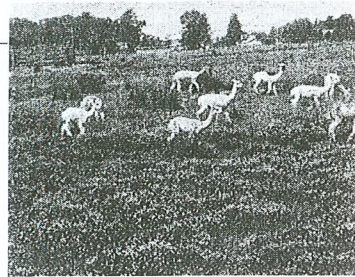


Welcome!

Herd Health



Jacquelyn Waltner, DVM

Outline

- Identification
- Examination
- Body Condition Scoring & Weighing
- Nail & Foot Care
- Vaccinating
- Fecal testing & Deworming

Outline (contin)

- Oral/Dental Care
- Skin Evaluation
- Medicating
- Collection of test samples

Setting a Schedule

- Do what works for you, not what another farm is doing
- Put in on the calendar
- Adjust as necessary, as new information becomes available

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Procedures												
Body Condition Scoring	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Weight	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Nail Trim		FEB			MAY			AUG			NOV	
CDT Vaccine	JAN											
Lepto Vaccine	JAN			APR			JUL			OCT		
Ultrasound			MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT		
Fecal testing			MAR			JUN			SEPT			DEC
Breeding soundness exams			MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT			
Pasture management		MAR								OCT		
External parasite treatment				APR						OCT	NOV	
Shearing					MAY	JUN						
ID Mark/Forage Source						JUN						
Dental care		FEB			MAY			AUG			NOV	
Forage testing				APR						SEPT		
Maternal boosters			as needed	as needed	as needed	as needed	as needed	as needed	as needed	as needed	as needed	as needed

Identification

- Neck Tags
 - Use a break-away system
- Ear Tags
- Microchips
- Tatoo



Examination

- Visual observation
 - Stance, Gait, Mentation
 - Appetite – hay, pasture, pellets, water
 - Fecal & urine output
 - Discharges???

Examination

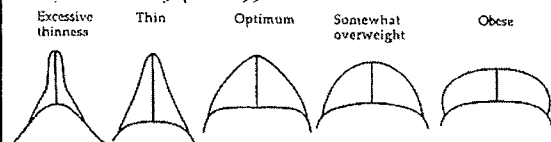
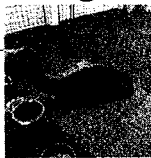
- Exam
 - Temperature: 99.5 F – 101.5 F
 - Pulse: 60-80 beats/min (Adult), 70-100 beats/min (Cria)
 - Respirations: 10-30 breaths/min

What makes one animal more sick than the other?

Lower in Severity Spectrum	Higher in Severity Spectrum
Lower Dose	Higher Dose
Middle Aged	Neonate or Elderly
Lower Stress	Higher Stress
Adequate Cu, Se, Vitamins A, E	Deficient Cu, Se, Vitamins A or E
No other diseases	Other metabolic diseases, co-infections
Higher social dominance	Lower social dominance
Lower producing	Higher producing
Higher Specific Immunity	Lower Specific Immunity

Body Condition Scoring

- Body Condition Scoring systems
 - 1-5 scale
 - 1-9 scale
- Monthly (ideally)



Body scoring is the quickest way to assess general body condition. Females entering the late trimester of pregnancy should be at a body score of 3. Animals who are malnourished (due to poor diet, a stressful lactation period, or health problems) should not be bred until they obtain a body score of 2 to 4. Body scoring is done by palpating the spine about six inches behind the withers.

Weight

- Platform Scale
 - Weighs in 0.1 pound increments
- Done on a schedule
 - Quarterly for Adults
 - Daily for neonates less than 2 weeks
 - Weekly to Monthly for cria over 2 weeks

Nail & Foot Care

- Quarterly, more frequently if needed
- Straight edged trimmers
- Check pads for injuries, abscesses, callus formation



Vaccinations

- Rules and Goals
- Vaccines - primary
 - CDT
 - Leptospirosis
 - WNV
 - Rabies
- Vaccines - other
 - BVD
 - Salmonella
 - E. Coli
 - EHV-1
 - Rota - Corona
 - Bangs (Brucellosis)
 - Haemophilus

Vaccination Goals

- Protection from clinical disease
 - Adults
 - Neonates
 - Fetal
- Protect humans from disease
- Protect from sub-clinical disease
- Above all do no further harm

Vaccination Rules

- When to vaccinate
 - On a schedule
 - Stress free, well fed
- When NOT to vaccinate
 - Within 2 weeks of transport
 - Within 2 weeks of parturition
 - Within 2 weeks of pen moves
 - Within 2 week of weaning
 - Hot Days - > 70 degrees F

Rules (contin.)

- No more than 2 vaccines per session
- Hygiene
 - Change needles between animals
 - Keep vaccine bottle clean
 - Use appropriate size needle/syringe
- Storage of Vaccine
 - Refrigeration
 - Length of time
- Vaccination Dose
 - Not different for different size alpacas
- If you are exposed - seek medical help
 - **DON'T POKE YOURSELF !**



"CDT"

- Clostridium C, D and Tetanus
- Killed Bacterial Vaccine
- Moderate length immunity
- Infection due to wounds and dietary inconsistency
- C/S: musculoskeletal, nervous, GI
- Frequency/Maternal booster

"Lepto"

- 5 Strains of Leptospirosis
 - Spirochete bacteria
- Killed Bacterial Vaccine
- Zoonotic
- Short Length of Immunity
- Infection via intimate contact with infected body fluids
- C/S: Urinary system, abortion
- Frequency/Maternal Booster

West Nile Virus

- Viral – no specific treatment
- Killed Viral Vaccine
 - Modified live available but not common
- Moderate Length of immunity
- Infection via mosquitos
- C/S: nervous system
- Low occurrence
- Variable Pathogenicity
- Risk Assessment

Rabies

- Viral
- Killed Viral Vaccine
- Zoonotic – can be passed to humans
- Moderate to Long Immunity
- Various carriers and incidence across the country
- C/S: nervous system
- High pathogenicity

Fecal Testing & Deworming

- Quarterly for herd; individuals may require more frequently
- Group samples versus individual
- Collection
- Storage



Diagnostics – Fecal Floatation

- Objective
- Quantitative v. Qualitative counts
 - 4356 v. Ohhh boy
 - Expense / time
 - ❖ Accuracy – good for re-evaluation
 - ❖ 150 E. mac/g v. 150 E. bovis/g
- Limitations
 - Fecal shedding

Parasites



- Internal
 - Coccidia
 - Strongyles
 - Nematodirus & Marshallagia
 - Whipworm
 - Tape Worms
 - Liver Flukes
 - Lung Worms
 - Meningeal Worms

Deworming

- Oral vs. Injectable vs. Topical
- Some products are not effective against certain parasites
- Treat based on diagnosis
 - Treatment without diagnosis ☹
 - Parasite resistance
 - Complicates further diagnostics

Skin Health

- Check quarterly
- Looking for parasites, injuries, abscesses, masses
- Parasites
 - Chorioptic Mange
 - Lice
 - Ticks
 - Flies
 - Ear Mites

Skin Health

- Topical or injectable medications



Oral/Dental Care

- Lower incisors
 - Check yearly on all animals
 - Trim as needed
- Fighting Teeth
 - Check yearly on males over 18 months of age
 - Trim as needed – both males and females



Medicating

- Orally
 - Dose syringe
 - Feeding tube
 - NG tube
- Injectable
 - Subcutaneously
 - Intramuscularly
 - Intravenously
- Topical

Collection of Test Samples

- Venipuncture
- Feed Samples – hay, pasture
- Water & Soil Samples
- Obstetrical Samples
 - Placenta
 - Fetus
 - Blood
- Fecal samples
- Urine samples

Venipuncture

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| ■ Sites | ■ Reasons |
| – Neck | – DNA sampling |
| – Leg | – BVD testing |
| – Tail | – Disease Diagnostics |
| – Ear | |

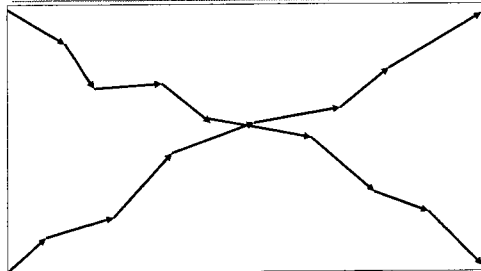
Sampling Forage

- Forage – Hay
- Core Sample - if possible
 - Sample 12 to 15 times without looking
 - Acquire a large sample, then mix and retrieve a smaller sample for submission
 - Need at least a quart ziplock stuffed full

Sampling Forage

- Forage – pasture
- Collect into 5 gallon bucket – mix, and submit portion of that collected
 - Depending on test requested need between a quart and gallon ziplock bag stuffed
- Must be dried appropriately prior to submission

Sampling a pasture



Water Samples

- Community water vs. Well
- Need 16 ounces in clean/sterile container

Soil Samples

- Technique – similar to pasture sampling
- pH 5.8 to 6.2
 - Lime too Low
 - Sulfur too high

Obstetrical Samples

- Purpose – abortion diagnostics
- Samples
 - Fetal tissues
 - Placenta
 - Blood from Dam

Urine samples

- Purpose
- Method
- Storage

Must Do

To keep them out of Hospital

- Weigh cria daily for 14 days
- Free choice potable water
- BCS regularly
- High quality grass as forage source

Please



Thank You!

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