



BAS Weekly Newsletter
Timely Advice & Current News



CEO Notes, NEBAG Webinar, Colostrum
for newborns, Shearing and
vaccinations, Birthing Fact Sheet, TB
Consultation, Put your dog on a lead, Heart
of England photo competition, Show
opening and closing
dates, 2020 Show Diary

CEO NOTES

I sent out a single subject newsletter earlier in the week highlighting the changes in lock-down policy by the Government that apply in England. Since then I have had some clarification from my contacts in the police and they are clear that trekking is not considered an appropriate business to open at this time. Based on the current rules trekkers may be allowed to operate from early July. Obviously it's down to each members to make their own decisions on these matters but I am keen to help you avoid future problems.

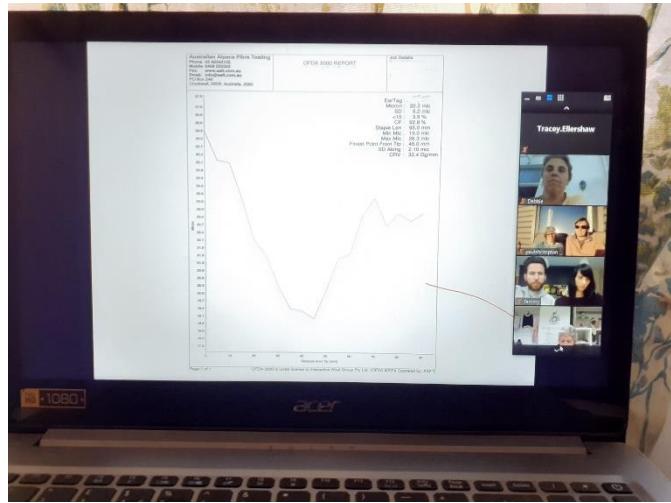
Don't forget to let me know about the crafting projects that you have taken on during the lock-down. If you can provide a short description of what you have been doing and some photographs that would be ideal. Send to me using ceo@bas-uk.com.

The photographic competition the "cria gallery" with the best photos of cria (as judged by me) making it into the magazine is still open. To encourage you to send your pictures the **first prize** winner will have the value of their membership refunded to them. So the best photo means you can have a years free membership. Second and third will get £50 and £25 credit respectively to their BAS account. Please send your entries to me by email but make sure they are high resolution or they won't print very well. 2Mb or higher is the advised for printing. Entries will close on Monday 25th May 2020 at 10 am.

We will run the competition again in the autumn for those of you with cria due later in the year.

You can email about this or anything else on ceo@bas-uk.com

Duncan Pullar
BAS CEO



NEBAG WEBINAR

NEBAG organised two webinars in successive weeks using the BAS Zoom facility on the subject of fibre and its analysis. Paul Vallely from the Art of Fibre gave a presentation to the 20 or viewers and then took questions under the chairmanship of Paul Rippon. From what i could see the audience was well behaved and attentive! Well done to all for a a very useful event.

Remember if you are making products from your alpaca fibre you can apply to use the [fibre marque](#).



If you need to book the Zoom facility for your meeting then let me know using ceo@bas-uk.com.



The British Alpaca Society



ALPACA FACT SHEET #3

Welfare, Education & Training Reviewed 2018

Alpaca Birthing (Parturition)

Introduction

Most births occur during daylight hours and reputedly between 0800 and 1400 hours. Physical signs of approaching parturition are often imperceptible but changes in general behaviour are usually the most obvious outward sign that birth is imminent. Physical signs may include relaxation of the vulva, loss of the cervical mucus plug, slight increase in the size of the mammary gland and waxing of the tips of the teats (only if previously given birth). Behavioural changes may include some, all or indeed none (1) of the following: signs of obvious discomfort (including rolling and frequently lying down and getting up), frequently looking at their tail, they may place themselves in isolation to the rest of the herd and frequent visits to the dung pile with little or no defecation. Other body language includes sitting on one hip, ears laid back, and back arched.

Labour

Normal labour is a continuous process initiated by hormonal changes but it can be broadly divided into three stages.

fluid is released than in other species). Both forelimbs appear together at the vulva and the head emerges either above or below the legs. Once the head appears, delivery is usually completed quickly but the female may rest before pushing out the shoulders. Most females deliver in the standing position. Stage 2 is usually completed in 30-45 minutes.

Stage 3

The placenta or afterbirth is usually expelled within 2 hours of birth. Alpacas do not eat the afterbirth nor lick their offspring.

Veterinary attention is required if -

- Stage 1 exceeds 5 hours without signs of abdominal contractions.
- Stage 2 extends beyond 30 minutes without any signs of progression.
- Stage 3, if the afterbirth has not been expelled within 6-8 hours (or by the next morning for late in the day deliveries.)

Birthing Fact sheet

Don't forget the members area of the website has lots of useful information to help you with your alpacas. You can find the full birthing fact sheet [here](#)

TB Consultation

Defra and Natural England (NE) have published several documents in relation to the animal disease bovine tuberculosis (bTB) on GOV.UK. NE has published documents relating to the 2020 badger cull season, and Defra a consultation on a vaccination & culling buffer zone in the Edge Area of England.

- Natural England Supplementary Badger Culling licences – These can be found at:
 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bovine-tb-authorisation-for-supplementary-badger-control-in-2020>
- Natural England summary from Supplementary Badger Cull opportunity to comment - This can be found at:
 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/bovine-tb-comment-on-an-application-for-a-supplementary-badger-disease-control-licence-february-2020>
- Natural England summary from Intensive Cull opportunity to comment - This can be found at:
 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/bovine-tb-comment-on-an-application-for-a-badger-disease-control-licence-february-2020>
- Buffer zones consultation – Defra is consulting on a proposal to manage the delivery of both vaccination and culling of badgers in the Edge Area of England especially where they adjoin. Our proposal aims to reduce the risk of culling vaccinated badgers balanced with ensuring that culling can proceed where applications meet the licensing requirements to ensure that progress is made towards disease eradication. The consultation can be found at:
 - <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/animal-health-and-welfare/badger-no-cull-zones-edge-area/>



Colostrum for newborns

Ensuring adequate colostrum intake (10 -20% of body weight in the first 24 hours – 5 % of this in the first 6 hours) is vital to protect cria in the first few months of life.

Failure to ingest enough colostrum in the first 24 hours of life is probably the most important predisposing cause of cria mortality. However, the window of opportunity is narrow; after about eight hours the cria gut begins to lose the ability to absorb antibodies from the colostrum and after twenty four hours virtually nothing will be absorbed.

If a cria has failed to nurse by six hours then an attempt should be made to feed colostrum. Ideally this will be milked from the dam (although in practice this is not always possible and it may even be that the lack of colostrum production by the dam is the actual problem).

Frozen camelid colostrum is also ideal. Alternatively goat's colostrum is considered to be the closest in composition to camelid colostrum, but if unavailable then cows colostrum may be used. N.B. the source of the colostrum must be scrutinized, it is important to determine that the herd is free of disease and that the colostrum is collected and stored under sanitary conditions.

If all efforts fail with colostrum you can use plasma previously harvested. You will need to ask your Vet about this approach as most herds harvest their own plasma and freeze in case of emergencies.

More information available on the BAS website [here](#).

Shearing time and vaccinations

If you are relatively new to alpaca you may still be working out what routine health programme you need to have in place with your animals. In a ideal world you should have a plan agreed with your Vet on what routine husbandry tasks (e.g. worming, teeth and toenails) are needed alongside an appropriate vaccination regime. I say appropriate because different parts of the country have different disease risks and your Vet should be able to advise what is needed or not in your area.

If your shearer offers to do vaccinations or other husbandry tasks for you then that is fine if it part of YOUR plan but if don't have a plan in place then it may be ineffective so please put a plan in place that gives you peace of mind and your alpacas the protection they need.

PLEASE PUT YOUR DOG ON A LEAD



WORRYING LIVESTOCK AND DOG ATTACKS ARE A SERIOUS OFFENCE

Call 999 if you see an attack happening or
101 if you have information about an offence



THE BRITISH ALPACA SOCIETY



British Llama Society
BLS

POLICE

'Your dog, your responsibility'

If you would like a poster for use at home we have some in stock.
You can order them in manage my herd or by emailing
grassroots. They are £2.50 each or £7.50 inc VAT for a pack of 4.



HOEAG Photo comp carries on.....

As we have not been able to hold the Shows this year, let's make up for it with lots of great photo entries for the 2020 PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION, which is open to all amateur photographers. Ingrid Weel of Ingrid Weel Media Ltd., who has been the Official Photographer at the HoEAG Spring Alpaca Fiesta for the last four years, will blind judge them in the following categories – Portrait, Natural Behaviour, Abstract and Under 16yr old Photographer. Plus an additional category - LOCKDOWN SPECIAL!

To be eligible, images must include an alpaca and be submitted in 300dpi resolution and no smaller than 1000 pixels on the long edge. Some smartphones have 2 different options, so you need to choose the bigger file! The resolution will be checked before judging and only images of the correct specifications can be included, so please check before you submit your entry.

The results will be announced at the HoEAG Autumn Fleece Show on Sunday 4th October. Prizes will be awarded in each category and the overall winning photograph will be featured on the front cover of the Spring Alpaca Fiesta 2021 catalogue with a full credit.

All entries may be featured at some point, again with full credits, on our website or in other promotional material.

Please send your entry to chairperson@heartofenglandalpacagroup.co.uk with your name, herd name, email address/telephone number & age if under 18yrs.

Closing date: Sunday 6th September.

Show opening and closing dates ...

Show name	Show Dates	open	close	terms
Devon County	28-30th August	CANCELLED		
Royal Three Counties Fleece	28 & 29th July	OPEN	3rd July	max 150 (12/class)
Cornish Fleece Show	1st Aug	OPEN	17th June	max 60
Eastern Regional Fleece	15th Aug	OPEN	30th July	min 60 - max 120
Ellingham & Ringwood	18th Aug	CANCELLED		
SWAG @ Somerset County	19th & 20th Sept	6th July	24th Aug	max 200
SWAG Somerset Fleece Show	19th Sept	6th July	1st Sept	max 65

Summary of Show dates

Event Date 2020

		Date change	
F	Royal Three Counties Fleece		11th/12th July
H	Ellingham & Ringwood		Cancelled
F	Eastern Region Fleece		15 and 16 August
H	Westmorland		10 September
H	SWAG @ Somerset Halter		19 and 20 September
F	Heart of Eng Autumn Fleece		4 October
H	Welsh Show		10 October
H	Eastern Region Halter		18 October
H	Yorkshire Group Show		24 October
H	NEBAG		31 October
H	West Shires Halter		7 November
F	Northern Fleece Show		29 November

2020 Show Diary



Make a note in your diary!

(New information in red)

2020 Dates

Three Counties Fleece Show

Date: 28th 29th July

Judges: Roger Clarke

Entries open: 4th April

Entries Close: 3rd July

Fleeces delivered by 6th July.

Cornwall Fleece Show

Date: Saturday 1st August 2020

Judge: Cathy Lloyd

Entries open: 15th May 2020

Entries close: 17th June 2020

Fees : £22.00 + VAT PER ENTRY

Ellingham and Ringwood Show

Date: Sat 8 Aug 20

Judge: Shirley Bettinson

Halter Show - Short Fleece - Colour Championship format with classes for
Huacaya and Suri-

EAG Fleece Show 2020 - 15th August

Date: Saturday 15th August 2020

Entries open: 1st May

Entries close: Thursday 30th July

Classes – same as last year

Maximum number of entries 120 (1 day show)

Judge: Mr Nick Harrington-Smith

Venue: TBC

Delivery of fleeces: TBC

Westmorland Show

Date: 14th September 2020

Judge: Julia Corrigan-Stuart

Somerset County Show

Date: Sat 19th September(Fleece)

Fleece Judge: Julia Corrigan-Stuart

HoEAG Autumn fleece show

Date: Sunday 4th October

Judges: Shirley Bettinson and Roger Clarke

Welsh Alpaca Show - 10th Oct 2020

Judge: Julia Corrigan Stuart

EAG Halter Show 2020 - 18th October

NEBAG Halter show - 31st October

Date: 31 October 2020

Judge:

Entries Open: 6th July

Entries close : 31 July

Fees:£21 + VAT

Northern Fleece Show

Date: 29 November

Judges: Rob and Shirley Bettinson

Organiser: Stuart Ramsey

2021 DATES

BAS National Show

Date 26th, 27th and 28th March 2021



[Facebook](#)



[Website](#)



[Email](#)

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