

News Release from the ILR Fleece Committee

The ILR Fleece Committee and UAP program are pleased to announce a new and innovative way to recognize exhibitors who have high-quality shorn fleeces and to promote llama fleeces for selling purposes! ILR Fleece shows will now have the option and ability to reward those fleeces that, while still excellent, may not have earned a placing in the standard fleece show.

This additional program is called “The Merit System.” It is simple, yet can be very effective. In addition to the standard placements in a show, i.e. First, Second Third etc. exhibitors will receive a small blue, red or white small, flat ribbon. Ribbons will be awarded based on the point total on the scorecard. It is very similar to the common practice at fairs, youth events etc. called “The Danish System.”

http://ext100.wsu.edu/lincoln-adams/wp-content/uploads/sites/57/2013/03/Danish_System.pdf

The point total used will be at the discretion of the fleece judge. It is suggested that judges adhere as closely as possible to 100-90 points = Blue, 89-80 points = Red 79 points or less = White. As judges have different standards for judging, we felt it was necessary to leave the final decision up to individual judges. Once this point structure has been established by the officiating judge, clerks can easily affix the flat ribbons as they put out the normal placement ribbons.

Show Superintendents will have the option of offering The Merit System as an addition to the standard fleece show placements. The cost of the ribbons is .20 cents per ribbon and \$6.25 for the flat rate ship envelope to mail it. After the show is over any unused (still like new) ribbons can be returned within

15 business days after a show ends for a credit. The ILR-SD will maintain a bulk amount of these ribbons to cut down on expenses for shows.

After receiving 3 blues or 2 blues and 1 red ribbon, an exhibitor will be allowed to print out a pre-formatted certificate to which they can attach their ribbons; this can then be put with their winning fleece at shows and sales. This system provides a way to reward an excellent-quality fleece and serve as a promotional tool to market their fleece.

The Merit System is a wonderful way to encourage participation in fleece shows and to help exhibitors promote sales of their fleeces.

We welcome your suggestions, ideas and comments!