

LONG ACRES

alpaca farm



Breeding Best Quality
Females to Elite Males

Helping you get started in the Alpaca Business

9703 Blue Spring Road • Mercersburg, PA 17236
phone: 717.328.3937 • mobile: 717.491.0036
fax: 717.328.2656

Visit us online at:
www.longacresalpaca.com

Resources

You will find information at seminars and on the web. Almost all states sponsor a show at some point during the year, and at most of these events, there will be free seminars. Most alpaca auctions will also offer free seminars. Your veterinarian is far and away your most important resource and he/she will be instrumental in helping you manage your herd.

Books/Journals

The Complete Alpaca Book by Eric Hoffman & Contributing Authors

Dr. Norm Evan's Alpaca Field Manual

Llama and Alpaca Neonatal Care by
Drs. Smith, Timm & Long

International Camelid Quarterly
(www.lamas-alpacas.com)

Alpacas Magazine (Official Journal of AOBA)

Medicine/Surgery Book for South American
Camelids, by Murray Fowler

Websites/Research

Alpacainfo.com

Alpacanation.org

Alpacaregistry.com

www.afcna.com

www.icinfo.org

www.alpacaresearchfoundation.org

Affiliates/Organizations

National Organization (www.aoba.org)

Regional Affiliates eg-Mid-Atlantic
(www.mapaca.org)

State Affiliates eg-PA (www.paoba.org)

Supplies

www.useful-items.com

www.llama-alpacasupplies.com

www.stevenstique.com

www.llamaproducts.com

www.lightlivestockequipment.com

Estimated Start-up Costs*

Shelter--10 X 20 ft. run-in shed should easily accommodate five alpacas, eight if you have an overhang. **\$3200.00**

Fencing--no climb horse fence, top quality fencing including posts, although brackets are an additional cost. **\$4.20/ft.** (installed)

Insurance **\$450/year***
*3.25% or 1.5% for individual policies and for herd policy with 3% deductible and minimum amt.

Veterinary Costs--includes those going to show, castration, however, no major medical bills such as referral to university facility. **\$100/alpaca/year**

Medical Supplies--such as needles, vaccines. **\$50/alpaca/year**

Shearing-- **\$50/alpaca/year**

Membership--yearly dues in three organizations, including AOBA, MAPACA, and PAOBA. **\$400/year**

Registry--(one time charge) **\$35/alpaca**

Hay and Feed-- @ **\$5/bale** of hay
@ **\$22/50 lb. bag**
= **\$16/alpaca/month**

Feed Supplies and Clean-up Supplies **\$200.00**

*Based on 2010 costs at
Long Acres Alpaca Farm



Basic Barn Set-up

Barns and shelters are intended to protect healthy alpacas from particularly harsh weather conditions, both heat and cold. The type of structure ranges from preexisting barns to run-in sheds to moveable sheds. Females and males need to be separated from each other. Males may or may not be kept together depending on individual personalities and their proximity to the females. The ideal setting will also provide a "bonding area" for a dam and newborn cria, which could also function as a veterinarian area, or an area for an animal requiring extra care, or several that need weaned or an area to shear your alpacas. Floor surfaces should provide insulation against the cold and needs to have good footing. Concrete is nice in the summer to keep the animals cool but will need to be covered with straw or mats in the winter. Stone pellets are frequently used. Having a centralized area for supplies will help to maximize efficiency. Give consideration to wind, sun and typical storm presentations when positioning the barn. Overhangs work very well in providing extra shelter from the sun. Allow room for fans in the barn and adequate area for animals to feed and kush. Our experience has shown that approximately six adult alpacas can be housed in a 10 X 20 foot area without overcrowding. Moveable panels that are lightweight and various sizes work great in reconfiguring an open floor plan.

Paddocks, fields and gates are **used** to keep alpacas in but are **designed** to keep unwanted animals out. Fencing should be high enough and extend to the ground for preventing entry of predators. The wires should be close enough together than an alpaca will not be able to push its head and neck through an opening. A graduated no-climb fencing is ideal and woven, although more expensive, is preferred over welded. The number of fields should allow for an open field for rotation and better parasite control. If you have males and females, you can anticipate the need for at least four fields. One for females, a second for males, a third and fourth to wean and/or separate males. Gates are invaluable in moving animals from one paddock to another and should be positioned in corners. Alpacas can be caught more easily by channeling them into ever decreasing sized paddocks. A catch pen is essential in working with alpacas. Typical acreage is 8 to 10 males per acre and 6 to 8 females per acre.

Supplies

Medicines including antibiotics, vaccines, analgesics, parasite medicines, topical antibiotics.

Syringes and needles.

Thermometer

Cria birthing kit, including colostrum, feeding tube, bottles, nipples, stethoscope, cord clamps, towels, hair dryer, lubricant, gloves, thermometer, cria coats.

Scales

Fans

Feed supplies including tubs, minerals, hay feeders/tubs.

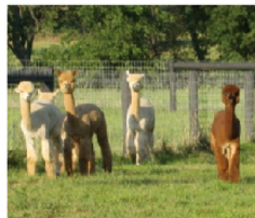
Automatic waterers or heated buckets

Rakes, scoops, broom, muck tubs, and wheelbarrow or cart.

Halters and lead lines

Medical book with drug dosages

Toenail clippers



Long Acres Alpaca Farm

At Long Acres Alpaca Farm, we are dedicated to providing you with ongoing support and assistance. We love what we do and enjoy sharing experiences with other alpaca breeders.

Our services include agisting (boarding), mobile stud service, drive-by breeding and limited transportation.

We can help you with many technical/medical issues such as blood draws, microchip insertions, shearing, toe trims, dental care, injections, first aid, fecal analysis, skirting fleeces and halter training along with on-site farm set-up, all without additional charges.

Alpaca sales, including package deals, are available from our Champion herdsires and females. We also offer fiber male sales.

Select alpaca products available for purchase in our alpaca clothing gift shop. Group tours welcome.

Michael and Sarah Donahoe

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