

Maureen Macedo - Macedo's Mini Acres

Co-owner of Macedo's Mini Acres, a ranch with 80+ alpacas, llamas and miniature horses. Our focus in alpacas includes colorful fleeces with crimp and density, while maintaining conformation. Our alpacas have placed well at National and regional "spin-off" events, thus demonstrating that we are in line with desired commercial fiber qualities. We have been working with our alpacas in performance venues as well. We offer field trips to schools and groups.

Background - BS Genetics from University of California at Davis. I also worked for over 10 years with Ralston Purina Corporation, in the fields of Nutritional research and new product development. We have been Calpaca members since we first purchased our alpacas over ten years ago. I am an ALSA Fiber Judge and currently working in that organization on my Halter and Performance judging certification (llama and alpaca).

We participate in local Farmer's Markets and Holiday Fairs. We have a successful brick and mortar store on the ranch and our yarn is featured in a local yarn shop. I make it a point to attend seminars such as the UC Davis Camelid Symposium. I am a full time Junior High Science teacher, as well.

During the time I was Calpaca Connection Editor (2010- to early 2012) I was responsible for obtaining relevant articles, advertising, arranging printing and mailing of the publication. Photography contests as well as Youth columns were added while I was editor, along with at least one article per publication pertaining to fiber and fiber arts. I have been the Show photographer for Shows such as the California Classic, Gold Country and International Alpaca Odyssey.

I am the Camelid Project Leader for the Hughson 4H Club. I am also a consultant for fiber arts projects in Merced County 4H. I have been the handspun yarn and fiber arts judge for the past two years at the California State Fair.

I am a member of several Agricultural organizations, including ALSA, Cal-Ila, ILR, AOA, Merced County Farm Bureau, California Women in Agriculture, Ag in Motion and Merced County Ag Ventures. In addition, I am active in PEO, an organization whose primary purpose is to support women's education, principally through distribution of scholarships.