

JINGLE BELLS EXTRAVAGANZA
FLEECE SHOW SPECIFICS

SHOW INFORMATION

Show dates: June 11-12, 2011
Location: Thurston County Fairgrounds
3054 Carpenter Road SE, Olympia (Lacey) , WA 98503

Directions - Heading to Lacey on I-5 South: Take Exit 109, turn left onto Martin Way. Take Martin Way to Carpenter Road. Turn right onto Carpenter and follow approximately 3 miles to the fairgrounds. The fairgrounds will be on your left.

Directions - Heading to Lacey on I-5 North: Take Exit 109, turn right onto Martin Way. Take Martin to Carpenter Road. Turn right onto Carpenter and follow approximately 3 miles to the fairgrounds. The fairgrounds will be on your left.

Judges:

RED FIBER:	Mary Jo Miller, Bardstown, KY
GREEN FIBER:	Judy Ross, Chesapeake, OH

Show Superintendent: Donna Clark phone: 509-332-3884 cell: 509-595-7577 email: llamas@turbonet.com. 1103 Palouse-Albion Rd., Palouse, WA 99161

FLEECE SHOW –SHORN FLEECE AND FLEECE-ON FLEECE

This is a double point fleece show. Ribbons will be awarded for first through sixth place in every class. Reserve Grand, Grand and Best of Shows will be awarded as noted in the class list. Remember this is a double point show so each judge will choose a best of show. Color champions will be awarded in both shorn and fleece-on for white/beige, fawn, gray, brown, black and fancy/multi.

COMPOSITE (Halter + Fleece-on). Results will be posted online and ribbons mailed or delivered at a future event.

SHORN FLEECE

Shorn Fleece Show: Shorn Fleece entry tag and instruction are attached. Please make out a separate entry tag, fill out the entry forms and send the appropriate class entry fee for each of your fleece entries. If you mail a box of fleeces please include a check for the appropriate amount of return postage with your entries. However, if you pick up your fleeces at the show on June 12 after judging, no return postage is needed.

We encourage all exhibitors to mail both shorn fleeces and finished products to the superintendent. Every mailed entry that is received by mail by June 1 will be entered in a drawing for a \$75.00 gift certificate from Llama Hardware. We have 2 gift certificates to give away and the more you mail in, the more entries you will have for the drawings.

Aside from being entered in the drawings, our fleece show is so big that it would really help us avoid the Sunday afternoon bottleneck by having our exhibitors mail in shorn fleeces, finished products and photos so that everyone can have their items judged and leave in a timely manner Sunday afternoon. Thank you for your consideration.

Shorn Fleece Participants

Since the International Gathering of Friends show in Iowa is the weekend after our show, Kathi McKinney has offered to fedex second day air freight any fleece you would like to be judged at Iowa at the conclusion of JBE. To take advantage of this offer you need to do the following.

Send or deliver your fleece, JBE entry form and fee to Donna Clark, JBE Superintendent.

If you deliver your fleece to JBE please also bring a box that we can use for fedexing.

Send your International Gathering entry form and fee to the:

ILR office, PO Box 8, Kalispell, MT 59903

A medium box with a few fleeces will be the easiest way to send fleece but if you want to send one fleece per box that is fine; it will be a \$12 fee per box. Put copy of entry form in box with each fleece.

Put a check for \$12 in your box made out to Kathi McKinney (that is the fee for fedexing).

Put in a shipping label with the following information: Kristi Murdock, 3213 Feather Ridge Rd., Toddville, IA 52341 319-294-8319, and a return address label, attached to your \$12 check.

Please be sure to use a box that is in good shape.

Returning of fleeces should be coordinated with the Gathering Superintendent, Norris Berg, email: kmberg@presenter.com, phone: 715-273-5230.

Kathi will then ship them out Monday morning to Kristi Murdock who will deliver your entries to the Gathering. Please note: there will be an additional cost to have your fleece returned to you after the Gathering show and as of today (Feb 2011), I don't know what that cost will be. If you have any questions or suggestions feel free to call Kathi McKinney @ 360-580-6978 or bobkat@gotsky.com.

Each shorn fleece will be accompanied by the following:

- 1. Fleece MUST be in a clear plastic bag**
- 2. Copy of ILR registration, and entry tag (placed in bag with fleece). Pictures of your animal are nice to include, but not required.**

SHORN LLAMA FLEECE CLASSES

1. Shorn Fleece Divisions

a) Double Fleece with Crimp/Crinkle

- (1) Two discernable layers of fiber
- (2) Guard hair is stiff and coarser
- (3) Undercoat is soft and shorter than the guard hair
- (4) Crimp/Crinkle in the undercoat
- (5) The fleece has loft.

b) Single Fleece with Crimp/Crinkle

- (1) One discernable fiber type
- (2) Little differentiation between guard hair and undercoat

- (3) Fleece has crimp/crinkle
 - (4) The fleece has loft.
 - c) Single Fleece without Crimp/Crinkle
 - (1) One discernable fiber type
 - (2) No crimp/crinkle
 - (3) Distinct locks
 - (4) The fleece has loft.
 - (5) Lower lock density and fleece weight than suri
 - d) Suri Fleece
 - (1) Individual, distinct locks
 - (2) No crimp/crinkle
 - (3) Cool, slick hand
 - (4) High luster
 - (5) High lock density and high fleece weight

- 2. Shorn Fleece Age divisions
 - a) Age of llama at date of shearing should be used
 - (1) Under 24 Months (a. Juvenile and b. Yearling) and
 - (2) 24 Months and older. (c. Two – Three Year Old and d. Mature Adults).

- 3. Shorn Fleece Guidelines
 - a) Each fleece entry shall be accompanied by the following:
 - (1) Completed Fleece Entry tag. These tags may be downloaded from the ILR website or show management to provide the following information:
 - (a) Fiber Division
 - (b) Age Division
 - (c) Gender
 - (d) Birth date of llama
 - (e) Date of shearing by date and month
 - (f) Date of previous shearing by date and month
 - (g) Growth time in months
 - (h) Owner identification
 - (i) Llama ILR#
 - (2) It is the responsibility of the owner to enter the fleece in the appropriate fleece division. However, the fiber judge will also assess whether the fleece has been entered in the appropriate division, and, if not, will move the fleece to the appropriate division. Or, after reviewing the numbers of entries, the show management may choose to further divide or combine divisions.
 - b) Fleece shall:
 - (1) Be shorn, or scissor cut, not brushed.
 - (2) Be shorn within two years of the date of the show.
 - (3) Be skirted so as to exhibit only the prime fleece from the barrel or prime fleece areas only
 - (4) Be submitted in clear plastic bags.
 - (5) Be judged by exhibitor number only.

- (6) Be disqualified if entered with insect or parasite infestation.
- (7) Have an appropriate staple length for processing.
 - (a) Minimum staple length of 3 inches undercoat.
 - (b) Maximum staple length of 6 inches for those llamas 13 months and older, at the time of shearing.
 - (c) Points will be deducted for staple length longer than 6 inches which is shorn from llamas age 13 months or more at the time of shearing. *(This is consistent with the ability of most fiber processing mills in the USA. Mills are now starting to accept longer fleece length and then cutting the fleece.)*

c) Fleece shall not:

- (1) Have guard hairs removed.
- (2) Be washed after shearing.
- (3) Have grooming products such as crème rinse or other fiber chemicals applied prior to or after shearing.

4. Shorn Fleece Judging Criteria

- a) Fleece Judging Criteria follow fiber industry standards for desirability to attain the **most marketable product**.
- b) Criteria have been developed to consider the primary positive characteristics of each fleece type to be evaluated.
- c) One hundred points are possible. The judge will identify tie breaker categories, in order, for each division or class, prior to judging.

5. COAT-ON AND FLEECE-ON FIBER EVALUATION

1. Coat-On Divisions

a) Classic Coat

- (1) Guard hair is the primary feature
- (2) Minimal visible undercoat
- (3) Undercoat of 2.5 inches or less
- (4) Shoulder and blanket fiber of same length and density
- (5) Coat may be brushed or shorn

2. Fleece-On Divisions

a) Double Fleece with Crimp/Crinkle

- (1) Two discernable layers of fiber
- (2) Guard hair is stiff and coarser
- (3) Undercoat is soft and shorter than the guard hair
- (4) Crimp in the undercoat
- (5) The fleece has loft.

b) Single Fleece with Crimp/crinkle

- (1) One discernable fiber type
- (2) Little differentiation between guard hair and undercoat
- (3) Fleece has crimp/crinkle.
- (4) The fleece has loft.

c) Single Fleece without Crimp

- (1) One discernable fiber type
- (2) No crimp/crinkle,
- (3) Distinct locks
- (4) The fleece has loft.
- (5) Lower density/weight than suri

d) Suri Fleece

- (1) Individual, distinct locks
- (2) No crimp/crinkle
- (3) Cool, slick hand
- (4) High luster
- (5) High density/weight

3. Remember to sign up when checking in to allow show management to plan for judging the individual llama's fleece.

GUIDELINES FOR FLEECE PRODUCTS

1. Fleece Products classes:
 - a) Knitting Item
 - b) Crochet item
 - c) Felted Item
 - d) Woven Item
 - e) Handspun Yarn
 - f) Locker Hooking Item
2. Show management, with the Judge's agreement, may choose to combine the above classes with low numbers of entries.
3. All entries must be at least 50% llama, exclusive of decoration.
4. Decorative non-llama trim or accents may be added, but are not to be the primary element used in creating the fleece product.
5. The work of the Fleece Product should be done solely by the exhibitor. Yarn used in Fleece Products entries may be handspun or commercially spun.
6. Each Fleece Product entry shall be accompanied by the following by a completed Fleece Products Entry tag.
7. Attach the entry tag, whenever possible, directly to the entry
8. It is the responsibility of the owner to enter the Fleece Product in the appropriate Fleece Product class. And, after reviewing the numbers of entries, the show management may choose to further divide or combine divisions.

9. The Fleece Product shall preferably be submitted in a clear plastic bag. The purpose of the bag is to keep the entry clean, help keep the entry tag with the entry, and still allow others to see the entry.
10. Yarn used in entries may be handspun or commercially spun. Rovings used in entries may be hand carded or commercially carded.
11. Fleece Products will be evaluated according to the criteria as listed on the Fleece
12. Fiber Product Yarn entries:
 - a) Skein in 2 yard skeins of at least 2 ounces.
 - b) Gently figure 8 tie in 4 locations.
 - c) Do not twist into a tight skein.
 - d) May be spun with an electric spinner, spinning wheel, or drop spindle, but may not have been commercially spun.

DEFINITIONS FOR LLAMA FLEECE EVALUATION

Annualized Weight – the actual weight of the fleece multiplied by 12 months, and divided by the number of months since the last shearing or since birth equals the annualized weight.

Brightness – the ability of fleece with crimp to reflect light in a bright, vibrant, and healthy manner. Same as *luminosity*.

Cotting – web-like adhesions between sections or locks of fleece. Locks can be separated from each other.

Crimp - an organized and uniform waviness in an individual lock of fiber. The attributes of crimp are amplitude (the height of the wave), and frequency (how often the wave occurs). Short waves which occur frequently are the most desirable.

Debris – foreign matter which is embedded on the surface or within the fleece. For the purposes of judging debris, it shall be considered to be larger than 0.5 inches in length, stiff, and not easily removable during processing. Debris may include llama beans, straw, twigs, toe nails, etc.

Density of Lock – the number of strands of fiber in a lock of fleece or a handful of fleece. The locks do not feel spongy, when squeezed, and do not compact easily. The thickness of the lock. Density is not to be confused with cotted or matted fleece. Locks feel solid.

Density of Blanket - The fleece fills the hand, is bulky, and heavy in weight. The number of strands of fiber per square inch. The thickness of the fleece, as a whole. Skin is not easily seen, when the fleece is parted.

Felting – irreversible meshing of locks and fiber. Locks cannot be pulled free. If there is felting in a Classic Llama, it is suggested this may not be a true Classic Llama, as the undercoat should not be of sufficient density to permit felting.

Fineness – Determined by the diameter of the individual fibers. The finest micron would be an actual micron assessment of 19 or less; while coarse guard hair has a micron assessment of 30 or more. The finest fibers are soft and sensuous, while the coarse fibers are prickly and stiff. Fineness in a suri feels cool and slick.

Hand – the tactile feel of all the fiber characteristics, in which fineness, softness, strength, density, flexibility, and positive sensations are assessed. A fleece may have a different Hand score than Fineness score, which only evaluated the diameter of the individual fibers. Hand evaluates the feel of the whole fleece.

Lock Structure – the natural and observable arrangement of groups of fibers, within the fleece. Locks form into groups of fiber or locks, beginning at the skin as they grow from clusters of fiber follicles.

Loft – the sponginess in fleece as it returns to normal position after it has been squeezed. Some judges refer to this as “fluffiness.” In Fleece On classes, loft refers to the ability of the fleece to grow out at right angles to the skin, to stand up, rather than drape on the llama.

Luster – the sheen, gloss, or shine of the fleece as it reflects light off the smooth scales of each fiber in a fleece without crimp. Glossy.

Matting – inseparable meshing of locks and fiber. Individual locks cannot be pulled free, without damaging the lock or fleece.

Overall Condition –The whole fleece is evaluated. Is it a healthy fleece from a healthy llama? Are there color changes, bleaching, coting or matting, brittleness, dryness, or scales?, Does it have an “alive appearance”?

Second Cuts – undesirable short pieces of fleece caused by shearing a section of fleece a second time. A second cut has two shorn ends to the section of fleece. These second cuts are not easily removed during processing.

Sheen – The ability of fiber or hair to reflect light. A radiant glow or shine.

Skirting – process by which leg, neck, backbone, groin, armpit, and belly fiber are pulled removed from the shorn fleece. Many of these sections of fleece, which contain higher numbers of coarser fibers, can also be eliminated by shearing the prime fleece first.

Staple Length – the measurement in inches from the cut end of the lock to the tip of the lock, without stretching. In Fleece On judging, the staple length is measured from the skin to the tip of the lock.

Tensile Strength – ability of the fiber to withstand gentle tension. A lock of fleece should not crackle or break, when under tension at any point along the lock. The tips are not brittle

Uniformity – should be the same throughout the entire fleece. It is affected by fineness, hand, luster or brightness, staple length, guard hair, crimp, and condition.