



**Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.**

[www.falainc.com](http://www.falainc.com)

FALL 2019

## Letter from the President

Happy Fall Y'All!

So it looks like Fall has finally gotten here—let us hope this weather will stay. It sure has been a long, hot Summer. Thank you to everyone who participated in events during the Summer. Each one was well attended and we have gotten very positive feedback.

The ballots have been sent out for Board of Directors and Officers. Please take time to vote. Our Annual Meeting is November 17, 2019 at the Withlacoochee River Park in Dade City. It is a really fun day filled with a hike starting at 9:00 am, lunch and the Annual Meeting. You are encouraged to bring items for sale or auction.

Keep an eye on the calendar. Florida State Fair Llama and Alpaca Show deadline December 3, 2019. We seem to have a nice group of Youth this year with many new faces.

The 2020 FALA Calendar is hot off the press! You can get yours at the November Meeting or by contacting me. Thank you to all the sponsors.

As always, thank you for your involvement in FALA. Without you all, we wouldn't be the cool organization that we are.

*Mary Rose Collins*

Thank you Maxie Mertes for hosting our last meeting!

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# Hillsborough County Fair

The Fredericks & the Shavers brought their animals to HCF on Sunday October 27 for fair goers to be able to visit with the llamas. There was much attention with the animals and many questions about the care of them. Visitors took photos with the llamas and most of the folks seemed very appreciative of the time spent with them.

Thank you to the HCF Staff for allowing this to happen for us and we look forward to the possibility of a day show in 2020!







**FALA Annual Meeting**  
November 17, 2019  
Withlacoochee River Park  
12449 Withlacoochee Blvd  
Dade City, FL  
9am -- 4pm  
8:30am if you are walking/hiking

We will begin the day at 9am with an easy 2 hour walk/hike with or without llamas/alpacas. If you like, bring the animals' packs/blankets to get them accustomed to something on their backs. Those not walking may certainly come early—bring your chairs, spinning, weaving or checkerboards to relax & enjoy the wonderful park scenery!

We are planning some very fun hiking activities for members and llama/alpaca youth exhibiting at the Florida State Fair. What a great opportunity to try out your pack and some natural obstacles!

We will all meet back for lunch at noon with the meeting to follow, approximately 1pm-3pm.

Paige Previte volunteered to be our Food Coordinator and RSVP person to organize potluck dishes and supplies for the meal. FALA will sponsor the meat and we ask attendees to provide a side and/or paper products/supplies for the meal. Please contact Paige at [paigeprevite1@gmail.com](mailto:paigeprevite1@gmail.com)

# BIOSECURITY FOR CAMELID OWNERS

In response to a request from the chair of the U.S. Animal Health Association's Committee on Infectious Diseases of Cattle, Bison and Camelids, Karen Conyngham (ILR representative to USAHA) compiled a short overview of biosecurity practices that should be followed by all camelid owners. The PowerPoint presentation draws heavily on the excellent articles written by Dr. Kristy Brown of Wisconsin on this topic, and also incorporates some points from articles in the peer-reviewed literature plus several suggestions by veterinarian members of the USAHA Committee.

## **Biosecurity for Camelids, PowerPoint slide review.**

The purpose of biosecurity is to prevent introduction and spread of disease into or within a herd or population. Within the US alpaca population there has been increased owner awareness of the importance of biosecurity due to BVD concerns. The alpaca industry now requires negative BVD test for entry into AOBA sanctioned shows; commercial transporters require negative BVD test before loading animals and owners are encouraged to have suspect animals tested and to cull any that are confirmed PI.

## **Biosecurity is an integral part of total farm management.**

- New arrivals/additions to the herd or visitors for outside breeding must be quarantined – 30 days is the recommended quarantine period.
- Bacterial/viral prepatent (length of time it takes for infection to become apparent) period is 14-21 days on average
- Parasites/coccidia prepatent period is 3-6 weeks
  - Deworm females 10-14 days prior to breeding
  - Do a follow-up fecal 14 days after breeding
- Never commingle visiting animals with farm's own pregnant females

## **A farm's quarantine area should have:**

Shelter; a fenced pasture that does NOT share a common fence line with the main herd; its own water source; separate tack and feeders and waterers that can be disinfected. Pure bleach is a readily used disinfectant; dilute at a ratio of ½ cup of bleach per gallon of water.

The quarantine area should be located away from the main herd with NO shared fence lines and if possible, it should be located so that prevailing winds and any rainfall runoff will NOT impact the main facility.

Keep pair of boots or shoes for use at the quarantine area only.

Prompt removal (daily) of dung is important to control flies/mosquitoes and any runoff that could enter the main pastures.

Quarantine facility chores should be done LAST to avoid any contact with the main herd.

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# BIOSECURITY FOR CAMELID OWNERS

## **Biosecurity for farm visitors:**

- Keep a log of visitors – what other farms have they visited and when?
- Provide shoes/boots for them to wear in animal areas.
- Require hand washing before and after seeing the animals.
- Do not allow general public access to the herd; provide photos of animals for advance review, then bring specific animals into a separate viewing area for visitors.
- Make appointments for future visits for serious buyers.
- Keep outside gates locked.

## **Biosecurity at shows/sales:**

- Do not use communal dung piles.
- Stall area should be under observation at all times.
- Do not walk camelids in areas used by other species.
- Do not encourage spectators to feed animals.
- Quarantine show animals for 14-21 days upon returning home.







## **2019 Calendar of Events**

**November 17** — **FALA Annual Meeting and Llama Hike, 9am—4pm**

Withlacoochee River Park, Dade City, FL

Llama Hike at 8:30am, Lunch at noon, Meeting at 1pm

**December 3** — Florida State Fair Open & Youth Llama Show Entry Deadline.

Check the FSF website for more information.

<https://floridastatefairag.com/youth-open-llama/>

**December 13** — Florida State Fair Open & Youth Llama Fleece Show Entry Deadline.

Check the FSF website for more information.

<https://floridastatefairag.com/youth-open-llama/>

**January 1, 2020** — **FALA Membership Dues**