

SURI FIBER HARVESTING CODE OF PRACTICE

This Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice has been **developed for Suri alpaca breeders by the Suri Network Product Development Committee** in order to provide producers with clear and concise guidelines to maximize value. It can be implemented regardless of the operation size, location, or final textile destination. This step by step guide will enable producers to use standard fiber preparation, shearing, sorting and packing techniques, thereby improving the national clip and creating credibility in the textile marketing industry.

The value of the shorn fiber will be a combination of 1) fiber characteristics such as fineness (ADF), consistency across the blanket (SD, CV), staple length, luster, color (white is considered the most valuable), consistency of color, and freedom from tenderness, 2) shearing methods, and 3) fiber preparation before and after shearing day.

This Code is the first of its kind for Suri fiber anywhere in the world, so we encourage everyone to review its contents and adhere to the guidelines. By doing so, we will set the highest standards for the world market.

This document has been prepared by Donna M. Rudd, on behalf of the Suri Network Product Development Committee using resources from fiber harvesting codes of practice and other resources of natural fiber producing sectors of the fiber industry 2009. "A Guide to Shearing Suris" is written by Mark Loffhagen, and "Gathering and Laying Out Suri Fleeces" is written by Mary Lou Clingan. Editing by the Suri Network Product Development Committee.
Updated by the Suri Network Product Development Committee April, 2014.

INTRODUCTION

Before you proceed with this manual, there are a few key concepts to keep in mind:

- Not every fleece will fall into the harvesting program as laid out in this manual. Show fleeces, fleeces from animals that have shown poor thrift during the year, fleeces you intend to display for animal sales – these are examples of fleece types that might require other forms of harvesting and/or preparation.
- This manual recommends that you have a Sorter/Grader(see Appendix C) at your farm on the day of shearing. To produce the optimal harvest, the Sorter/Grader, the Producer, and the Shearer all work and communicate with each other throughout the day of shearing. However, we recognize that for economic reasons, the Producer may decide to sort the fiber him or herself in the days that follow shearing. Regardless of who performs this task, SORTING IS NOT AN OPTION, IT IS A REQUIREMENT for the purpose of this Code.
- Owners may elect to shear their own animals. This manual offers no preference as to whether owners shear the animals themselves or hire a third party. Owners electing to shear their own animals may still adhere to the Code by following the goals and objectives as set forth in this document.
- Histograms are an important part of any Suri breeding program. The most important aspect to taking histogram samples is that they are always pulled from the same location on each animal. If you are able to pull the samples from the blanket as it is coming off the animal, this will reduce second cuts. To collect histogram samples directly off the animal, wait for almost all the blanket to be off of one side of the animal, then pull your sample out, keeping one hand at the base to try not to disturb the remaining blanket. A banded sample can be bagged right away, or rolled up with the rest of the blanket and pulled out later. If you would like to keep a sample back for yourself, have two bags labeled and ready so the sample for both bags is collected from the same place. You can use these samples once you receive your histogram results to use for grading fiber.
- Herd health tasks should be performed after shearing of the animal is complete but while the animal is still stretched on the shearing mat or table. Performing such tasks while shearing is taking place is distracting to the shearer, stressful on the animal and dangerous. Herd health tasks should only be performed on shearing day with the consent of the shearer.
- Following all of the practices in this manual will allow individual farms to produce the best outcome for their fleeces. However, this manual also offers our entire industry the opportunity to set procedural standards between farms. These standards are the

cornerstone of any high quality fiber program. Thus, we ask each of you to encourage your Suri Network neighbor to also follow the Code.

If you have questions about the Code, please contact your nearest SNPDC member. They are available to assist in successfully implementing the Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. PREPARATION FOR SHEARING DAY — 6 MONTHS TO ONE WEEK
 - A. Equipment
 - B. Tasks
- II. PREPARATION FOR SHEARING DAY — ONE WEEK TO ONE DAY
 - A. Equipment
 - B. Tasks – One week prior
 - C. Tasks – One day prior
- III. SHEARING DAY
- IV. PACKING AND STORING SURI FLEECE

APPENDICES

- A. A GUIDE TO SHEARING SURIS
- B. WORKERS REQUIRED
- C. JOB DESCRIPTIONS
- D. SHEARING AREA LAYOUT
- E. GOOD FIBER CARE
- F. FIBER SPECIFICATIONS
- G. BIO SECURITY
- H. SURI FLEECE PARTS
- I. COLOR CONTAMINATION

EXHIBITS

- 1. Producer's Duties and Responsibilities Checklist
- 2. Shearer's Duties and Responsibilities Checklist
- 3. Sorter's Duties and Responsibilities Checklist

I. PREPARATION FOR SHEARING DAY – SIX MONTHS TO ONE WEEK

Equipment

These items should be secured before the week of shearing and should be checked over to ensure good condition:

- Stock panels for creating holding pens, if necessary.
- Shearing mats (if shearing on ground) or shearing table – two preferred.
- Large kneeling mats (if shearing on ground)(wrestling mats work well).
- Ropes (your shearer may provide these).
- Secure Eye Bolts (if shearing on ground).
- Shearing table (if using this method)(your shearer may provide this)
- Sorting table if sorting on shearing day.
- Scale for weighing fleeces.

Tasks

These tasks should be completed well before shearing day.

- Communicate with shearer
 - Agree on date, time, location, and payment option (by the hour, by the animal, etc).
 - Agree on what equipment shearer will provide.
 - Provide shearer a copy of the Code with Shearer’s Responsibilities Certificate (Exhibit 2).
 - Agree on the types of workers the shearer will bring, if any.
- Communicate with all workers (see Appendix B for suggested types of workers that may be needed for shearing day.)
 - Communicate date, time, and location.
 - Review each worker’s duties with him/her (see Appendix C for job descriptions).
 - If using an outside Sorter, provide him/her the Sorter’s Responsibilities Checklist (Exhibit 3).
- Plan layout of shearing area (see Appendix D for example of a layout area).
- Plan layout of sorting pens and their proximity to shearing area. Animals will be shorn from white to black. Within each color group, animals will be shorn finest to coarsest. If you do not know your animals’ micron levels, you may sort by age group, youngest to oldest.
- Practice good fleece care throughout the year (see Appendix E for suggestions).
- Develop a plan for processing your fiber – cooperative, processing it yourself, selling to fiber buyer, etc.

- **II. PREPARATION FOR SHEARING DAY – ONE DAY TO ONE WEEK PRIOR TO SHEARING**

Equipment

In addition to the items mentioned previously, the following should be gathered in the week prior to shearing day.

- Tack – Halters, Leads.
- Wands or hand mitts used for removing debris from fleece.
- Cleaning supplies – brooms, dust pans, vacuums, garbage bins
- Fiber bins for sorting
- Boxes for packaging
- Clear plastic bags – three for each animal
- Histogram baggies
- Labels – four for each animal – should include animal name and color.
 - For three fleece bag labels, add lines for fleece weight, health issues that might affect fleece, and general micron category (fine, medium, coarse – See Appendix G). This information can be filled in at time of sorting.
 - For histogram labels, add line to indicate from where the sample was taken (side, shoulder, hip).
- Color and micron charts if sorting on shearing day.
- Record keeping sheet to record fleece information – weight, micron, color, lock length, lock style, and heard health information.
- Sharpies/Pencils/Pens.
- Bio security equipment (see Appendix H).
- First Aid kits
- Animal name tags filled out
- Refreshments (provide non-carbonated drinks for shearers).
- Food, if appropriate to time of day shearer is at your location.
- Herd health equipment if performing such tasks on shearing day. If giving shots, prepare syringes and labels ahead of shearing day.
- Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice - have available to reference.

Tasks

One Week Before:

- Communicate with shearer and all other workers to verify their planned attendance.
- Verify arrival time and start time of shearer - shearer should arrive in plenty of time to set up shearing station.
- Ensure that workers understand they should arrive at least one hour prior to shearer to review duties and assist in final set up.
- Clean shearing area thoroughly using brooms, vacuum, and water.

One Day before:

- Set up holding pens.
- Wand animals to remove as much dirt and VM as possible.
- Secure animals in area that can keep them dry and calm.
- Print out list of animals in order of shearing.
- Secure "name tags" on each animal.
- Clean shearing area once more.
- Withhold animals' water and hay for a few hours prior to shearing.
- Set up bio security measures.
- Set out all equipment
- Print out Responsibilities Check lists for Producer, Sorter, and Shearer and have ready to review and sign by all necessary parties.
- Set up shearing areas as necessary.

III. SHEARING DAY

All equipment, first aid kits, refreshments, and documents should be laid out and organized on shearing day, prior to shearer's arrival.

Tasks:

- Review job duties, flow of animals and fiber, and location of all equipment, with each worker.
- Shearer should be ready and able to give a demonstration on the safe securing and release of animals in the ropes. Emphasize the correct placement of the ropes on the legs:
 - ALWAYS just above the fetlock
 - Watch for ropes that are either too high or too low, as improper placement can cause damage or strain to the animal



- Provide list of animals, in order of shearing, to lead handler.
- Review with shearer:
 - Types of workers on hand (job duties).
 - Flow of animals and fiber (from pen to shearing area to sorting table, etc.)
 - Type of shearing job to be performed – top knots, lower legs, tails, etc.
 - Herd health tasks to be performed.
 - Whether histogram samples will be taken, how many and from where.
 - NOTE: Owner should always feel comfortable letting the shearer know if the job being done is not satisfactory or in keeping with the owner's original intent.
- Introduce shearer, fiber assistant, and sorter and ensure they are communicating throughout the shearing process.
- Have shearer and sorter/grader review and sign their respective checklist of responsibilities and review any questions they might have about the checklists.
- Bring animals into respective holding pens.
- Wand animals while in holding pens.
- Start the shearing process!!

IV. PACKING AND STORING SURI FLEECES

- Clear plastic bags are the accepted way of storing dry fleeces.
- Each bag should primarily contain the Noodled blanket with smaller bags placed in side for 1) the neck and upper legs, and 2) the apron, belly, and lower leg, (See Appendix I for Suri Fleece Parts). NOTE: If the rear upper legs are of similar quality to the blanket, the shearer may shear that area as a part of the blanket.
- Each bag should be clearly marked with previously prepared labels.
- It is important to tie the bag with a knot that will pull open easily when required, do not use wire tags, clips or twine as they could create contamination.
- Suri fleeces should be stored at room temperature in a dry area, away from bugs and weather elements.
- Fleeces should be shipped for processing or to your cooperative at least once a year to minimize the likelihood of fiber rot or other contaminants degrading the fleece.

APPENDIX -A – GUIDE TO SHEARING SURIS

Photos provided by Alvina Maynard/Riverhill Alpaca Ranch, Alpaca Jack's and Mark Loffhagen and text written by Mark Loffhagen

NOTE: The order in which fleece parts are shorn and keeping the Suri blanket in one piece are important elements of this document and must be followed. Appendix A offers one suggested method of shearing to achieve these goals. However, other methods of shearing may be employed to meet these standards.

Shearing



- Begin with placing cut open plastic bag under the alpaca lying on one side (be sure that each animal thereafter is started on the same side)



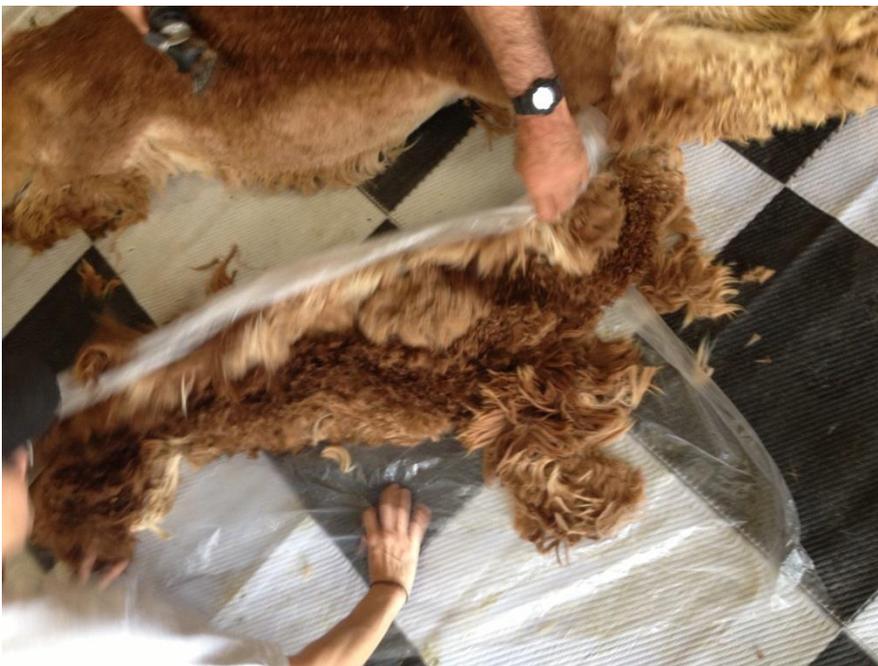
- Begin shearing just above the belly and work your way up the blanket. Include the upper rear leg if the fiber is of similar fiber quality.



- As the shearer approaches the animal's back, the headman and the shearer will slowly roll the animal onto its belly, allowing the shearer to work his way down the other side of the blanket.



- As the shearer approaches the belly, the headman will lay the animal on its second side.
- Shear the blanket off in one piece with little to no second cuts to secure maximum value.



- Pull the plastic with the blanket on top away from the alpaca and out of the shearer's way.

- This can be performed by one person as illustrated but works better and quicker if you have two people.



- Scrunch the two sides in gently



- Fold one side of plastic over the fiber
- then the other side over



- Roll the tube to make a tootsie roll, tape the loose end to the roll.

Continuing in order once the blanket is shorn:

- Neck
 - Side of neck facing upwards
 - After final pass of the hand piece, the shearer should push this part of the neck fiber out to allow for safe collecting by the Fiber Assistant
 - Complete the other side of the neck
- Lower back leg which is lying on top
- Tail
- Belly
- front leg which is lying on top
- Apron



- Continue to this side as the animal is raised and rolled over again.
- As with the first side, push the fiber away to allow for safe collecting.
- Head
- Finishing:
 - Remaining front leg
 - Remaining rear leg

NOTE: Lower legs do not need to be shorn every year.

APPENDIX -B- WORKERS REQUIRED

NOTE: The goal of Appendix B is to help each farm/ranch achieve the greatest efficiency during shearing day. The number and types of workers below are suggested, but not required, as each farm/ranch will have its own set up.

Shearing on mats:

- 1 Shearer
- 1 Headman
- 1 Sorter
- 1 Fiber Assistant
- 2 Handlers (Lead Handler and Assistant Handler)
- 1 Ropes man
- 1 Sweeper

When two mats are used, the handlers and ropes man prepare the next animal for shearing. A second sweeper will be required when two mats are used. The other workers move between the two mats.

Shearing on table:

- 1 Lead Handler
- 1 Headman
- 1 Fiber Assistant
- 1 Sorter
- 1 Sweeper
- 1 Shearer

When two shearing stations are set up, you will need two additional handlers to accompany the Lead Handler in getting the animal onto the table or floor. You will also need an additional sweeper.

Thus, when two stations of either sort are set up, a total of nine workers are encouraged to make the process flow as smoothly as possible. Use your best judgement on the number of workers that will be appropriate to your set up.

Herd health can be accomplished by the producer or an assigned assistant.

APPENDIX - C - JOB DESCRIPTIONS

While each set of job duties will require a different skill level, each job is of critical importance for the best outcome for the harvest.

Sorter

- Work with Fiber Assistant to ensure fleece is gathered per Appendix A.
- Lay out the fleece with cut side down and remove second cuts, stains, vegetable matter and other contaminants.
- Remove all coarse fiber from around the outer perimeter of the blanket.
- Pull fiber sample from blanket for histogram testing as indicated by Producer. If not done previous to shearing or during shearing.
- Determine the Approximate Grade (See Appendix-F) and label as such.
- Categorize length of fiber and label as such (See Appendix F).
- Check for color contamination within each fleece (see Appendix J).
- Ensure the prevention of color and micron contamination from one fleece to the next.
- Check for fiber breaks and tender fleeces.
- Verify that the labelling of all bags and bins are correct according to producer specifications.
- Complete record sheet as specified by producer.
- Complete the “Sorter Duties and Responsibilities” checklist attached at the end of this Code of Practice.

NOTE 1:

- We recognize that there are also “Certified Sorters” in the alpaca industry who combine the tasks of sorting and grading. If you employ such a Sorter, that is certainly acceptable, but it is not a requirement for adherence to this Code of Practice.

NOTE 2:

- Sorting and Grading is the act of sorting fleece portions and parts into similar groups of fiber as set out by the definitions in this manual in Appendix F. A Grader must be skilled and knowledgeable in evaluating the micron counts, degree of guard hair, fiber contamination the Sorter might have missed, lock lengths and color of Suri fiber.
- Classing is the act of combining various ‘graded lots’ into pre determined ‘class lines’ required for marketing and processing the suri for specific end uses. A classer should be knowledgeable in the industry standards for commercial processing and current market trends. Determining the lines of classes can change from year to year or co-op to co-op depending on the marketing criteria.

Graders and Classers in the wool, alpaca and mohair industry are often employed by co-ops to grade and class fleeces as they arrive in the warehouse. Other independent and sometimes ‘certified’ Graders and Classers are trained and knowledgeable individuals with extensive experience working with natural fibers. Each of these individuals will be reliant on the quality

of work done at the farm level on shearing day – the fewer issues the Grader and Classer encounter when a producer’s clip arrives, the higher the quality that they can produce, and the lower the cost.

Fiber Assistant

- Gather fleece as described in Appendix-H. Safety first – gather the fleece only when the shearer permits it!
- Place all sections of fleece into respective bags –Blanket is noodled, neck fiber in one bag, lower leg and belly in another, etc.
- Work with the Shearer by taking the fleece from the shearing area to the sorting table for the Sorter.
- Act as runner or any other duty required to assist the Sorter.
- Weigh all bags of fiber and work with record keeper to document information as necessary.
- Ensure the prevention of contamination of the fleece from other parts and colors.

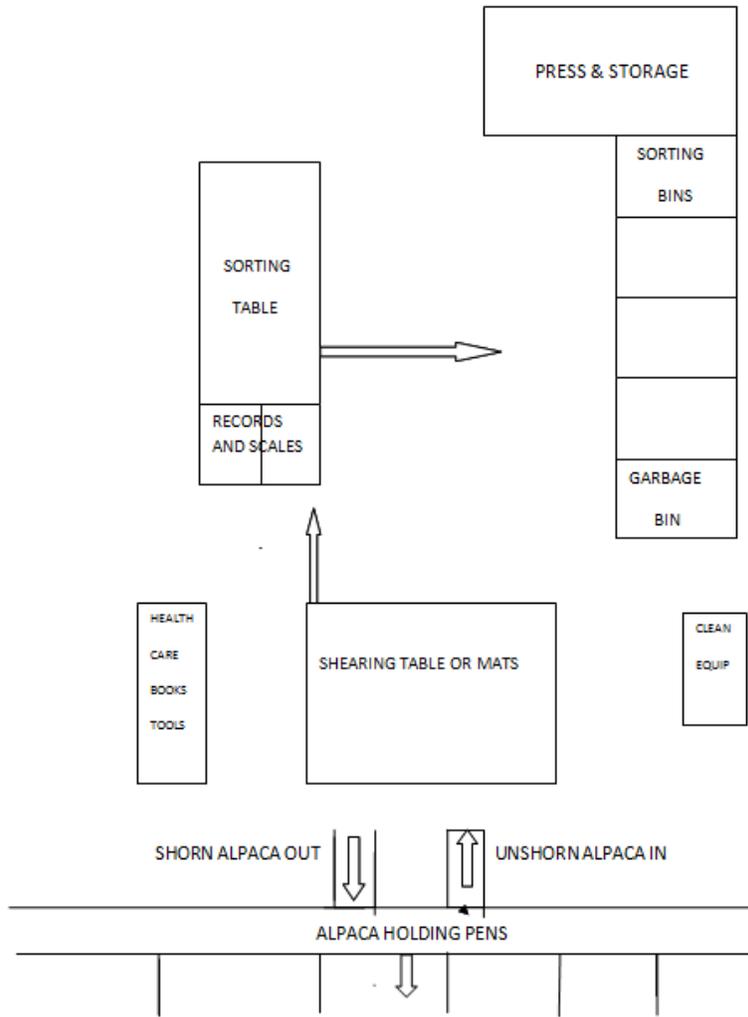
Other Workers

- Sweepers shall clean the floors and/or tables following the shearing of each fleece part using both broom, dust pan, and vacuum. Shearing area must be completely free of fiber before next animal is brought into shearing area.
- Lead Handler shall prepare each Suri before shearing by properly haltering, cleaning any last debris from the Suri’s fleece, and delivering each Suri in a timely manner to the Shearer. Lead Handler shall assist in the tie down process.
- Assistant Handler shall work with Lead Handler to secure Suri with tie down restraints either on a shearing table or a floor mat. Put the halter back on the animal, and return it to its original living area once shearing is complete.
- Headman shall be available to secure ropes, hold down Suri’s head on mat or table, assist in turning the Suri over, and assist shearer in any other manner. Often, the Headman will be provided by the Shearer.

APPENDIX - D - SHEARING AREA LAYOUT

This is an example of a typical shearing area layout. We recognize that every farm/ranch will have its own unique set up, but in all cases should strive for greatest efficiencies.

SHEARING SHED FLOW CHART



- When setting up two shearing stations, there should be enough room between each station to allow for free movement of workers and easy flow of animals in and out of the area.
- Additionally, there should be at least six feet around the station to allow for laying out the fleece as it comes off the animal.
- Electrical outlets should be in easy access of each shearing station.
- Cleanliness, ventilation, and good lighting are essential.

- If using a shearing table, your extension table should be on wheels to provide ready movement in and out of the shearing area.
- Ensure that your holding pens are in close proximity to the shearing area.
- Ensure that your sorting table is in close proximity to the shearing area.
- Shorn animals should be returned to their regular living areas so as to not contaminate the unshorn animals with loose, short fibers.

APPENDIX - E– GOOD FLEECE CARE

These are suggestions for maximizing the value of your clip. They are not all-encompassing and each farm/ranch may have additional methods that they employ to keep each animal's fleece clean and healthy.

- Wand animals periodically throughout the year to minimize vegetable matter.
- Protect against fleece contamination and damage by providing well kept pastures and shelters.
- Remove any polypropylene twine once the hay bale has been opened, as it can become embedded in the fleeces and cause equipment damage during shearing and processing. Producers are encouraged to avoid using hay with polypropylene twine all together.
- Feed quality hay and supplements to ensure strong fiber.
- Coating alpacas during the winter, from Fall until shearing is an option.
- Keep records of any animals that become sick during the year and notate this on their fiber label. Sickness and stress are each common causes of fiber breaks and tender fleeces.

APPENDIX - F- FIBER SPECIFICATIONS

There are several grading systems in the world today, but the most common system, used by Australia, Canada, and now the United States, will be followed in this Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice. Keep in mind that to meet these grade levels, your fleece must have no more than 1% vegetable matter in it, there must be no tenderness to the locks, the length needs to be less than ½ inch in difference. Check with your mill to find out their length requirements. Guard hairs must be limited. Deviation from these requirements may result in a reduced grade or even “no value” assigned.

THREE-MICRON GRADING SYSTEM

Grade #1----	under 20 microns.....Suri Ultimate	(SU)
Grade #2---	20.1—22.9 microns.....Suri Superfine	(SSF)
Grade #3---	23.0 ---25.9 microns....Suri Classic Fine	(SCF)
Grade #4---	26.0---28.9 microns.....Suri Medium	(SM)
Grade #5---	29.0---31.9 microns.....Suri Coarse	(SC)
Grade #6---	32.0---35.0 microns.....Suri Extra Coarse	(SEC)

APPROXIMATE GRADES (FOR SORTERS)

FINE	Grades 1&2
MEDIUM	Grades 3&4
COARSE	Grades 5 and above

LENGTH CATEGORIES

Under 3 inches.....	Suri Short	(SS)
3.5—5.5 inches.....	Suri Medium	(SM)
5.5—7.5 inches.....	Suri Long	(SL)
7.5---10.0 inches.....	Suri Very Long	(SVL)

COLOR CATEGORIES

WHITE

LIGHT; Beige, Light Fawn

FAWN; Medium Fawn, Dark Fawn, Gold

BROWN; Light Brown, Medium Brown, Dark Brown, Maroon

BLACK; Bay Black, True Black

GREY; Light Silver Grey, Medium Silver Grey, Dark Silver Grey, Light Rose Grey, Medium Grey, Dark Rose Grey

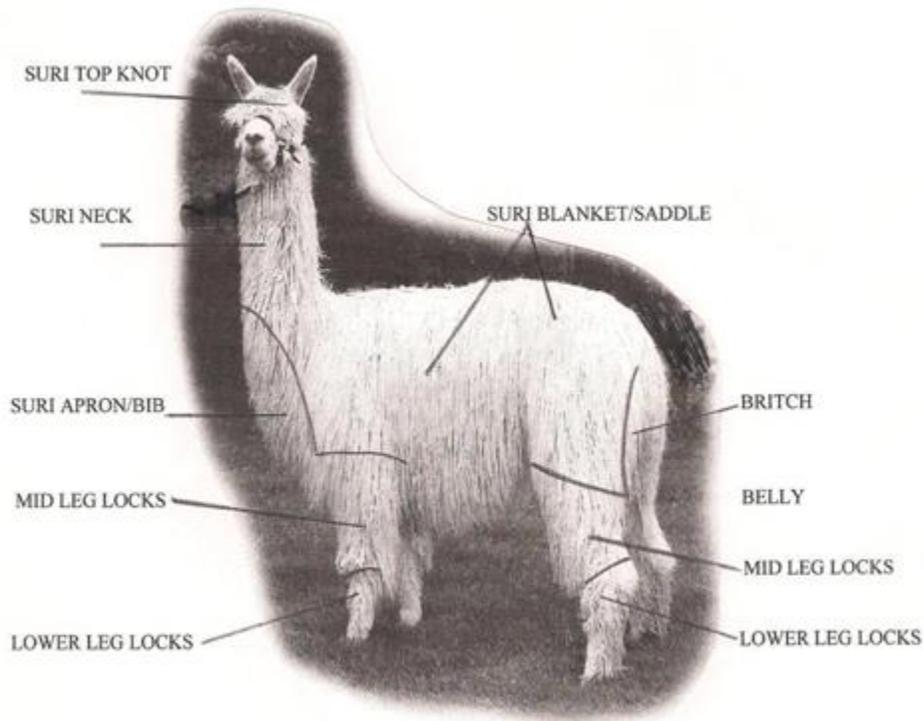
MULTICOLOR; Pinto, Fancy, Appaloosa and Pattern

Currently, Suri is not graded by lock style or degree of luster, but these elements are important to consider and may become a part of the Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice in the future.

APPENDIX– G- BIO SECURITY

Biosecurity is the attempt to prevent the spread of infectious diseases from one farm to another. Bio-containment is a series of management practices that prevent the spread of infectious elements between groups of animals. An important component to consider at shearing time is not only that the equipment and workers arriving to the farm on shearing day do not carry any disease. Exposure to shearing equipment, vehicles, workers and visitors should be considered a degree of Biosecurity risk, no matter how small. Take steps to deal with this element of risk to ensure that those entering or leaving your farm have been disinfected.

APPENDIX– H- SURI FLEECE PARTS



- The above diagram shows the various Suri fleece parts and sections to be considered during shearing, sorting, and packing.
- The Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice requires fleece to be shorn in order of micron, finest to coarsest. Thus, the following order must be followed:
 - Blanket in full
 - Mid leg (include with blanket if of same micron quality)
 - Lower back leg (lying on top as animal lies on its side)
 - Britch/tail
 - Belly
 - Apron
 -
 - Neck
 - Head
 - Remaining two lower legs

APPENDIX– I- COLOR CONTAMINATION

This occurs when colored fibers are present throughout a white fleece or white fibers are found throughout a colored fleece. Color contamination limits the end use possibilities and is not considered as the highest quality. Commercial standards require NO color contamination, and those fleeces with such contamination must be set to the side and/or labeled as “non-white” or “non-black”. Some white fleeces are graded as light fawn when their fleeces are stained with red tips from red soil. Black fleeces with brown or lighter tips have to be graded as dark brown. True black is the only true black. Grey fleece with any brown will be graded as Rose Grey.

EXHIBIT 1

PRODUCER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES CHECKLIST

By signing this document, the producer self-certifies that he/she is adopting the Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice and will strive to produce a superior Suri fleece clip. Producer agrees to:

- Use a “Certified Shearer” when possible. Show name below.
- Provide optimum clean, well lit, and safe shearing facilities & equipment.
- Provide adequate workers - handlers, sorters, sweepers, and any other assistants necessary to efficiently complete shearing.
- Pre-sort Suris according first to color and then to fineness (or age group).
- Ensure that shearer shears your Suris according the Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice.
- Allow shearer to minimize second cuts. Take adequate steps to reduce fleece contamination.
- Provide Sorter with all proper equipment to complete sorting to the best of his/her ability.
- Ensure sorter sorts into categories as set out by the Code of Practice.
- Label and document all bags clearly as set out by the Code of Practice.
- Package and store the harvested clip to eliminate contamination by neglect or carelessness.
- Maintain a written record of the shearing date, weights, animal or sort identification.

By signing this declaration you certify that you are striving to produce a superior suri fleece clip and abide by the guidelines above.

Producer signature _____ date _____

Producer Name and address: _____

Shearer signature; _____ date _____

Shearer name and address: _____

EXHIBIT 2
SHEARER’S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES CHECK LIST

By signing this document, the Shearer agrees to shear according to the Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice to achieve the highest quality of Suri fiber. Shearer agrees to:

- Arrive on time with all equipment and staff prearranged with the producer.
- Work in a professional manner allowing for the least stress to the animals before and during shearing.
- Shear to ensure that the maximum value of the fleece is reached.
- Shear Suris in order of lightest to darkest, finest to coarsest.
- Agree to shear according to the instructions from the producer.
- Shear so that the lower leg, belly, apron and neck can be gathered separately allowing time and space for the sorter to work diligently.
- Shear to eliminate second cuts as much as possible.
- Shear the upper legs with the blanket together only if they are of like qualities
- Allow sweeping of fiber between shearing sections and shearing Suris to avoid contamination of fiber types and colors.

By signing this document the shearer certifies that he is aware of the Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice and agrees to follow it according to the producer’s instructions.

Shearer signature; _____ Date _____

Shearer name and address: _____

EXHIBIT 3

SORTER/GRADER'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES CHECKLIST

By signing this document, the Sorter agrees to sort according to the Suri Fiber Harvesting Code of Practice to achieve the highest quality of Suri fiber. Sorter agrees to:

- Sort the Suri fleece into the agreed categories as listed in the Code of Practice and according to discussion with the producer.
- Sort so that the maximum value of the fleece is reached.
- Ensure prevention of contamination to the fleece from other colors, other fleeces, and other fleece sections.
- Skirt the blanket properly after it has been laid on the sorting table with cut side down.
- Skirt properly by shaking the fleece lightly so that second cuts fall to the floor and remove any coarse/hairy fibers from the edges of the blanket.
- Discuss with Producer the plans for the coarse, skirted fiber and categorize and package accordingly.
- Remove any excessively matted areas, excessively contaminated areas with vegetable matter and other debris. Bag these areas according to Producers wishes.
- Remove color from white fleeces and white from colored fleeces. If more than one color is prevalent throughout the fleece, keep separate from other fleeces and alert Producer to the issue.
- Handle the fleece as described in Appendix B and as set forth in the Suri Network Sorter Course.
- Verify all labelling as accurate and complete.
- Remove fiber samples for micron testing if required by Producer and place in appropriate bags. Verify ahead of time from where samples will be pulled.

Sorter signature _____ Date _____

Sorter name and address; _____