ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT:

www.camelidcare.info

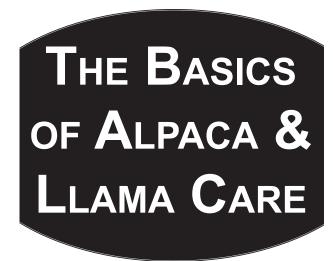
www.alpacainfo.com

www.icinfo.org

Information is also available from your local or regional alpaca or llama organization:

NOW ENJOY THEM!!

- Showing (Halter and Performance)
- Packing
- Exquisite fiber producers
- Parades & Festivals
- · Cart driving
- Pet therapy



Developed by:



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Cover artwork by Paige McGrath

Before making the commitment of time and money in purchasing alpacas or llamas, please review the following points; you should be able to answer "YES" to all of these:

CAN YOU PROVIDE?

- Pasture: the general rule is (3-4)
 llamas per acre and (4-5) alpacas per acre, depending on condition of soil and quality of pasture
- Fencing: safe and secure fencing can be board, high-tensile wire, field fence or the like; barbed wire is not necessary as alpacas and llamas are not "pushers" and it can damage fiber and cause injury
- Shelter: should be adequate for local conditions and allow the animals to get out of extreme weather
- Clean Drinking Water: this is an absolute necessity at all times
- Protection: from predators such as roaming dogs

DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO?

- Good quality hay: alpacas and llamas do not require a high protein hay in most cases (pregnant or lactating moms being some of the few exceptions)
- Safe Transportation: alpacas and llamas can be transported in stock and horse trailers, and even in vans. They will usually lie down ("kush") while transporting and should not be tied

- Access to Veterinary Care: while alpacas and llamas are generally hardy animals, access to a veterinarian with large animal experience (preferably alpaca or llama) or one willing to learn, is very helpful in those situations where veterinary intervention is necessary.
- Annual Shearing: these animals do require annual shearing, usually in spring; it is a health issue as they are susceptible to heat stress. Either hand/electric clippers may be used. You can easily learn to do this yourself or there are a number of owners/breeders who will do this for a fee.

IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO THESE QUESTIONS....

PLEASE "DO":

- Provide the right mineral mix; speak to your veterinarian or other camelid owners in your area
- Provide fans for summer heat and humidity relief
- · Trim toenails as needed
- Provide properly-fitted alpaca or llama halters and use only when working with the animals
- Talk to experienced breeders or a veterinarian about breeding and birthing
- Join an alpaca or llama organization to learn more and keep up to date; there are numerous local and regional groups as well as national registries and show associations

PLEASE "DON'T"....

- Have only one alpaca or llama; they need a 'buddy', preferably one of their own kind
- · Leave halters on
- · Keep them tied up
- · Keep them locked in a stall or small space
- Keep an intact male with female(s)
- · Breed alpacas or llamas in hot weather
- Tie during transport
- Bottle-feed an alpaca or llama unless it is a medical necessity

HEALTH AND MAINTENANCE....

- Find a local vet with alpaca or llama experience or a willingness to learn
- Talk to your vet about the recommended vaccinations and de-worming for your area
- Dietary requirements are simple: hay or pasture plus a mineral mix are often all that are necessary
- Pregnant or nursing moms and babies need more supplementation
- Alpacas and llamas will eat many types of plants, so talk to your vet or extension agent about plants poisonous to alpacas and llamas