



BAS Weekly Newsletter
Timely Advice & Current News



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CEO NOTES

Education

You will see below dates and venues for 6 possible courses covering an "Introduction to alpaca assessment". This is the same course content as the one delivered by Zoom during lockdown so if you did that you don't need to do it again....unless you want to. Each course needs a minimum of 8 to run. Dates for intermediate and advanced courses will be announced in due course for the Autumn of 2022.

H&H Insurance

I have had a few calls from members trying to renew their insurance with H&H. I have spoken to H&H and they told me that they are "between brokers" so can't take on the policies at the moment. They are hoping to resolve the issue but have no timescale they can share.

BAS Board Blog

Judith Newman contemplates her involvement with shows and the need for some young blood!!<https://bas-uk.com/alpacapedia/the-bas-board-blog/>

You can email about this or anything else using ceo@bas-uk.com

Duncan Pullar

BAS CEO 07496 578781

Alpaca Education

Introduction to Alpaca Assessment

There will be a maximum of 12 people on the day. Each course requires a minimum of 8 people to run.

Cost: BAS members £65 + VAT; non-members £85 + VAT

If you want to sign up for this course then please email Duncan ASAP using ceo@bas-uk.com

This is a one day course on alpaca conformation and fibre, running from 10 am until 4pm.

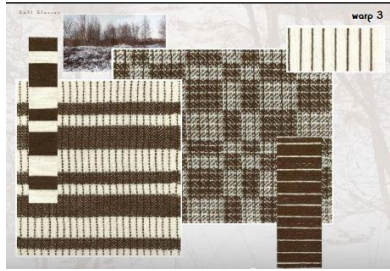
Covering:

- Basic conformation including teeth, stature, genitalia, legs, gait and body scoring;
- Fleece – how to recognise the different qualities and traits of fibre including weight and value, fineness, density, crimp, uniformity, length, colour, amplitude and frequency and an introduction to histograms.

You will have the opportunity to assess fleeces and discuss the merits of different qualities and styles.

Tutor	Area	Day	Date
Jay Holland	Gloucs	Friday	1st July
Rob and Shirley Bettinson	Warwicks	Saturday	16th July
Jo Bridge	Essex	Monday	18th July
Nick Harrington Smith	North Bucks	Saturday	2nd July
Mary Jo Smith	Co Tyrone, NI	Saturday	13th Aug
Barabara Hetherington	Cumbria	Saturday	20th Aug

If you want to sign up for any of these courses then please email Duncan ASAP using ceo@bas-uk.com. It will be first come first served if we are over subscribed.



"Adding Value Grant" from RPA

The Adding Value grant is available for growers or producers to add value to eligible agricultural products after they have been harvested or reared. It is competitive, so the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) will score your application based on merit. RPA will award a grant to the strongest applications. You can apply for a grant between £25,000 and £300,000.

The Adding Value grant is for growers or other producers of agricultural products (from agricultural or horticultural activity, including rearing livestock), this includes Alpacas. Eligible items include:

- equipment for processing non-edible agricultural products into new products (for example, flax, hemp, wool, hides, and skins). (We cannot fund anything for the actual shearing).
- premises for the preparation or processing of added value agricultural products, including associated integral storage areas.
- Application will be via the online checker which is expected to open in early June. If a project scores highly enough, it will be then invited to submit a full application. Applicants need to check any detailed queries with the RPA FTF@rpa.gov.uk.
- Further information can be found here: [Farming Investment Fund - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Read the guidance [about the Adding Value grant, who can apply and what the grant can pay for](#) before the grant is open for applications



Safe Shearing

- be a demanding customer!

Shearing can be stressful for alpacas, owners and shearers. To have the smoothest possible event you need to plan well and as an owner and **remember you have the final say on how the operation goes.**

Concerns that have been raised in the past included:

- Rough handling – you are completely within your rights to “call out” a handler who is not handling your animals with care and respect. Yes, at shearing alpacas need to be caught and restrained but must be treated with due care. Make sure you have enough people to do a safe job. When on the floor, or table, one handler needs to control the animals head. Invest in the right equipment and training to manage a safe restraint.
- Incomplete shearing – if you want your animals shorn then that is what you need to have done. In some cases alpacas are “tidied up” but retain considerable fleece risking heat stress and flystrike later in the summer.
- Repairing” cuts with gorilla glue – veterinary glue is fine as an approach to small cuts but must be accompanied by cleaning and fly repellent. Not all glues are the same and some will contain chemicals that can burn skin. Cuts to animals when shearing are inevitable but can be minimised by good training and not rushing. If it’s a serious cut call the Vet.

- Be clear in your mind what you want to do if your shearer offers to administer any drugs or vaccinations. It is illegal for a shearer to administer Prescription only medicines as a contractor employed by you (its different for farm staff employed by you)/ There is a danger that the drugs/ vaccines have been stored at the wrong temperature. It is better to work with your Vet.
- Biosecurity – it is reasonable for you to ask for equipment to be disinfected in front of you, so you are confident that it has been done.

“Don’t be too British”, step in and take control if you are not happy! If it’s not going right, stop proceedings and if really its bad ask the shearer to leave your premises. We know securing a shearer is tricky as demand tends to be beyond supply, but everyone has the right to expect a professional job



Grazing Land near Cheltenham

David a non BAS member has 5 acres of grass land at Andoversford near Cheltenham and he is keen to find an alpaca owning tenant. There is mains water and electricity on site. There are two field shelters in place.

If you are interested in grazing alpacas at this site contact David directly using 01242 821558 or 07726 266663. He is out a lot and mobile reception is poor so please leave a message if you don't get through.



Registry Upgrade

This week the registry went through an upgrade. Hopefully you will all find it good to use.

User Guide and intro video

I do have a pdf file 'User Guide' for the new iteration of the system which I can send if you need it. Below is a link to a five minute 'introduction to the Grassroots Online' video which can be found at <https://home.grassroots.co.uk/farmer-access-pedweb/online-registry/> click on 'online intro video' and click on 'play'

2022 Event Diary



If you need information about any of the events listed below then please email Duncan using ceo@bas-uk.com

Saturday	11 June	Affiliate Course - Devon
Sunday	12 June	Affiliate Course - Devon

If you would like your BAS, Educational or Regional group **event** included in this section (not shows) please send details to Duncan.

2022 Show Diary



Champions and judges from National Show 2022

Make a note in your diary!

(New information in red)

Breeders considering entering more than one fleece show may need the organisers of one show to forward the fleece(s) to the next show the fleeces are entered for. Please could entries to multiple fleece shows advise the organisers of the plan to ensure they know those entries need to be despatched asap to the next show. Please ensure that all the necessary entry forms are included in the box separately from the forms for the first shows.

West Shires Alpaca Group - Three Counties Halter Show

Date: June 18th Huacaya and June 19th Suri

Judge: Roger Clarke

Entry fee: £26.40

Entries open: 25th April

Entries close: 31st May

Venue: Three Counties Show Ground WR13 6NW

Max entry 120 per day

Organisers:

roger.mount@btinternet.com 07711044106

jay@purealpacas.com 07722953635

iain.c.sharp@gmail.com 07789257222

CCA Cornwall Fleece Show 2022

Date: 9th July 2022

Judge: Barbara Hetherington

Venue: Carn Tremayne Farm, Praze, Cornwall TR14 9PG.

Collection - Sandra Muriel, Carn Tremayne Farm, Praze, Cornwall TR14 9PG

Please mark boxes CCA Fleece Show

Entries open - 4th May 2022

Close - 17th June or when entry level of 60 fleeces is reached.

Entries to arrive at collection between 28th June and 5th July. Not Before 28th June.

Entry fee £18 plus £2 BAS levy and VAT. CCA members will receive a £3 per entry discount.

West Shires Alpaca Group - Three Counties Fleece Show

Date: 23rd and 24th July

Ellingham and Ringwood (Short Fleece Halter Show)

Date: 13th Aug 2022

Judge: Shirley Bettinson

Venue: Somerley Park, Ringwood, Hants BH24 3PL.

Entries open: Mon 20th June 2022

Entries close: Monday 1 Aug 2022.

Entry limit: 120

Entry fee £20 inclusive of levy and VAT.

Organiser: Di Davies didavies@alphaalpacas.com, 07739 382483 or 01308 488661

East of England (Fleece) Show organised by EAG

Dates: 20th & 21st August 2022

Limit on entries: 120

Judge: Mr Roger Clarke

Venue: Essex Young Farmers Centre

Entries Open: 29th June 2022

Entries close: 31st July 2022 or when full

Entry Fee: £16 EAG members: £22 non-members (prices include the BAS Show levy & VAT on the levy). Fees collected by EAG who will invoice exhibitors direct,

treasurer@easternalpacagroupuk.org

Fleece Delivery: Harley Laver, Elmlea, Cold Norton Road, Latchingdon, Essex, CM3 6HP by 11 Aug 2022.

Organiser: Harley Laver - harley@churchfieldalpacas.co.uk / 07934 463342

Westmorland Show 2022

Date: Wednesday 7th September 2022

Judge: Shirley Bettinson

Venue: Lane Farm, Crooklands, Kendal, Cumbria, LA7 7NH

Organisers: Steven / Tracey Ellershaw - lythebrowalpacas@yahoo.com / 07710957107

SWAG Halter & Fleece Show

Dates: 17th & 18th September 2022

Venue: The Somerset County Show 1@ Taunton Racecourse

HoEAG Autumn Fleece Show:

Sunday 2nd October 2022

Judges: Mrs. Mary Jo Smith and Mrs Barbara Hetherington

East of England Show organised by EAG

Dates: 9th October 2022

Limit on entries: 140

Judge: Mr Jay Holland

Venue: Beechwood Equestrian Centre, Rettendon Common, Chelmsford, Essex
CM3 8DY

Entries Open: 1ST July 2022

Entries close: 11th September 2022 or when full

Entry Fee: £31.20 EAG members: £36 non-members (prices include the BAS Show
levy & VAT on the levy GRASSROOTS WILL COLLECT FULL AMOUNT AND
MEMBERS WILL BE REFUNDED THE DIFFERENCE BY EAG)

Extras: Pen Cleaning £40 compulsory but will be refunded if pen is cleaned. (EAG to
collect fees)

treasurer@easternalpacagroupuk.org ;Electric Hook ups £35 (EAG to collect fees)

Arrivals are on 8th October 2022 between 15.00 & 17.00. Arrival is the day prior to
the show only (except in exceptional circumstances)

Organiser: Harley Laver - harley@churchfieldalpacas.co.uk / 07934 463342

Yorkshire Alpaca Group Halter Show

Dates: 15th & 16th October

Judge: Mr Tim Hey

Venue: York Auction Mart.

Welsh Alpaca Show

Date: 22nd October 2022

Judge: Julia Corrigan Stuart

Venue: Welshpool Livestock Market

Entry fee:£20 + vat

Entries open: 15th August

Entries Close: 8th September

Organisers: Susan Myerscough 07796 678637 and Michael Henderson 07793
081388

Email: susan@alpacas.wales

Midlands Championship Halter Show

Date: 5th November.

2023

BAS National Show 2023

Friday 17th, Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th March 2023

Telford.

NWAG Alpaca Championships

Saturday 1st April 2023

Borderway Mart, Carlisle, Cumbria.

Judge Mrs Julia Corrigan-Stuart

HoEAG Spring Alpaca Fiesta:

Friday 14th to Sunday 16th April 2023

Judge: Mr. Roger Clarke

Scottish Alpaca Championship

Dates; 22nd and 23rd April 2023

Venue: Lanark Auction Market

Entries Open: 17 Feb 2023

Entries Close: 6th March 2023

Organiser Stuart Ramsay



Facebook



Website



Email

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