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LFA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW & SALE

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2009 • CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA



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Show the industry what best represents your ranch program!

Consignment deadline is June 1, 2009

Consignment forms and show applications are available online

www.thelfa.org

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Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Contact Pam Jensen at gpjensen@riverland.org

It is membership renewal time, be sure and renew today!

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The Beginning Of The Argentine Llama In The States

by Seth Onsager

In 1989 the Von Baer's created the very first llama ranch on about 60 acres just east of Temuco, Chile. The ranch known as "Llamas del Sur," reminding the Von Baer's the time before the Spaniards invaded Chile, was dedicated to the finest breeding stock in Chile and organized genetic selection of llamas. In 1999 Llamas del Sur complemented the ranch with alpacas, and in 2003 the very first guanacos were added totaling the herd to about 280 llamas, 80 alpacas, and 15 guanacos.

Llamas del Sur's team includes the five family members (three veterinarians, a graphic designer and a publicist) and three qualified helpers. The highest level of motivation and compromise of each individual has been the determinant factor in the technical, genetic, and economical progress reached at Llamas del Sur. This way, "Llamas del Sur" has three of the four South American Camelids species, which makes them very happy and proud.

Llamas del Sur will be soon celebrating their 20th anniversary in the camelid industry. The main objective for the past 20 years is to "Become the Worlds Widest and Best Gene Pool." To do this they have had to be focused on specific

criteria and hold the entire herd to the highest standards in genetic selection, conformation, fiber quality, and beautiful animals. They also focus on criteria given by the international markets; especially the U.S. Their gene pool has been reinforced by introducing different genetic types of llamas from various areas of the Chilean Altiplano and Argentina.

The Von Baer's have successfully managed two importations of breeding animals of the "Argentine phenotype", characterized by a wide fiber coverage and fineness, solid colors, and stronger/bigger legs. 30 pure Argentine llamas were imported in 1996 from Argentina and another 20 were imported in 1997. In 2001 the USDA gave permission to Paul and Sally Taylor to import the original Argentine llamas and an online auction would soon begin. There was 15 Argentine males and 31 Argentine females that sold to numerous buyers in the United States. From the original group of pure Argentine llamas the Von Baer's still have five breeding females: Arica, Kobra's dam; Leufu, Nikita, Pellu, and Changa. In recent years they have had some wonderful offspring from the five females, some pure Argentine and some mixed with Chilean animals.



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Limited outside breedings available



co-owned with Natalie Langowski

Argentine Excitement in the Air!

by Lynda Carothers



*Argentine Poltergeist (ET) 2008 Grand National
Reserve Champion Heavy Wool Male*

“Did you see that llama? Oh my, what a beautiful animal! I have not ever seen such an exotic llama!” Yes, there is excitement in the air! We just got back from the Celebration Sale in Oklahoma City and what a great experience we had. We were fortunate to have some magnificent Argentine llamas represented there in the shows. We had taken two full Argentines to show in the World Futurity and had nothing but wonderful comments on both. There were also several more awesome full Argentines there, plus some really great part Argentines. And there was excitement in the voices of those talking to us about them.

The Argentine llama is quite rare here in the United States. With approximately 350 full Argentines here, they truly are a hard to find gem in the llama world. They were first imported by Taylor Llamas in the late 1990's. The final import was in 2001. The total of all imports brought in about 90 full Argentine llamas. Those llamas and their offspring have since been gracing the pastures of some very fortunate llama breeders here in the United States.

What makes an Argentine? It is simply the country of origin. The full Argentine llama has its' entire genealogy traceable back to Argentina. Only full Argentine llamas can have the word “Argentine” as the first word in their name. Not all have this, but many do. Part Argentines, are just that. They have a portion of their lineage traceable to Argentina. It could be 1/4 or 15/16, they are still referred to as part Argentines. Rebano Escondido (RE) llamas come from Chile and are not Argentine. They are often referred to as Chilean llama of the Argentine type. With an increased interest in the Argentine llama, we are often seeing people referring to their llamas as Argentine type. Be sure to study the background of any llama you are purchasing. Just because people say they have an Argentine llama, does not necessarily mean that. We see this happen when talking to people, in auctions and on websites. Check out the llama's lineage.

Continued on page 16...

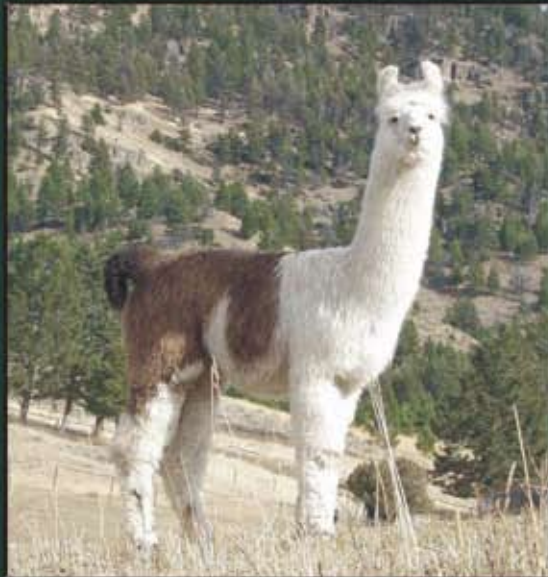


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