

Mary-Jo Smith

BAS Alpaca Judge (Certified November 2010, rectified in 2017 and 2019)

Contact Details

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Profile:

I was raised in rural Northern Alberta, Canada.

Upon graduating from St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia with a business degree in 2000 I moved to England and joined my Aunt Joy Whitehead at Bozedown Alpacas. I was meant to stay for 6 months to 2 years and I now find myself still here 21 plus years later. I found as most people do, I fell in love with the alpacas and found a keen interest in the breeding program at Bozedown.

I have been involved in all aspects of the alpaca industry and have attended many seminars and been part of many committees in helping to develop the British industry. I have also helped organise many large alpaca shows and seminars. (The British Alpaca Futurity, Alpaca Showtime and Alpaca Classic). I also spent two years as a board Member for the BAS.

I have played a large role in developing the Bozedown herd, I have been to Peru, Australia and the United States to select alpacas from some of the top breeders in the world. Traveling to other countries has enabled me see where the UK herd is in comparison to the rest of the world. I have had opportunity to assess thousands of alpacas in the process. At Bozedown Alpacas we have a large herd of both Suris and Huacayas and enjoy the challenge of improving our herd each year.

I am a firm believer in continuing education and with this ethos I attend all the education seminars and clinics that I can each year with regards to Judging and alpacas in general.

I have had the pleasure to Judge many halter and fleece shows throughout the UK (including the BAS National show), mainland Europe and Canada. I have judged and given seminars throughout both Europe and the UK.

I have a passion for alpacas and to continue to learn about these wonderful alpacas.