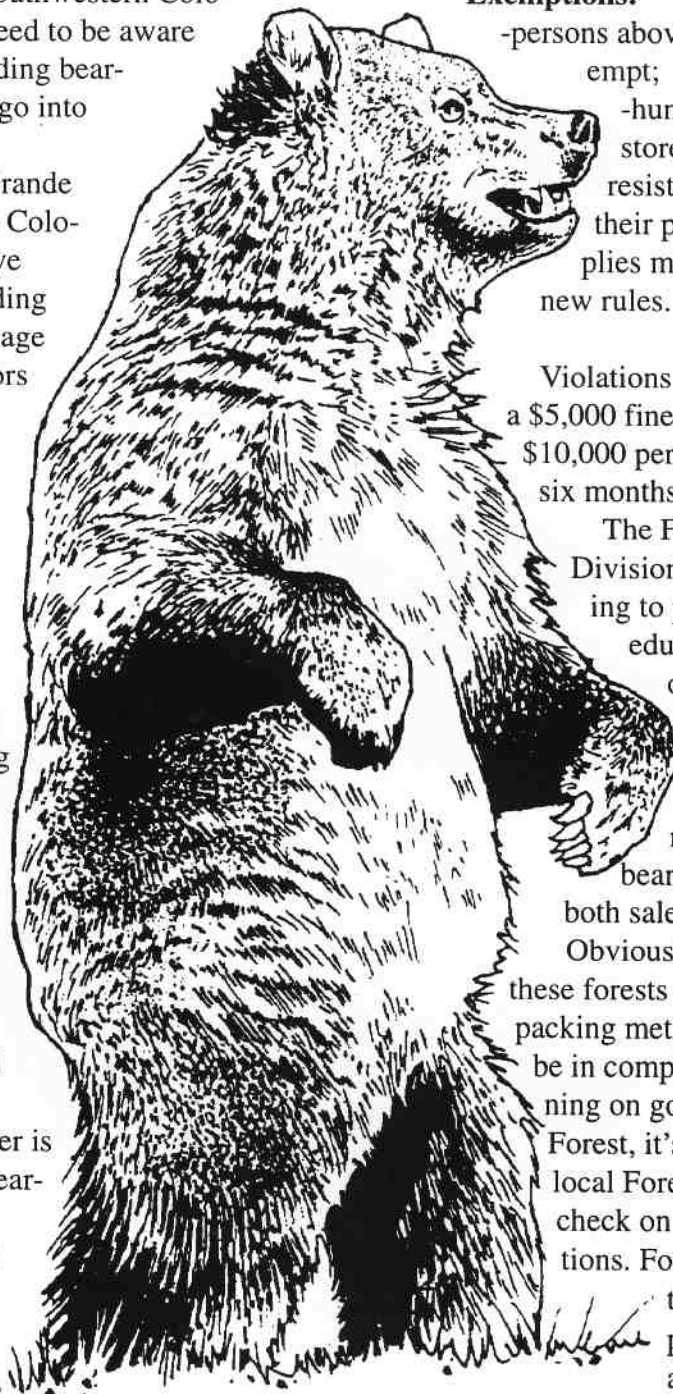
- persons above timberline are exempt;
- hunters are not required to store carcasses in a bear-resistant method; however, their personal food and supplies must comply with the new rules.

Violations are punishable by up to a \$5,000 fine per individual or up to \$10,000 per organization, and up to six months in jail.

The Forest Service and Division of Wildlife are working to provide bear-safety education to campers, outfitters, mountain residents, etc. They are also working with the local back-country retail outlets to offer bear-proof containers for both sale and rental.

Obviously, those of us who visit these forests need to examine our packing methods and adapt them to be in compliance. If you're planning on going to any National Forest, it's a good idea to call that local Forest Service office to check on their particular regulations. For more detailed information and a list of bear proof container designs and vendors of bear

resistant equipment, you can call the San Juan-Rio Grande National Forest in Monte Vista at 719-852-5941, or in Durango at 970-247-4874.





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Back Country Pack Saddle - \$235.00

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Try our new magnetic refrigerator llama dolls. Just like old-fashioned paper dolls, but magnetic for the refrigerator, or for cookie sheets for travel. Great toy for any age. Cut them out with ordinary scissors. Boy Llama with 18 fishing and camping accessories. Girl Llama with 18 camping and hiking accessories. Either design \$22.50 each. **Original!!**

Little Big Man is one of our Prize Winning offspring of our champion herd sire, **Five-Star**. Our small size gives our llamas the advantage of more hands-



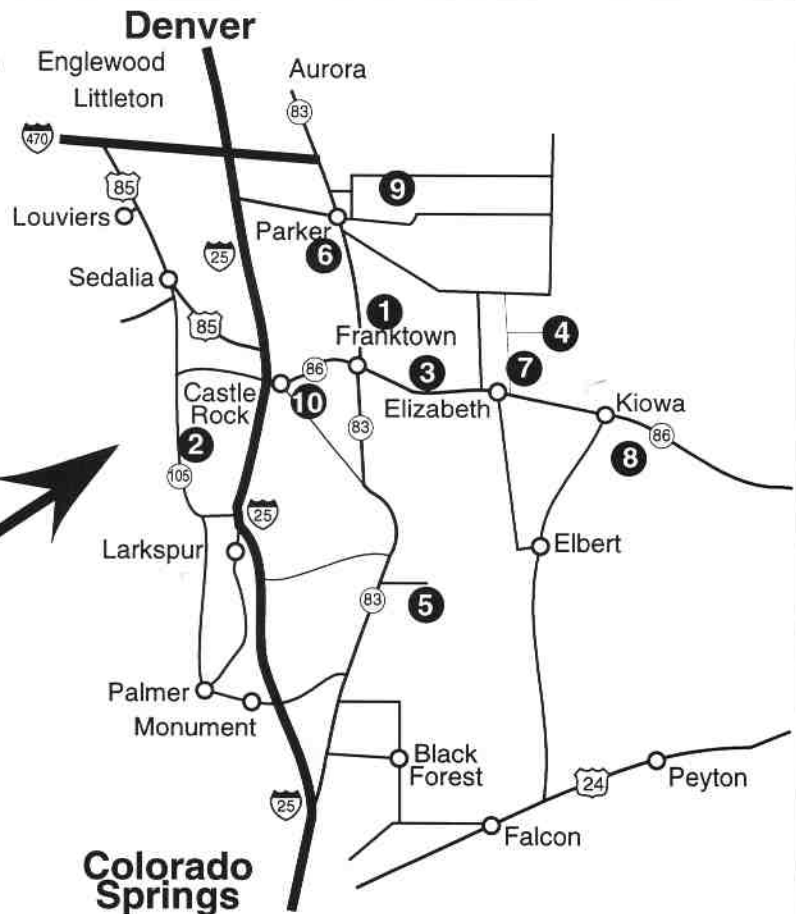
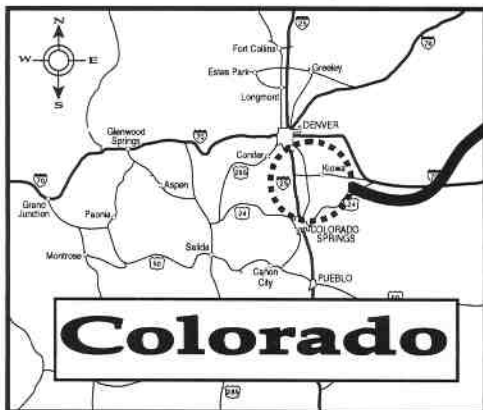
on care. They are all friendly, well-mannered and manageable. We offer a variety of colors, styles and ages. Visit and see for yourself the special qualities in the llamas we have for sale.




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7. Stan Lacher and Gail Segreto
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Elizabeth, CO 80107
303•646•0989 

8. Robert and Susan Leonard
LIONHEART ALPACAS
P.O. Box 600
Kiowa, CO 80117
303•648•3630 303•648-3630 fax
lhalpacas@aol.com 

9. Frank and Sharon Loner
MILE HIGH ALPACAS
"ALPACAS R US"
12818 Woodland Trail
Parker, CO 80134 
303•840•5250 303•840•0502 fax
milehighalpacas@msn.com



..and why did you

By Mr. Brett Agenbroad • Tuba City Junior High School • P.O. Box 67 • Tuba City, AZ 86045 • (520)283-6665

At one of our Journal editor meetings it was suggested that new members of RMLA be contacted and encouraged to write in as to why they purchased llamas and joined RMLA. This is the first of these letters responding to that request. This very interesting letter is from Brett Agenbroad.

.....Barbara Hance

Yes, I would very much like to share my affiliation story. I joined the RMLA in the fall of 1996, because it was the most comprehensive and informative association I could find in the Western region of the U.S.

I needed a glossy, high profile publication to help my projects & educational efforts. We needed points of contact for fiber sales, llama purchases, etc. Plus, I needed the library resources the RMLA offers.

I am an educator on the Navajo - Hopi Indian Reservation in Arizona. The past two summers I have worked and traveled in many of the Western and Mid-Western states. The stark contrast in the numbers of guard llamas I saw in other wool producing states and the veritable non existence of guard llamas on the Navajo - Hopi reservation, where herding and weaving are long established ways of life, prompted me to do an educational unit on llamas as guardian animals and alternative wool sources.

After obtaining administrative approval from Ms. Harriet Sloan, my building principal and funds for fencing from one of our title program coordinators, I purchased my first llama in the summer of '96 in Custer, South Dakota.

Since then, my herd of educational animals has grown to seven. I have a variety of llama types: short wool, medium wool, woolly llama, single coat, crimped wool, etc. I have two yearling animals and three packers as well as two bred females. The idea is to be able to show prospective Native American owners the difference and variety in the llama population.

This is a school-based effort. My teaching team taught a semester long thematic unit on camelids with an emphasis on llamas, their history and prehistory.

The theme of this endeavor is to educate the local community, through their school aged children, to llamas as guardian animals and alternative wool sources.

To date, we have visited six schools in our area and spoken with, and shown our animals to, over 1,424 school children.

We have been the subject of many local and regional newspaper articles and, all in all have received an enthusiastic welcome.

The reservation as a whole is an economically depressed area. Despite this, we want to place llamas in the hands of local herders. We are presently collaborating with a 4-H program in Southern California who are actively soliciting the donation of llamas from California breeders to donate to us for replacement of the herders here on the reservation.

We are now in the process of taking applications from Native American herders interested in placing a guard llama with their flocks.

We are in hopes that animals will be in public hands by August or September this year.

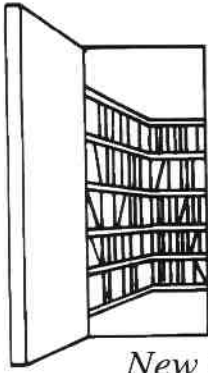
If members of the RMLA have animals that they would like to donate to this effort would you please contact me at the [above] address.

All local llama recipients will be given a pre-ownership trainers session covering expectations, care, feeding, flock introduction, etc.

All recipients in this project will be tracked for up to two years in an effort to complete data for a Guardian Success outcome, with the idea of publicly reporting in the future.

Sincerely,
Brett

RMLA 



in your library

The RMLA Library

By Sharon Herbold, RMLA Librarian • Pikes Peak Woolies •
15350 Hwy. 83 • Colorado Springs, CO 80921 • (719)495-3092

New items in the library:

BOOKS:

The Alpaca Book Management, Medicine, Biology & Fiber by Eric Hoffman & Muray Fowler, DVM, 1995

Caring for Llamas and Alpacas A Health & Management Guide by Clare Hoffman, DVM with Ingrid Asmus, 1996

First Aid for Llamas and Alpacas by Murray Fowler, DVM and Audrey Fowler

In Search of the Ideal Llama, The Field Guide by Richard & Maggie Krieger,

1994 Llama and Alpaca Neonatal Care by Drs. Brad Smith, Karen Timm & Pat Long Llamas

Alpacas as a Metaphor for Life by Marty McGee, 1996

Photo Workshop for Llamas by Susan Ley

Secrets of the Andean Alpaca, The Field Guide by Maggie & Richard Krieger, 1994.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS:

If I Was a Llama by Ann Madison

VIDEO TAPES:

#2 The Mallon Method, Halter Training Basics, 1996

Wool:

New Directions for Felt An Ancient Craft by Gunilla Sjoberg, 1996

MISCELLANEOUS:

AOBA Conference Notebook, 1995/1996
RMLA Conference Notebook, 1996

NUMBER OF ITEMS CURRENTLY IN THE LIBRARY:

Articles	64
Books	69
Children's Books	38
Video Tapes	39
Wool	48
Miscellaneous	9

There have been a steady number of check-outs from the library recently. Again, the video tapes are the most popular items in the library. Suggestions for new items are most welcome.

Please remember to get items back on time, as I have a waiting list for many them (especially the videos).

Thanks to the members who made donations to the library last year.

STERLING SPRINGS
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Steve & Linda Kyriopoulos 2680 West 5700 South
(801) 245-3529 Mt. Sterling, Utah 84339

Caring for Llamas and Alpacas and Youth Manual Distribution

By Julie Messick, CFLA & Youth Manual Chair • Lla Mariposa Llamas • 7411 North Road 2 East • Monte Vista, CO 81144 • (719)852-4852

As the volunteer and Board member in charge of the Caring For Llamas & Alpacas (CFLA) and Youth Manual book distribution, I'd like to tell you a little of what I do.

The latest report reflects we ship an average of 45.2 CFLA and 43.9 Youth Manuals per week (those .2 & .9 books are really tricky to package!). Of the CFLA, wholesale sales account for 68%, while the balance of 32% is made up of single book sales to retail customers and bookstores. We ship to customers all over the US, Canada, Italy, and England. I make a sincere effort to get orders shipped within one or two days of receiving them.

We continue to refine the system used for book distribution. The biggest change has been putting it all on computer which enables us to keep much better track of inventory, accounts receivable, royalties and customer history. The Board ratified new policies, the most significant being that all retail sales must be prepaid. This is much better from the association's standpoint.

With the new edition of CFLA in May of '96, RMLA opened a special bank account for the CFLA, so it is separate from General Operation. That makes the reporting much easier.

We paid \$17,000 back to the General Operations for the costs of the last printing, and we also recently opened a special savings account for future CFLA Production. That way we'll have money put aside when it's time for the next reprint, rather than having to "borrow" it from General Operations. These two accounts are at the same bank as all of RMLA's other accounts, First Bank at Castle Rock, CO.

Another big thing the RMLA Board did last year was to set up as a credit card merchant, so we can accept credit cards for any of RMLA's business, including book sales, memberships, fiber sales, conference fees, etc. That has made a



Julie Messick and Reba with the San Luis Valley blue sky and llamas in the background.

big difference in the efficiency of our operations. I handle the credit card authorizations and when we have a membership that comes through on a credit card, Judy Sealy (membership chair), and Lougene Baird (Treasurer) and I have a system worked out between the 3 of us that is pure poetry in motion when it comes to getting the card authorized, money transferred to the Treasury, and recorded in Judy's membership records. We also are getting more memberships off the RMLA Web Site, which are charged to credit cards; Bob Riley sends those along to us.

To sum it up, everything is done with an eye toward operating RMLA as professionally as possible. And since the net profit from Caring For Llamas and Alpacas goes to medical research, everyone in the llama industry benefits, not just RMLA!



O'LLAMAS A'MARCHIN'

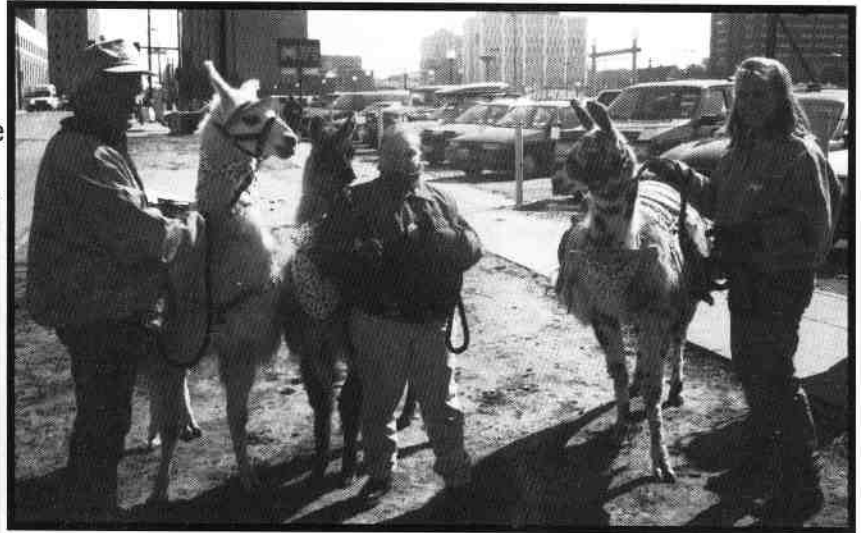
BY KRISTIN BAIRD, ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE CHAIR · PLUM VALLEY LLAMAS ·
2210 PINE WOOD ROAD · SEDALIA, CO 80135 · (303)6878-5445

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who braved cold cold temperatures and a dusting of snow to come out and march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade this year!!!

As usual, the llamas were very popular with the spectators, especially children, as well as one Denver Post writer who wrote: "... the most unusual non-human entry were the Blackwatch Tartaned llamas"! If you show your llamas, this is a great opportunity to continue training them for public relations. Don't forget to sign up for next year's Parade - this is a wonderful way to show off your animals and educate the public about our unique and gentle animals!!!



Harold Herbold and his Irish llama.



This year's theme was "Forty Shades of Green", and Harold, Adrienne, and Lauren and their llamas were at least 39 shades!!

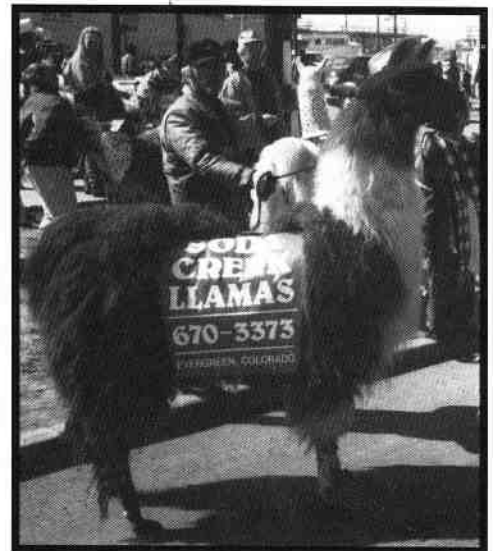


Thank you to these marchers:

- Adrienne Bergenfeld
- Ron & Deidre Baird
- Harold & Sharon Herbold
- Jerry, Lauren and Shane
(the youngest one!) Webb
- Jim Haas
- Sue and Heather Grimm.



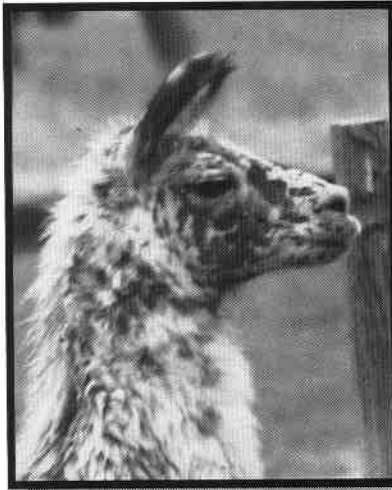
Peruvian dancers in their native costumes meet the Baird O'llamas.



Jim Haas and O'Big Shot entertains spectators along the Parade route.

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Reserve Champ Get-of-Sire 1997 NWSS.

Grand Champ Get-of-Sire 1997 Houston Livestock Show.

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A-Major x L-Pine Sweetie Pye



TLI Centurion

PPW Amigo - Grand Champion Med. Wool Female

1996 Estes Park Wool Market

Dagwood's Oscar x TLI Pippi Long Stockings

Limited Breedings to our Junior Herdsires:



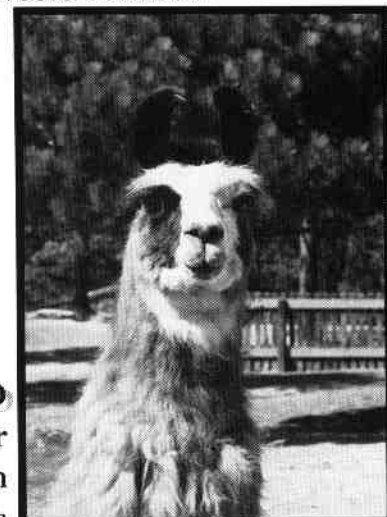
Bardo's Legado

2nd Place Yearling Heavy Wool Male - 1997 NWSS

Reserve Champ - 1997 Houston Livestock Show

1st babies due in fall, 1997

Peruvian Bardo x Camas Martha

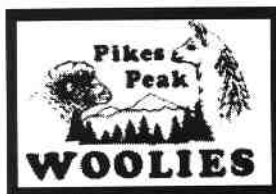


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Full Chilean

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The most outstanding wool we have seen on a Llama.
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PAINT SALE: Several young males to choose from, sweet tempered, variety of ages, (other colors also available) sired by GLL Java, starting at \$600. Also several females available, from weanlings to experienced, bred moms (bred to Java, Gandy Dancer, or 1/4 Bolivian, silky-wooled Ragin' Cajun); starting at \$2,000. Visit soon for best selection. **Llamarage**, Joe & Mary Beth Hartsough, (970)785-2463. 5/97

MUST REDUCE OUR LLAMA HERD: Our loss can be your gain. All ages, types, and colors (appaloosa, paint, bay, black, tuxedos), many females available. All offers considered and animals sell with written guarantees. Come see them in person or contact us for photos. **Dolores, Colorado.** (970) 882-7126

ADD CLASS TO YOUR HERD! We breed big, "user-friendly", medium woolled, classic llamas with strong bloodlines. We have a small herd, so each llama receives hands on attention. All halter, lead trained, easy to groom and handle. Weanling and adult males \$800-\$1500. **Collegiate Peaks Llamas.** 719-395-8895. WEBSITE: <http://www.vitnet.com/llama>. 2/97

GIRLS! GIRLS! GIRLS! Very special llamas at reduced prices to good homes. These are top quality 1 & 2 year olds. All are trained for easy handling. **High Hopes Llamas** (303)646-0989 (5/97)

RANCH AND FARM SUPPLIES Complete line for new/established farms. Halters, leads, grooming, shearing, scales, chutes, wormers, vaccines, probiotics, cria care, birthing needs, signs, weathervanes, packs, carts, harnesses, show items, watering and feeding equipment, manure vacuums, spreaders, fly control, watches, clocks, vinyl fencing, and more. Best prices guaranteed. **Useful Llama Items** - Brochure-3540 76th, Caledonia, MI 49316 1-800-635-5262. usefulll@cris.com (11/97)

GIRLS!!

- **GLORIOSO:** Black female, medium wool, lovely white markings. 3 yrs, ready to breed, won 4th place at 1996 Estes Park Wool Market. \$1800.
 - **BANABA:** Woolly, seal brown bay female. Lovely yearling, 1/4 Chilean, wonderful disposition. \$1500.
 - **ANNOBON:** Large, colorful paint female, proven breeder, 4 yrs. \$2000.
- Dusty Llamas**, Steve & Kathy London, 970-535-0617 (5/97)

FOR SALE: Used Arkfeld Llama Scale. Mechanical 500 lb. Llama scale in excellent condition. Available for pick up in Conifer. \$685.00 or best offer. Call Rinah at 303-526-9406 for more information. (5/97)

GOOD PACKERS: 11 geldings, 1 stud, ages 6-up, experience 3-up, prices \$1350-up. Stud is a prize. Sopris gear avail w/ llamas. Also lovely females-1 proven, 1 yearling. **Rendezvous Llamas**, 307-739-1639. (11/97)

FOR SALE: Must sell our last two females. They are unbred 4 years olds. Red Zinger, MC Hammer daughter, has wonderful red wool, large with strong legs. Flow is a finer boned female with short wool, good height, long legs. Both produced two fine babies in the past 3 years. Call Pat for appointment, 303-494-8219. (5/97)

BUSINESS FOR SALE: Like to pack with llamas? Like to sew? **Rolling Rock Llamas Pack System** business is for sale. We make soft-pack llama packs and panniers ready-made or in kit form. Unique small business opportunity with small investment. Call Pat for details at 303-494-8219, Boulder, CO. (5/97)

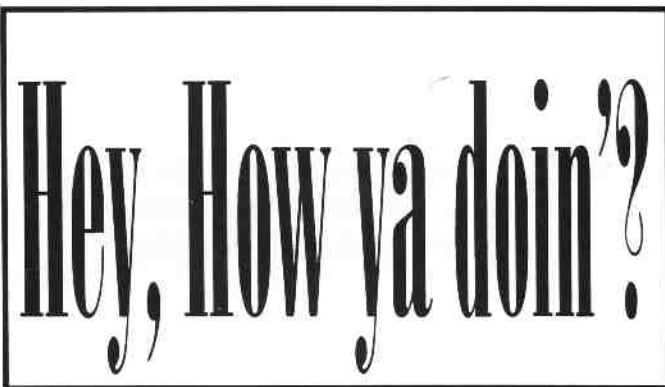
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LLAMA LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME: Chip is an extremely handsome, friendly, chocolate male, d.o.b. 7/14/95. Great 4H/PR potential. He was shown at '96 L.O.C.C. by my 7 year old daughter. \$350. Also, his dad, T.J.'s Blackhawk is available for the '97 breeding season. **Cria Creek Ranch** (303)526-1425. (5/97)

VERSATILE FEMALES FOR SALE. Two young females, 2 and 3 years old, for sale. They love to hike and are very friendly and love people. They are both white with good wool and are easy to work with. I have to make room for the 1997 crias! I would be interested in trading for a stud service or for hay. Call **Sarah Smith** in Ft. Collins at 970-224-2501 or BuckeyeRan@aol.com (5/97)

WANTED: Llama harness and driving cart. Please call Judy Sealy, **Grand Valley Llamas**, (970)241-7921 (5/97)

FREE BREEDING TO M C HAMMER-8X Grand Champion, with purchase of outstanding Hammer daughter(s). Stevie Nicks, 6/12/96, bay, long silky wool, excellent conformation, champion potential, ready to breed in September. Mariah Carey, 3/24/96, black with white blaze, scarf, slippers, long fine wool, beautiful face, excellent conformation, ready to breed in July. Also available: Proven Hammer son, Dire Straits, handsome bay, long silky wool. **Overland Trail Llamas**, Livermore, CO. 970-493-2335. COME VISIT! (5/97)



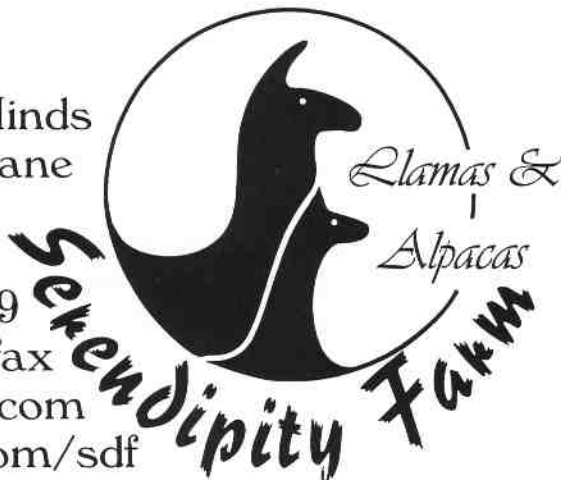
Sincerely in the love of these animals.

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(303)841-4889
(303)841-7635fax
sdflama@jceinc.com
<http://www.cria.com/sdf>



New Members

By Judy Sealy(RMLA Membership) • Grand Valley Llamas • 593 19 3/4 Road • Grand Junction, CO 81503 • (970)241-7921

Duane E. & Carolyn M.
Ackerman
OYSTER RIDGE LLAMAS
P.O. Box 318
Diamondville, WY 83116-0318
(307)877-9208

Patricia S. Bertram
JUNIPER RIDGE
LLAMAS
38355 Road K.7
Mancos, CO 81328
(970)533-7141

Susan Boyes
RED BARN FIBER PROCESS-
ING
5401 Norwood
Loveland, CO 80538
(970)669-6106

Larry & Sharon Carrier
DOUBLE "C" RANCH
271 Beasley Road
Seagoville, TX 75159
(972)476-6679
FAX (972)287-2678

Mik Dorn
P.O. Box 1854
Silverthorne, CO 80498
(970)468-1689

Helga Fensterman
Rte. 1 Box 303D
Ft. Calhoun, NE 68023
(402)426-8078

Vivian Goldstein &
Mindy Simon
KOPAVI RANCH ALPACAS
14506 N. 83rd Street
Longmont, CO 80503
(303)702-1589

Sondra Grumbein, DVM
TRES AGUAS ALPACAS
63208 N 43 PR NW
Benton City, WA 99320
(509)588-6762

Jennifer Halbach
63484 J-63 Trail
Montrose, CO 81401
(970)240-2846

Dan Jones
SPRUCE RIDGE LLAMAS
4141 County Road 210
Salida, CO 81201
(719)539-4182

Andrea M. Kroeckel
2125 Beacham Drive
Castle Rock, CO 80104-2339
(303)688-9851
JUNIOR MEMBER

Trish LeMere
11631 Pine Grove Lane
Parker, CO 80134
(303)841-7933
E-Mail: trishiel@aol.com

Larry & Deanna Lewellyn
FOOTHILLS LLAMAS
10715 West Belleview Ave.
Littleton, CO 80127
(303)979-4815

Dwight M. Mazzone
2035 E. Libra Dr.
Tempe, AZ 85283
(602)730-1800
FAX (602)730-0753
E-Mail: Dmazzl@ix.netcom.com

Paul & Emma Maestas
PEAR TREE RANCH
09 Pear Tree Lane
Bernalillo, NM 87004
(505)867-3825

Patti Morgan
ROCK-N-M LLAMAS
Rt. 3, Box 177-1
Arkansas City, KS 67005
(316)442-4996
FAX (316)442-1590
E-Mail: pmmorgan@arkcity.com

Kristen Nelson
P.O. Box 100266
Denver, CO 80150-0266
JUNIOR MEMBER

Lois Nelson
WINDY PINES CRITTERS
P.O. Box 193
Kiowa, CO 80117-0193
(303)621-2149

Welcome to RMLA

COLORADO
ALPACAS

Teri Phipps
David Schieferstein

970/454-3142
970/454-2649 FAX

Fireweed@rmi.net
E-Mail

35005 Weld County Road 41
Eaton, Colorado 80615

Fireweed Ranch



Continued on next page

New Members, cont.

Raul Oliva
1025A 3250 Road
Hotchkiss, CO 81419
(970)872-3740
FAX (970)874-9505

Kris & Earl Paige
VELVETEEN LLAMAS
2370 Sandy Creek Farm Road
Alpharetta, GA 30201
(770)663-4805

Pete Prucha
MAJESTIC MOUNTAIN
LLAMA
P.O. Box 385
Williams, AZ 86046
(520)635-2073

Rhonwyn Rossman
11705 Chase Court
Westminster, CO 80020
(303)439-7428

Wayne E. Russert
6221 S. Lake Gulch Road
Castle Rock, CO 80104-8962
(303)660-3799

Patti & Dick Sandusky
SUGAR CREEK LLAMA
RANCH
12661 Gowan Ave. NW
Maple Lake, MN 55358-6100
(320)963-3982

Emmett Rubin &
Paul M. St-Aubin
WINTERBELL FARM
1500 Polk Street
Bedford, IA 50833

Lisa Dorr & Mark Taylor
3180 Green Mountain Circle
Parker, CO 80134
(303)840-7678

Karen Vincent
TUMBLEWEED RANCH
3624 Christy Ridge Road
Sedalia, CO 80135-8458
(303)688-6226

Nancy Woolever
9055 Del Camino Lane
Longmont, CO 80504
(303)833-4027

Vern Zarlingo
WARM SPRING LLAMAS
1555 Warm Spring Road
Williams, AZ 86046
(520)635-2327

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Sarah Lobser
6875 West David Ave.
Littleton, CO 80123

Dixie Minear
P.O. Box 907
Hotchkiss, CO 81419
(970)874-8006

WANTED

RMLA Nominations

for:

SECRETARY: 2 yr term

VICE-PRESIDENT: 1 yr term

**PRESIDENT-ELECT: 1 year term
followed by 1 year as president**

Terms begin October 15th, 1997:

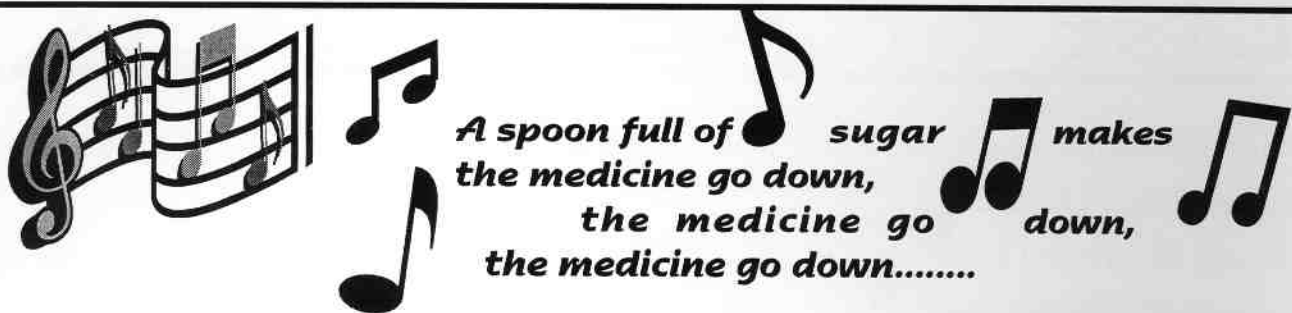
Send your nominations to:

Craig Dierksen & Rosie Delullo
Rockin' Double D Ranch
P.O. Box 514
Kiowa, CO 80117-0514

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Tell them you saw their ad in the RMLA Journal!



Well sugar's might work just fine for humans but it don't cut it when it comes to llamas and alpacas.

So because of that, here is a request for all of you llama and alpaca medicine 'givers' out there. What works best for you? How do you get medicine down the 'hatch' so-to-speak of llamas and alpacas? Send the Journal your receipes. If you've used it, send it in. They'll be published here along with your name, etc. Remember it has be a *tested* receipe! No experimenting, just the facts, folks.

Mail your receipe with your name, address, farm name, and phone, fax and e-mail to RMLA Journal, 9349 Tammy Lane, Parker, CO 80134 (303)841-7635fax or e-mail at sdflama@jceinc.com. (No phone calls, please, I can't write that fast.)

..... and here is the first one..... from the Humming Herald - Jun/Jul '96 -LLama TTips - by Rose Power.

Recipe for Success by Rose Power

This past summer, I had to give medication to a young llama. Pretty simple, I've done it plenty of times before. Except this time it was a powder - a tiny amount - and I faced a dilemma of how to get it in the baby's mouth and make sure she has it all.

Sprinkle it on the feed, the container advised. Except that this was a three-month-old who had not yet started eating pellets (and displayed a remarkable resistance when I tried to introduce them into her diet).

Mix it with a little honey, my vet suggested. I tried it. It's not easy to mix the powder in, and even "stiff" honey is hard to get into the mouth of a wiggling baby llama. ends up on the outside, on my fingers, on the floor. I experimented with molasses. Easier to mix with the powder, but even messier to get into the llama. I had to use a spoon, and again it was all over the place. - - -

What I needed, I decided, was some kind of a -medium that mixed well with the powder, tasted good, wasn't sticky, and was easy to handle without leaving any on my fingers-cookie dough.

I headed for the kitchen and started mixing. It worked!

This is the receipe I came up with:

- 1/4 teaspoon of medicated powder (dosage was 1/12 tsp aday)
- 1 teaspoon of flour
- 1/2 teaspoon of brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon of rolled oats
- dash of salt
- 1 teaspoon of cold water

Mix together in a bowl, adding a little more flour until the mixture is soft, non-sticky ball. Roll into a short cylinder and cut into three equal pieces. Forms into balls about the size of a hazelnut. This is enough for three days: the medication had to be kept at room temperatur~ and tended to spoil if made in larger batches.

To administer, open the llama's mouth and insert on the back of tongue, then close the mouth and hold for a couple of minutes until it is swallowed.

The baby liked it. After a couple of days, I didn't even have to chase her around the barn to give it to her. She would stand in one spot and I'd slide my arm around her neck and pop it in her mouth. Sometimes I even rolled it in pellets, to give her a taste for them. She's doing great!

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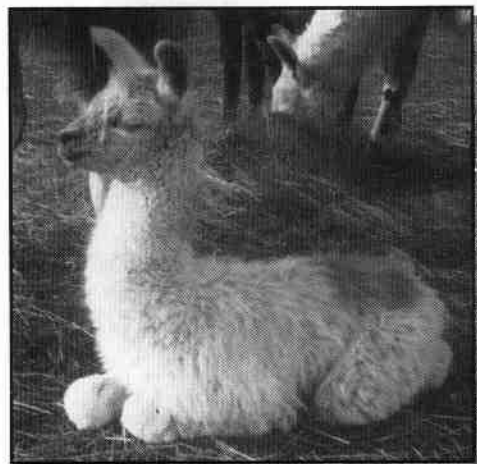
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