

Florida Alpaca & Llama Association Inc.

www.falainc.com

EARLY SPRING 2025

Letter from the President

Hello FALA members,

2025 has once again hit the ground pronking! Our 4th annual FALA Winter Classic Alpaca and Llama Show was a huge success during the last weekend in January! This year was our first two-day show, with over 40 animals registered. Special thanks to our visiting judges Deb and Ulin Andrews and Show Superintendent Tracy Weaver along with Cheryl Lambert and Claire-Marie Warner. Thanks also to our other Board members and Volunteers. This year the weather and competition started cool but really heated up! We had great participation from Gold and Silver Sponsors, local vendors, food trucks, and visitors. Each show gets bigger and better! Your Board is working hard to find new venues that live up to our high expectations for future shows. Stay tuned!

Just a few weeks after FWC-4 many of our members participated in the Florida State Fair. It was great seeing many of our FALA members continue the winning tradition with their beautiful animals. I loved the new show ring for FSF! Once again FALA farms showed their animals professionally with great sportsmanship. It is always wonderful to see the members of our youth group perform so well. They were all Camelid Champions! Your Board continues to work with the FSF staff to improve our recognition at the fair.

Recently we have had new FALA members join. We are always happy to talk with and mentor new farms just starting out. We hope they will be able to attend our July Educational Seminar. Your Board is working hard to fill the day with informative Camelid expert speakers and hand-on activities.

Reminder if you haven't paid your 2025 dues, please do! If you know of new farms that you think would enjoy some of our activities, send them to www.falainc.com to join as well.

Thanks again to everyone who was part of the FWC and FL State Fair. I truly appreciate your dedication and commitment to excellence.

John Previte
FALA President

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*The information printed within this publication is for informational purposes only. Always rely on your veterinarian for advice and treatment. The opinions expressed in articles, letters, ads and editorials are solely the opinions of the author(s) and do not necessarily express the views of FALA. Acceptance of advertising/bulletin board items does not imply endorsement of products or services. Articles, letters, pictures and other contributions are welcomed.

2025 FLORIDA STATE FAIR HIGHLIGHTS







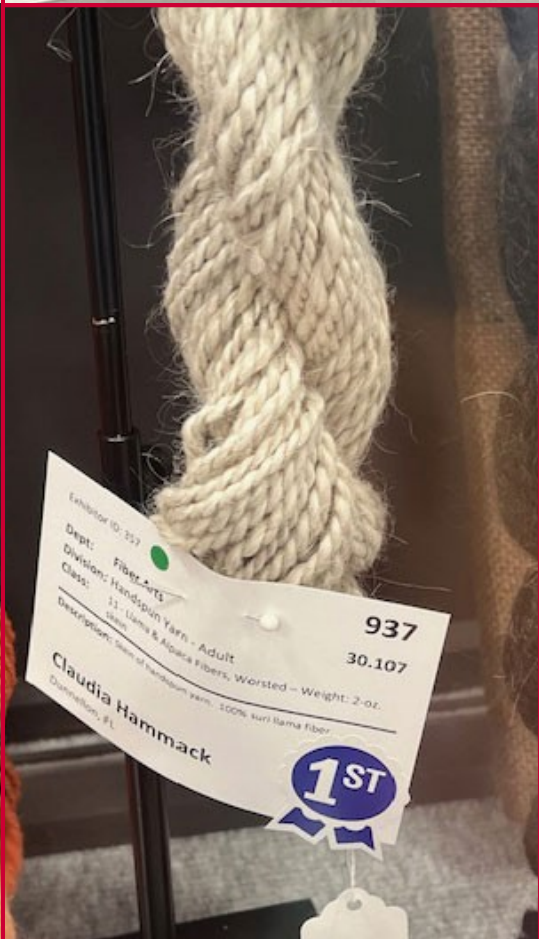
Reprinted from Lamas News, March 2010 and Llamas of Minnesota, July 2010

You know you are a Fiberholic when...

- * Your freezer contains more fiber than food
- * Your inside critters have their own selection of knitted llama coats
- * Llama wool bunnies replace the old term “dust bunnies”
- * Your spouse complains that the quilts are overstuffed
- * The rocker and the couch make excellent storage space
- * Shopping days are excuses to buy another fleece
- * Purchasing llama wool is more exciting than buying new shoes



FALA ENTRIES IN THE 2025 FLORIDA STATE FAIR FIBER SHOW





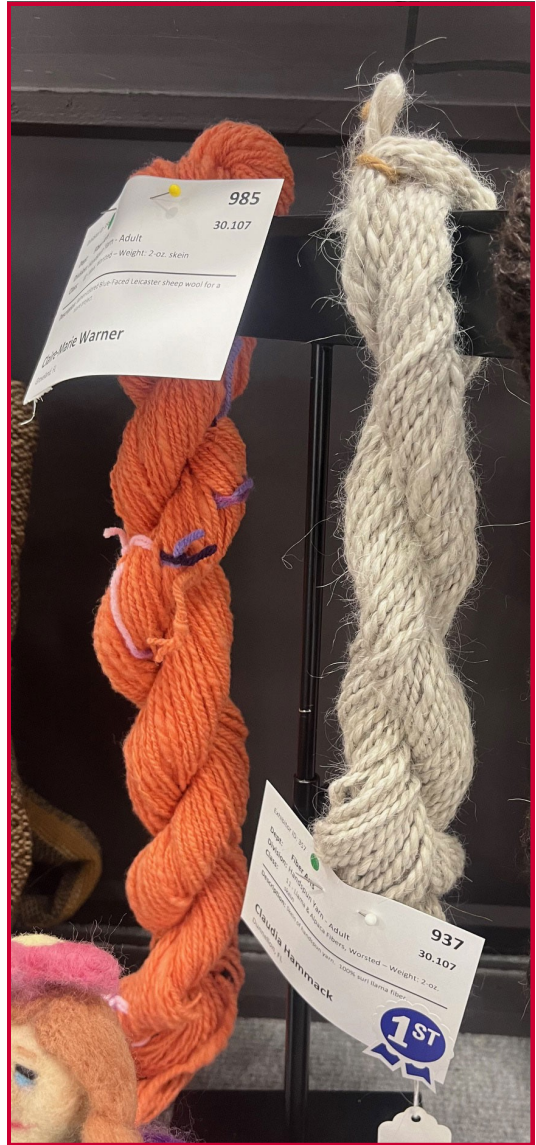
Exhibitor ID: 809 **CAC** 2149
 Dept: **Needle Arts - YOUTH** 110.501
 Division: Fiber Arts - Youth (Age 14-18)
 Class: 05 - Other Fiber Arts
 Description: Wet Felted Fingless Gloves
HONORABLE MENTION
Daniel Greeley
 McAlpin, FL



Exhibitor ID: 801 **CAC** 2147
 Dept: **Fiber Arts** 30.11
 Division: Felted - Adult
 Class: 06 - Felted Toys, Dolls & Plushie Characters, Puppets
 Description: Wet Felted Sea Turtle
HONORABLE MENTION
Sarah Strautmann
 McAlpin, FL



Exhibitor ID: 802 **CAC** 974
 Dept: **Fiber Arts** 30.11
 Division: Felted - Adult
 Class: 06 - Felted Toys, Dolls & Plushie Characters, Puppets
 Description: Felted Sheep in a Pen
Douglas Warner
 McAlpin, FL





LANA

Youth Writing & Art Contest



LANA invites youth of all ages to submit original work for a contest:

- a piece of writing OR:
 - an article on any camelid-related topic of interest to the youth OR
 - a fictional story involving camelids OR
 - a poem about an alpaca or a llama or a herd OR
- a piece of original artwork with camelids included

NOTE: Please just one submission per youth per contest.

Written pieces should be 1000 words or less. If the author chooses to include images (illustrations or drawings or photographs), there should be no more than four to accompany the writing. The images that accompany a piece of writing will not be considered for the Art contest; they will be seen as a part of the written submission. If completed on the computer, written pieces should be written in Times New Roman, 12 point font, and double-spaced, with the author's name on each page in the header.

Pictures or scanned artwork should be submitted as .jpeg files with a resolution of at least 300 dpi. The content should be the original work of the youth author/artist.

Submit written pieces and scanned artwork electronically to Susan Rich at lanaquestions@gmail.com. The deadline for the annual contest is November 1.

One winner for the written submission and one winner for the art submission will be chosen for each of the four age categories (sub-junior; junior; intermediate; and senior). Winners will receive a cash prize and written pieces and artwork will be published in the LANA newsletter and posted on the LANA website.



GET
CREATIVE

CHORIOPTES MANGE MITES

BY PATRICK LONG, DVM, EASTGATE VETERINARY CLINIC, CORVALLIS, OR

Skin problems in llamas and alpacas can be frustrating for everyone. Owners hate to see hair loss and the rough scaly skin, the animals are generally itchy and uncomfortable and veterinarians hate to see skin problems because we many times do not get to a definitive diagnosis, even with lab tests.

At a recent meeting at Oregon State University, Dr. Gian D'Alterio from Great Britain presented information on Chorioptes mange mites that has helped with the diagnosis and treatment of some of these skin problems. This information has helped diagnosis and improve some chronic skin problems in my area and as well as across the United States.

First, about the mite. Chorioptes mange mites are small mites that live in the skin and generally cause some hair loss and roughened skin. I first see these lesions just above the feet and then spread to the ventral body wall and the chest. Initially these lesions will just be hair loss, but over time scabs and scale build up and the lesions continue to spread. The diagnosis is made by doing skin scrapings and looking at the material removed under a microscope and seeing the mites. Classically the area to "scrape" has been at the junction or the normal and affected areas. While cases of Chorioptes have been reported in the past, the incidence has been reported to be fairly low.

In March of 2003, Dr. Gian D'Alterio presented information at the Camelid Veterinary meeting, held at Oregon State University, on his experiences and research on these mites. His theory was that Chorioptes was much more prevalent than most veterinarians believe it is and higher than we can actually prove with skin scrapings. His research showed that the best place to look for the mites was on the skin between the toes. It was also his belief that most of the skin

lesions seen are the result of a hypersensitivity or allergy to the mites. This information is not "classic Parasitology" and is much different than most of us veterinarians were taught in parasitology classes.

Dr. Gian D'Alterio also presented information on his treatment protocol which consisted of ivermectins at frequent intervals. It is his belief that many animals can carry the parasite and not show any signs, but are the reservoir for re-infestation of animals that are treated and improve, but then relapse.

Since this meeting, I have checked over 40 animals that have had chronic skin problems, or new lesions and have found mites in a high number of these animals. Many times, the skin scrapings at the edge of the lesions have been negative but skin scrapings between the toes has been positive. Most of the animals treated with frequent injections of ivermectins have resolved. Conversations with other veterinarians across the United States via email discussion groups have revealed similar results. Many of us practicing veterinarians have found more and more cases of Chorioptes mites. I believe that the incidence of mites is higher than I had thought it to be in the past.

If you have animals with chronic skin problems i.e. hair loss, thickened skin, crusty, scaly lesions on the legs or ventral abdomen, it would be worthwhile to have these animals checked for the presence of Chorioptes mange mites. Your veterinarian can do skin scrapings to detect these mites and recommend the appropriate treatment.



2024 Calendar of Events

March 9 — **FALA Meeting**

1pm Social 2pm Meeting

Peaceful Acres Llama Farm, 9520 Holyoak Terr., Dunnellon, FL

★ Need to re-home a llama or alpaca? Contact Claudia Hammack, llamachick@yahoo.com

★ Youth interested in showing a llama or alpaca for FFA, 4-H, or for fun? Contact Tracy Weaver, lotsallamas@earthlink.net

