

## Rick Hodgson

Rick is a Senior Judge from Australia who has been involved in many aspects of the alpaca industry for over 10 years. He has judged both animal and fleece classes in all states of Australia. During the 2002 Fiesta in Arequipa, Rick was privileged to be guest judge for the Surilama class. He spent the next month touring in Peru and was able to expand his knowledge by visiting Peruvian alpaca studs including Accoyo and Alianza, an experience he will always remember and treasure.



In April 2005, Rick and another Australian Judge, Julie Bird, were invited to be the judges for the Canadian National Alpaca Sale and Futurity. They thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Rick has served on the Regional Alpaca Committee for several years, being responsible for the Showing portfolio. He has always been a strong supporter of the show scene as well as being a highly successful exhibitor.

Rick owns Adori Alpacas and is a breeder of full Accoyo bloodlines.

It is just as well that Rick enjoys the outdoors because one aspect of his business sees him travelling from Melbourne to north of Brisbane on the eastern seaboard of Australia, a distance of over 2000 kilometres, providing a mobile mating service with his stud males. By establishing a close working relationship with his clients, he is familiar with their breeding programmes and concerns as well as trends within the industry. Rick has made a point of helping new entrants to the industry, giving unbiased advice on stock selection and alpaca care.

Australian shows that Rick has judged in the past two years include Albany (Western Australia), Hobart Royal (Tasmania), Strathalbyn (South Australia), Ballarat (Victoria) – 248 animals in 1 day, Bendigo Wool & Sheep Show (Victoria) – 275 animals in 1 day, Hawkesbury (New South Wales), Armidale (New South Wales), Berwick (Victoria) and Booroowa (New South Wales). He also co-judged the Canadian National Futurity show last year with Julie Bird – 248 animals.