

## **BAS Intermediate Alpaca Assessment**

This course is offered in three modules which may be attended in any combination and on different occasions. There is some repetition on the two fibre days but it is essential to complete all three days (although not necessarily on the same course) if participants wish to progress to the Alpaca Assessment (Advanced) or Alpaca Judge Stage 1 training.

### **DAY 1 – SURI FIBRE DAY**

The day includes **mainly** classroom tutoring and some work with live alpacas in the afternoon. The content includes:

#### **CLASSROOM**

- Structure of suri alpaca fleece
- How is it different to other species
- Identifying the positive and negative fleece traits for assessing Suri including
  - Density
  - Fineness
  - Colour
  - Handle
  - Micron
  - Lustre
  - Lock structure
  - Thicker fibres
  - Contamination
- Practice assessments using samples and shorn fleeces
- Understanding the relationship between traits and the relative importance of those individual traits
- Assessing a fleece for shows and processing including fleece growth/length
- Calculating the clean fleece weight.

#### **BARN/OUTSIDE**

- Learn how to open a Suri fleece
- Identifying lock styles and coverage
- Comparative assessments of Suri fleeces on the alpaca.

There will short tests/assessments to ensure understanding and information on further training through the BAS

### **DAY 2 – FORM AND FUNCTION – CONFORMATION**

The first part of the day will be in the classroom, the remainder will be in the barn/outside with live alpacas.

- Basic anatomy of the alpaca
  - Points of the alpaca
  - Alpaca skeleton
- Understanding the positive and negative traits of an alpacas conformation
  - Head including eyes, ears and mouth
  - Proportions of an alpaca
  - Legs
  - Tail set
  - Genitalia
- Balance and movement and their importance in an alpacas function
- Assessing cria
- Practise assessments of individual and groups of alpacas.

There will short tests/assessments to ensure understanding and information on further training through the BAS

### **DAY 3 – HUACAYA FIBRE DAY**

The day includes **mainly** classroom tutoring and some work with live alpacas in the afternoon. The content includes:

#### **CLASSROOM**

- Structure of huacaya alpaca fleece
- How is it different to other species
- Identifying the positive and negative fleece traits for assessing Huacaya including
  - Density
  - Fineness
  - Colour
  - Handle
  - Micron
  - Brightness
  - Crimp
  - Thicker fibres
  - Contamination
- Practise assessments using samples and shorn fleeces
- Understanding the relationship between traits and the relative importance of those individual traits
- Assessing a fleece for shows and processing including fleece growth/length
- Calculating the clean fleece weight.

#### **BARN**

- Learn how to open a Huacaya fleece
- Identifying crimp styles
- Identifying the transition line, thicker fibres and colour contamination
- Comparative assessments of Huacaya fleeces on the alpaca.

There will short tests/assessments to ensure understanding and information on further training through the BAS