



Welcome to your Summer newsletter!

Hello everyone and I hope you have been enjoying some of the rather eclectic summer weather! A particular welcome to all our new members – the CCA is growing every month and currently has over 40 memberships covering 60 individual members. It's great to have such a thriving camelid community here in Cornwall and Devon and our prime aim is to support each other to enjoy these wonderful animals and help them thrive.

For all the breeding herds, this is such a special time of year - we hope all is going well for you so far and you are getting to enjoy the crazy antics of your little ones. Our thoughts are also with anyone who has experienced a difficult birth or the loss of a cria or mum which can be so stressful and heartbreaking. In hard times, your friends at the CCA can be a lifeline, offering in the moment advice and support, so I'm sure I speak for everyone in encouraging you to reach out if you ever need help.

Of course, not everyone is a breeder so there is plenty in the newsletter for you too!

We kick off with an update from our Chair, Sandra, which includes crucial information about the upcoming Cornish Fleece Show. Thinking about welfare, we have a review of the mini vet day, our seasonal husbandry tips and our honorary vet, Sarah has written a feature on skin issues which almost everyone will come across at some point. Heather from Polgrain has shared her insights from attending the Advanced Parasitology Course run by Sue Thomas and Kate from Mullacott has given us a run down of her birthing season. On the theme of getting to know one another, we feature India and Spence Rabey from Camelford Camelids (look out for their special offer!) and Katharine West on Dartmoor. I've given a run down of the show season so far and Paula Winsor from the South West Alpaca Group gives us the inside track on the Somerset County Show coming up in September. Finally, our friends at the Yorkshire Alpaca Group have asked us to share a number of online seminars they are running on the subject of breeding choices. Once you've decided what you want to do, don't forget to check out the great stud options you have on your doorstep by visiting the CCA website.

I hope you enjoy the read and don't forget that you can look back on previous issues on the website and get all sorts of other info there too: www.cornwallcamelidassociation.com

If you are not already a member of our facebook group, please look it up (cornwallcamelidassociation) and ask to join and we will have you sorted straight away – it's a really easy way to connect to other members and ask questions or join in the chat ☺

As ever, all contributions and ideas are welcome for the next newsletter ☺

cornwallcamelidassociation@hotmail.com

Wendy, CCA Secretary

Message from our Chair Sandra Muriel



After the long hot spell I have been grateful for the recent showers to damp down the ground, refill water storage tanks and bring some freshness to the air.

Shearing has been well underway since April, now those fleeces are off, the next task of deciding what to do with them arises - whether you plan to store, sell or spin your fleeces, I recommend taking the time to clean and skirt them before bagging them carefully to store. Many people ask me how to sell them and I recommend local W.I.'s, Women's Guilds or craft classes who often are eager to buy fleece; if it is clean and bagged so they can see the fleeces, pre weigh the fleece and think about how much you want for them. You might not have customers straight away, last November I had a lady urgently seeking some fleece to host felting classes to make Christmas decorations who bought a full bag of fleece - I received a lovely felted robin as a thank you as well. I enjoy talking to the knitters, sharing ideas and seeing what they produce - some are very impressive what they make. I also have clients who want specific weight or colour and will wait for that to come back from the mill - this has taken time to build up this client base but alpaca yarn is becoming more popular to work with...let people know you have your fleece for sale.

The halter show at the end of April was a great success, not just because we had the show but to see so many members who turned up to help and see was very enjoyable. The standard of the alpaca entries had risen in the 2 years since we had our last show, clearly members have been focussing on their breeding while we were under restrictions. Any members wanting to enter their pet boys should do so in the future should, we welcome pet owners who want to bring their alpacas along to show and enjoy having a rosette to take home.

Preparations are well on the way for the Fleece Show on 9th July. This is our 3rd fleece show, we now have the planning in hand. A change of venue this year, the judging will take place at Alpacas of Cornwall, Carn Tremayne Farm, Praze and we look forward to welcoming Barbara Hetherington from Beck Brow Alpacas to judge. After the judging is finished, usually from 3.00pm onward for an hour, members are welcome to come and see the winners display and see the fleeces with their scores. This is an excellent opportunity to see fleeces and where the judge has assessed them for the traits (weight, micron, uniformity of length/colour, cleanliness) and have some refreshments.

Last week on the longest day, I (tongue in cheek) said 'oh well, soon be Christmas' which made me reflect how quickly the months fly past and we seem to plan ahead in the alpaca calendar. During the next few weeks, now the alpacas are devoid of their fleeces is a good time to look and assess them, check them for any skin issues and their body scores, give them some extra minerals if needed or apply some skin cream to ensure they are in best condition for the autumn and winter. With feed prices going up, now might be a good time to buy in a stock of winter hay as it is freshly cut and in good supply. My contractor has started cutting our fields and has orders already for small and large bales reserved, so don't leave it too late.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter, I understand there are several contributors and we welcome input from all members.

Best wishes

Sandra

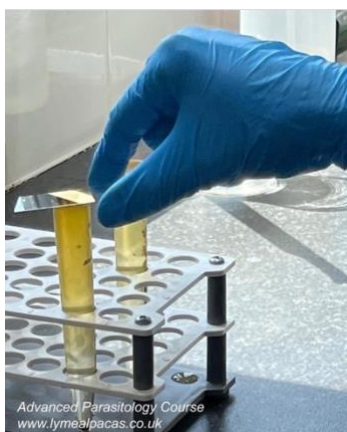
NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Attending the Advanced Parasitology Course at Lyme Alpacas
 Heather Lester, Polgrain Alpacas



I attended the Introduction to Parasitology course at Lyme Alpacas with the lovely Sue Thomas, just before we all went into lockdown in February 2020. Since then I have been testing my Polgrain herd, currently standing at 23 ladies and gentlemen, using the McMaster method of testing. This is the method taught on the Introductory course where you use a McMaster slide, using two chambers with a grid imprinted on. You count the eggs within the grid and then multiply by 50 to give you your egg count of eggs per gram (epg).

Having on occasion noticed the odd egg outside of the grid and none within I decided to sign up to the Advanced Parasitology course. This teaches the Modified Stoll's test, a more sensitive test that gives you an egg count down to 5epg, though it is a more time consuming and requires a centrifuge along with your microscope.



We started by going through the digestive system of the alpaca, using Sue's very stylish digestive cushion, to see where the different types of worms live within the system. We went through the life cycle of different worms and how pasture management can either help or hinder these cycles. Then it was on to testing.

I had brought along some samples from my own herd, so I set about learning the Modified Stoll's method with these. The solution you make is put on a plain slide with a cover. You look at this through the microscope, backwards and forwards counting any eggs. It will take a bit more practice doing this so you don't go over the same section more than once; it is easier with the McMaster slide as it has the grid. I was very slow but this was broken up by a lovely lunch, provided by Sue and her husband, that we ate outside looking out over a beautifully calm sea.

If you find trichostrongyles in your samples, you cannot tell which worms they are without hatching the eggs. Barber Pole worms (a trichostrongyle egg) are often fatal to alpacas and unfortunately Sue says she has recently seen a lot of them with the resulting death of the animals. Whilst if you have a large trichostrongyle infestation you should treat first, hatching the eggs lets you know exactly what you are dealing with, so we went through the procedure for doing this. Hatching takes a minimum of 7 days, hence the need to treat first, in a bad infestation, by the time the worms were hatched the animal may already have died.

We looked at some samples under the microscope that Sue had been hatching. Any worms that are seen can then be clearly identified from a list of characteristics, such as the number of intestinal cells and head shape.

Whilst it is horrible to think of these things leaching off our animals and maybe ultimately causing their death, I did find it absolutely fascinating looking at them under the



microscope and understanding how well adapted they are at reproducing and finding a host. I was pleased that nothing was really found in my samples, but I know that I have to keep up with my pasture management and test regularly to keep on top of any issues.

If you are interested in either of the Parasitology courses you should contact Sue Thomas at Lyme Alpacas:
email: alpacalady@live.co.uk

Review of this year's birthing season

Kate Brookes, Mullacott Alpacas



Our birthing season came to a successful conclusion on Sunday, just in time for the students on a BAS affiliated birthing, conformation and fibre course, to see a live birth (rapidly incorporated into the learning of course!). Finally a chance to sleep the night through without regular checks of the cameras in the barn of the most pregnant mums-to-be.

Time also to have a look at the results. The three girls in a row at the end left the head count at 12 boys to 15 girls. All 27 expected cria arrived safely. None needed any additional care (like a plasma transfusion) and none of the mums suffered significant tears or other injury. Average gestation for the herd was 344 days, with the shortest being 324 days and the longest being 357. Average cria weight was just over 9kg, with a range of 6.5 - 11.8kg. Even after 26 years of breeding alpacas I find we learn something new every year.

This year we learnt two new useful bits of information on Sarah Caldwell's CCA birthing course. One of them was about a colostrum paste from JG animal health. We have given it to all our crias since the workshop and when we did a blood test on one we were concerned about failure of passive transfer of antibodies (FPT) she had a really good reading. Was that, in part, due to the paste? We shall probably never know! The other was a technique to help a large head through the vulva.

I often hear about useful things like the colostrum paste and so adopt it into my general husbandry. I know my herd seems healthier and happier than in previous years, but of course you never know if it's that small change you made, that made all the difference. But if whatever you are doing is working, then I believe in keeping on doing it!

I hope all of you with cria still to come, have a successful season.

GETTING TO KNOW ...

India and Spencer Rabey, Camelford Camelids at Higher Culloden Farm

Tell us a bit about your farm and what you offer to visitors?

Higher Culloden Farm is in Camelford, North Cornwall. It's a 15-acre smallholding with five family camping pods, walking distance to town and a short drive to some of the best surf beaches in Cornwall. Guests love joining us to feed the animals in the morning. We have chickens, ducks, pigs, rabbits and of course, alpacas.

How long have you been there and what made you move to Cornwall and take on the business?

We moved here from Bristol in spring 2020, just as the pandemic was taking grip. Although running a glampsite and having a bit of land was a retirement dream (we were in our thirties at the time), a change in circumstances enabled us to bite the bullet and move sooner. We happened to discover Higher Culloden Farm for sale via a smallholding group on Facebook. We visited that weekend, and just six months of stress later, had the keys.

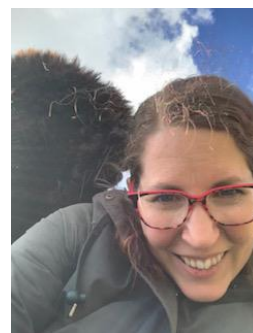
Unfortunately, all the smallholding courses we'd signed up for before moving were cancelled, so when we arrived we only knew what we'd learnt from books, magazines and Youtube!

Why did you decide to get alpacas and what role do they play?



The main clincher was the cute factor! Guests adore them, as do we. Older children are completely delighted to hand-feed chop to them. We have five boys – three huacayas and two suris and they joined the farm in February last year (they're coming up to two now). They're great characters. The black one, Sun Tzu, is always everyone's favourite, even if he is the most challenging of the group. Although I don't think having them brings in bookings directly, they're a big part of the experience of staying here. They are also used for grazing the paddocks, plus their poo is great for growing food! We've not really explored doing anything with the fleeces yet though.

We had wanted to expand the business to do trekking around the site with guests and maybe day visitors too. But we just haven't had the time to train them up or sort a license. With running the glamping site, other (expensive) smallholding projects and family commitments, plus with me working full time on my other business, there isn't the time to do it ourselves and we don't have the money to take someone else on unfortunately.



What's been the best aspect of having the alpacas?

My husband appreciates their lawn mowing abilities and poo. Personally, I like going for a chat with them. It's fun to go and sit in their field and wait. They can't resist a good nosy and they're always very agreeable to everything you say!

Have you had any challenges and how have you overcome them?

Honestly, had we known how expensive they were and how hands-on we'd need to be, I don't think we'd have got them. We'd still love to explore the trekking business side of things, but we're only two people and there are only so many hours in a day.

If any other members are thinking of doing a similar business, what advice would you give them?

You'll want deep pockets! We hadn't appreciated how expensive everything is, not just the alpacas. We're lucky that the glamping pays for running the smallholding (fencing, feed, maintenance, insurance etc) but we wouldn't have been able to get a mortgage or pay the household bills without my existing business. Conversely, as we're always working, it means we never have enough time!

And finally, has being a member of the CCA helped with your alpaca journey?

It has actually. The support within the Facebook group is fantastic and Spence went to one of the vet days at Popham which he found invaluable (we got three of our boys from them). It was very reassuring for him to find out we were doing ok! Also, we're not far from Dark Sky Alpacas, where we got two of our boys from and they are always happy to help with any questions too. It seems a really good community.

MEMBER OFFER:

CCA members and their friends and family can get 10% off a stay at the farm with the discount code ALPACAbuddies.

This applies to individual pods and full site group bookings.

Please share!



**To find out more about Higher Culloden Farm, book a stay, or get in touch with India and Spencer, visit highercullodenfarm.co.uk
Follow them on facebook.com/highercullodenfarm and Instagram.com/HigherCullodenFarm**



Katharine West, Dartmoor

When did you move to Dartmoor and what's your favourite thing about living there?

I lived on Dartmoor in my childhood and it was my 'happy place' where I learnt how much I love wild places. My partner and I were always going to move down later but that was brought forward when we both got jobs in our field of property regeneration much to our surprise! We moved down 7 years ago and love having the freedom and space of the moor on our doorstep.

How long have you had alpacas? Why did you decide to have them?

I have had my 3 boys now for 5 months and they have just turned 1 years old. I have always loved alpacas from when I saw them 20 years ago in a field near Bath and it was one of the ideas you have in lockdown'I've always wanted' that became a reality!

How did you go about finding and buying your first alpacas?

I googled advice that said visit farms and talk to good breeders. I then found myself in Cornwall and contacted Wendy and Tom at Dark Sky Alpacas who were very welcoming. We were the first people they had seen since lockdown and they were very welcoming and helpful. Unfortunately, I couldn't go ahead and buy through Dark Sky as I had a big operation that meant I wasn't mobile for over a year. Once I was back on my feet Dark Sky's boys were all spoken for so they recommended Popham. I chose Roger, Dudley and Sebastian as cria and did a day's handling course with Felicia and other new owners as part of the deal.

What did you have to do to get your farm ready? What was your biggest challenge?

It's not quite a farm. We have an acre of garden so it took a while to negotiate with my partner to change the use of 2 areas of lawn into 2 paddocks. That was a challenge and then booking the local fencing contractor was even harder..... He agreed to do the work but couldn't give a datewe were on Devon time. Luckily the fencing was completed early February.

Did you do any husbandry training? If so, did you find it useful?

We did do a days training which gave me a confidence that I will be able to handle the boys.....although I'm still learning as are the boys! They are 'pets'....im conscious but I don't want to over handle them! I do find it a difficult balance but no one wants a berserk alpaca, or novice handler syndrome!

When your alpacas first arrived, what was it like?

It rained almost solidly for 3 weeks, and I had to encourage them into their small shelter. Sebastian the suri shivered and didn't look too good for a few days but he bounced back. In fact he is quite 'precious' as the shearer described him and any changes affect him quite a lot and he's very vocal about it. I was worried about his constant calling but I have come to accept it's the way he is and there are different tones to his calling. He's a bit of a wind up merchant but Roger and Dudley put him in his place.

Since you've had the alpacas, what have been your best and worst moments?

Worst moment was when they arrived, and the weather was so bad. They had come from a barn environment and I had few sleepless nights when Sebastian was struggling. The best moments are

when the charge around the paddock as close group with all four legs off the ground bouncing along like bambi!! I never have my phone each time I've seen but it is such a joy to watch.

What are you looking forward to in the year ahead? Do you plan to do anything with your fleece?

I'm doing a felting course and want to create Dartmoor wall hangings. I want to learn how to dye the white fleece with gorse and heather first!

I also hope to be able to lead the boys in a group without them needing to be touching each other!!

You've joined the CCA, what do you hope to get out of it?

Hopefully meet some fellow alpaca owners so I can learn from more experienced owners.

Can you think of anything that other CCA members could help you with?

What are you most keen to learn more about?

Handling, feed and health advice.

Sebastian, Dudley and Roger

On arrival



After Shearing



2022 SHOW SEASON

The story so far... Wendy Scott, Dark Sky Alpacas

It's been great to have all the halter shows back this year – here's a quick roundup of our season to date.

BAS National Show - March – Telford International Arena



The first show of the season and alpaca breeders from across the UK all make the alpaca 'pilgrimage' to Telford. You're guaranteed to find a selection of the best alpacas in the country but it's not only about the elite few. With around 650 entrants from over 100 exhibitors it's a chance to witness all the variety of colours and styles and a brilliant opportunity to catch up with other breeders. Along with the halter show the Champion of Champions Fleece Show results are announced and displayed and The Fibre Zone had an array of prize winning creations from alpaca fleece – from yarn to garments and all sorts of soft furnishings.

We took a team of 10, 9 suri and 1 huacaya, and Gary and Felicia had a similar number of Popham entries. Cornwall was also represented in the Fibre Zone with entries from Dark Sky and Alpacas of Cornwall and we (Dark Sky) also had an entry in the Champion of Champions Fleece Show as a result of being a reserve colour champion at last year's Cornish Fleece Show.

But you don't have to be an exhibitor to go to the show – Kate and Abha brought family along and there was a family day out for Gary and Felicia's son, daughter in law, grandchildren and other grandparents! In addition to viewing all the shows, I believe they all spent healthily at the array of trade stands too 😊

We were really pleased with our results in the Halter Show, particularly being awarded Reserve Champion Female Brown Suri with Dark Sky Gersemi and our two light junior suri males, sired by Surico Lorient of Dark Sky, being placed 3rd and 5th in an extremely competitive class. The first progeny from Surico Bolero of Dark Sky gained him a 2nd place in the Sires Progeny class. In the Fleece Show Dark Sky Toranaga was the Reserve Champion Fawn Huacaya which was a fabulous result and our Cornish Alpaca Smocks we given a class of their own in the Fibre Zone with 1st and 2nd place.

The Popham team were absolutely thrilled to top off their show by winning the Suri Sires Progeny class with their stud male Popham Carlos.

Sandra was also delighted with her results from the Fibre Zone, winning the Huacaya Mill Spun and Open Yarn classes and being awarded a first place in the Household Items class.

The National festivities were finished off with a dinner, dance and auction in support of Ukraine which raised £14,600 – and the wine and music resulted in some excellent dance moves from some of the Cornish contingent who shall remain nameless!!

Heart of England Fiesta - April - Leighton Buzzard, Bucks



Only a couple of weeks after the Nationals, we made the rather long journey to Buckinghamshire for the Heart of England Fiesta which is one of the other 'big' shows in the country. It's held inside in the Bury Equestrian Centre so there is a sandy floor which made for some interesting 'funny walks' from alpacas who are not used to the surface!!

Alongside the Halter show were the Craft and Photography competitions. This time we entered a team of 8 and also tried our hand at Photography! Whilst there weren't any other Cornish halter show entrants, Sandra did excellently in the Craft Competition.

We were delighted with our first places for Dark Sky Toranaga (adult male fawn huacaya) and Dark Sky High Voltage (intermediate male white suri) and good placings for the rest of our suri team in some extremely competitive classes. Also very pleased with winning the 'Natural Behaviour' category and overall 2nd place in the photo competition.



We enjoyed catching up once again with our 'alpaca friends' and the evening entertainment was a very amusing Barn Dance – so once again, some dancing moves were 'put down' (but not by Tom!!)

CCA Halter Show – April – Griggs, St Austell



We may be biased but think that the CCA halter show gets better and better every year! As you probably know, we restrict entry to CCA members so this is not an official BAS show although we do have an official BAS judge and generally follow the BAS show rules. The reason we keep it 'to ourselves' is to encourage all our members to have a go and experience showing locally in a friendly and supportive environment, perhaps before going on to one of the official shows. We can also adapt the classes a little to reflect the size of the show – for example we included progeny classes for the first time this year but allowed groups with a minimum of 2 rather than the usual 3 alpacas. If you have castrated male 'pet boys' (wethers) and would like to get some feedback on their quality, you are also welcome to enter them. This year we had 53 alpacas entered from 11 members and our judge, Jo Bridge, commented on the really high quality of alpacas.

We were once again really pleased with the Dark Sky team – this time 9 strong and also competing in both the Suri Sire and Dam's progeny classes which we won along with 4 suri colour championships. It was a lovely extra bonus to be recognised with the Chariman's award for Best New Breeder and Judges choice Suri..



Huge Congratulations to Popham who were Supreme Champions in both Huacaya and Suri, to Carpalla with Huacaya Reserve Champ and Rosewall who were awarded Judges Choice Huacaya. Plus a special shout out to Jo Bridge whose oral reasoning, which she shared with both the exhibitors and spectators, meant that this was a brilliant learning experience for all – just what it's meant to be.

Coming up.. The Somerset County Show Paula Winsor, Winsaula Alpacas & SWAG



The Alpacas are Coming to the Somerset County Show!

The South West Alpaca Group will have their own Alpaca Village with demonstrations and stands, and will be hosting a Short Fleece Halter Show for Huacaya and Suri.

The Alpacas will be housed in large tents during the weekend and the show ring will be outside.

Barbara Hetherington will be judging the classes running from black to white including modern grey, and there will be classes for Dam's and Sire's progeny and junior handler.

When: **Saturday 17th September and Sunday 18th September**

Where: Taunton Racecourse, Taunton, TA3 7BL

Entry fee: £25 incl VAT and Judges Levy

09.00 **11/7 entries open**

23.59 **24/8 entries close**

Arrivals: Friday 16th September 16:00 to 20:00 or Saturday 07:00 to 08:30. There will be no Saturday evening or Sunday morning arrivals

Departures: Sunday 18th September from 17:00

Organisers: Di Davies 07739382483 and Paula Winsor 01934 732324

We look forward to seeing you there!

Editors note: this was a great show (pre covid) in 2019 – they awarded trophies to best small medium and large breeders which was a lovely touch. Great venue where I think you can camp out and plenty of shelter if weather is either too hot or too rainy ! and not too far to travel to boot ☺

Ps there are short fleece classes for both huacaya and suri – but if you haven't sheared your suri, there are also long fleece classes for them.

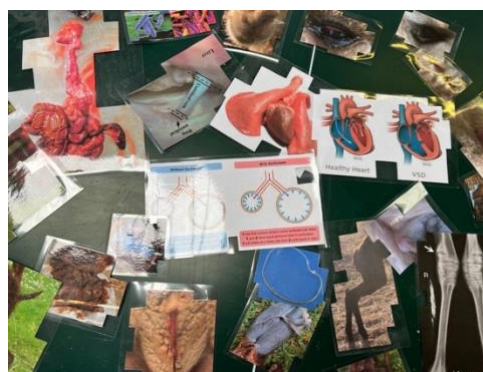
WELFARE

MINI VET DAY held in April
Wendy Scott, Dark Sky Alpacas

A huge thank you to Sarah Caldwell and Felicia & Gary from Popham for presenting and hosting our ‘mini vet day’ birthing refresher in April - it was great content and great to get together and, as always, the contributions and sharing of stories from all our members was a really important part of the day.

As you can see from the photos, the birthing simulator was very much appreciated & I can vouch for the fact that Tom has already had to use his ‘head finding’ technique live with one of our births this month. All was well but might not have been if he hadn’t been confident enough to intervene. As Sarah said on the day, always trust your gut feeling and get involved (or get the vet) if something doesn’t feel or look right.

Overall, the event received such great reviews that we will definitely look to hold again next year.



The Birthing Crib Sheet that was handed out on the day will be posted on the website and facebook page in case anyone has misplaced it or for other members who were not able to attend.

SUMMER SKIN
Sarah Caldwell BSc (hons) BVSc MRCVs

Summer Skin

A greater number of skin cases are being observed during the summer period. Despite great efforts, Chorioptes mites are rarely found but a hypersensitivity to their presence or an environmental trigger are now considered most likely. These lesions were previously described as ‘zinc-responsive dermatosis’ but most cases tested are within the normal reference range. This condition is hereditary, with members of the same family lines being affected and experiencing flare-ups during the risk period.

Individuals present with a thickening of the skin (hyperkeratosis) and loss of fleece, typically either along the spine or within the thighs and on the lower limbs. There is a crusty appearance, with varying degrees of broken skin, reddened patches and pus-filled spots.

The level of itchiness varies, with some quite pronounced behavioural changes in those suffering. This is debilitating and considered a welfare issue so every attempt should be made to provide relief with an emphasis on early recognition in susceptible animals to prevent lesions developing – they can appear very quickly and are more difficult to identify in fleeced animals.



Chorioptes mite responds to topical products only (Frontline recommended), so persistent ivermectin injections will not be effective and may increase the level of resistance in your herd. We know that some alpacas are asymptomatic carriers of the mite and therefore elimination is unrealistic. The focus, therefore, should be about removing the susceptible animals from the main herd to minimise their exposure. Stress is also a factor so consider this when forming your management groups.

Treatment comes in many forms and will depend on the stage of infection. A plan should be devised with your vet as soon as identified. The emphasis is on –

- *Reducing exposure* with a stress-free companion with no history of skin issues and treated with Fipronil (Frontline)
- *Access to the affected area* – most successfully by shearing
- *Reducing the itching and inflammation* with an anti-inflammatory medication - a steroid is best but should not be administered without discussing with your vet first as will not be appropriate in all cases due to delayed wound healing and abortion in pregnant females
- *Treating the infection* – antibiotics may be warranted but samples for culture and sensitivity may be required in recurrent cases before an antibiotic course is initiated
- *Alleviating the lesions* – topical shampoos and ointments are necessary. For example, Dermisol is effective at removing dead crusts and there have been good reports of Camrosa for skin healing
- *Prevention* – the use of immune mediated therapies has proven successful in some cases for treating and either reducing or preventing further flare-ups. Animals with known hypersensitivities should not be bred from due to the hereditary nature.

Photos

I am always on the lookout for photos for the purpose of teaching and knowledge sharing. Despite my great intentions I inevitably end up engrossed or covered in something and miss my opportunity therefore...If you happen to have any or take any in the future that you would be willing for me to use anonymously, I would be very grateful if you keep me in mind!

Thank you.

Sarah x

SUMMER HUSBANDRY TIPS

1. **At shearing time, take the opportunity to boost vitamin levels** with an AD&E shot or paste and a mineral drench
2. **Boost Vaccinations for Pregnant Mums** Don't forget to provide pregnant Mum's with a shot of your usual clostridial vaccination between 8 and 2 weeks before they are due to unpack (check amounts and dates with your vet) – this ensures they pass immunity to their cria whilst still in the womb)
3. **Plasma Supplies** If possible and you are expecting births, take blood from geldings for plasma, alternatively identify a reliable and geographically close source.
4. **Colostrum supplies** In case mum cannot provide enough colostrum in the crucial 48 hrs after birth, make sure you have a backup – Osmonds have a powdered colostrum for alpacas which you feed via a bottle and J G Animal Health have a colostrum paste available if the cria isn't sucking
5. **Mites** As always be on the lookout for mites – particularly in the armpits and under the tail. There are several treatments available – if unsure you should speak to your vet



ADVERTISEMENTS

The CCA's honorary vet; Sarah Caldwell BSc (Hons) BVSc MRCVS is now providing a **bespoke camelid consultancy service**.



TheHumanVet offers:

- A second opinion for clinical cases; working alongside your vet for a consistent approach,
- Health planning for all herd sizes, new and established, for all experience levels.

For more information visit www.thehumanvet.com

Contact Sarah at info@thehumanvet.com

The Yorkshire Alpaca Group are holding a series of events in the next few months and we'll be publishing our events calendar soon.

Now is the time of year that alpaca breeders will be making those all important breeding decisions; with a gestation of over 11 months, it's a long time to wait for your cria and the decisions on which male to mate with each female are of vital importance to your herd.

DATE	EVENT	SPEAKER	COST	BOOKING REF
29 th June Zoom 7-8pm	Making Breeding Decisions - Conformation	Judge and highly successful breeder	Minimum Donation to Quechan Benefit (covers both events) YAG Members £10 Non Members £20 (Collected by YAG) Please give more if you can	MBD 1
6 th July Zoom 7-8pm	Making Breeding Decisions – Fleece	Barbara Hetherington		
20 th July Zoom 7-8pm	The Practicalities of Breeding; different "types" of stud service; the alpaca reproduction processes etc	Former Judge and breeder Liz Barlow	Free to YAG Members £ 5 for non members	PracBreed 2

Liz Barlow - liz@livanti.com or 07976 671701

The zoom link will be sent to you once your donation/fee has been received.

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