

Camelid Herd Health

CRIA

BIRTH

- Insure colostrum intake within 4 hours-check teats for patency and colostrum content. If supplemental colostrum is needed, use tested Bovine colostrum at 1 to 1 1/2 ounces per pound of body weight of cria within the first 24 hours of birth.
- Iodine navels with 7% tincture of iodine or Nolvasan Solution twice at birth and again in several hours.
- Give 0.5 cc BO-SE subcutaneously.
- If dam not previously vaccinated or the cria fails to nurse, give 1cc Tetanus Antitoxin subcutaneously and 3cc C&D Antitoxin.
- Fall & winter babies should receive 1/2 cc Vitamin A&D at birth. Repeat during winter based on Vet's recommendation.
- Veterinary examination of any weak babies.
- Recommend evaluation of colostral absorption of all babies at 24 hours of age. (Blood test to check IgG.)
- Monitor weight gain.

2 MONTHS

- Covexin 8 vaccination (2cc subcutaneously) - This can be done as early as 30 days, particularly if cria failed to nurse.
- Booster vaccination, Covexin 8 (2cc subcutaneously) in approximately 6 weeks (at 3 1/2 months of age). Deworm if necessary at this time as per previous fecal exams.
- Provide access to a balanced mineral mix at all times.
- Check for internal and external parasites.

- Check for normal bone development.
- Toenail trimming as needed.
- Monitor weight gain.

YEARLINGS

- Coordinate yearly booster vaccinations (Covexin 8) and deworming with herd.
- Provide access to a balanced mineral mix at all times.
- Check for internal and external parasites. Deworm 2-4 times per year based on environment.
- Trim toenails as necessary.

ADULT MALES

SPRING

- Yearly booster vaccination of Covexin 8 (2cc subcutaneously).
- Provide access to a balanced mineral mix at all times.
- Deworm biannually or as indicated by spot fecal exams.
- Check for external parasites - Dust them twice yearly regardless of external parasite problem.
- Trim toenails as necessary.
- Check fighting teeth, etc.
- Examine reproductive tracts and fertility as necessary. Advise semen evaluation of unproven males.

FALL

- Deworm and check for external parasites.
- Repeat above as necessary.

ADULT FEMALES

- Yearly booster vaccination with Covexin 8 (2cc), time it to be 6 to 10 weeks prior to parturition to boost antibody levels in colostrum.

- Provide access to a balanced mineral mix at all times.
- Check for internal and external parasites.
- Toenail care as necessary.
- Check for dental problems.
- Periodically monitor weight and feed accordingly, considering also their pregnancy status.

BREEDING FEMALE

BREEDING

- Pasture: Observe and record breeding activity
- Scheduled: Breed every other day for 5 days or until non-receptive.
- General Information
 - If receptive longer than 5 days, consult veterinarian.
 - If no estrus activity observed, pregnancy check females 4 to 6 weeks post parturition.
 - Young females should reach approximately 2/3's of their projected adult weight prior to breeding. (about 200# for llamas and 90# for alpacas.)
 - Be sure to separate pregnant females from males prior to parturition.

PREGNANCY EVALUATION

- Recheck for receptivity daily at 8 to 14 days post breeding. If non-receptive, recheck for receptivity again at 3 weeks post breeding.
- Ultrasound for pregnancy approximately 3 to 4 weeks post breeding.
- Check pregnant females for receptivity periodically.
- Recheck pregnancy status at approximately 60 to 90 days.

POSTPARTUM EXAM

- Veterinary examination of females 10 to 14 days postpartum for uterine tone, vaginal discharge or tears, and follicular development. (This is especially important for any animal that had a difficult or assisted birth, or has a history of breeding problems, or whose baby failed to nurse the dam.)

GENERAL HERD INFORMATION

- We recommend all aged llamas have continuous access to our Custom Llama Mineral or #2 Mineral Mix. This mineral is designed to be fed with pasture, or hay. Other mixes are available to compliment other forages or medical problems. Additional supplementation is generally not needed or recommended.
- Vaccination recommendations are subject to change. We try to keep you updated. At this time we are not seeing Leptospirosis, West Nile virus, or Equine Herpesvirus as a problem in llamas in this area.
- In most cases deworming twice yearly provides adequate control. Under conditions of increased contamination greater frequency may be needed. Check with your veterinarian concerning dosages for llamas or alpacas because they often are different from the indicated species on the label.
- During hot weather you may wish to consider shearing some of your animals if they will be breeding during these times.