

We're attempting to retire...  
again...  
This time, we're really serious!

All of our breeding-age  
females are for sale,  
including these  
**Argentines**



**Pheasant  
Hill Farm**  
Llamas

For fiber,  
packing  
and show



**Argentine Dulcinea, ET**  
45" at withers



**Argentine Morin**  
Dam of Valenzuela



**Argentine Corani**  
The Public Relations Llama

All 3 will be bred to Argentine Yecu in May

**John and Sharon Beacham**

15760 County Road 220, Salida, CO 81201-9427

719-539-7185

bigjohnb@hughes.net

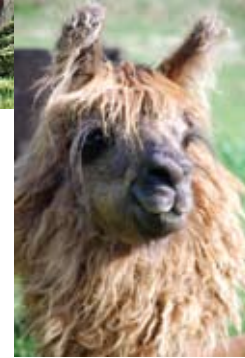
grandmamallama@hughes.net



*Above:*  
*Argentine*  
*Zapata*



*Above: Argentine*  
*Naranja*



*Left: Argentine*  
*Nadalina*

*...Continued*  
*from page 14*

The Argentine llama has a dense fine fleece. We often have shearing weights of five pounds and up. The fleeces can be crimped or silky, but most often have loft to them. We see locked fiber too. We have seen fleeces so dense that vegetable debris can hardly get through. And the fiber coverage is extreme. Most often their fleece covers their toes all the way up to the tips of their ears. Most Argentines are completely sheared here, only leaving a ruff around their neck and their leg wool on. With the dense fiber this is about the only way you can keep them cool in the hot summer months. Their body shape is robust. They have a great spring of rib and heavy leg bone to support their bodies. The Argentine llama has a shorter triangular head, with big eyes. They are quite intelligent and have sweet dispositions. One can't help but fall in love with them.

Yes, the Argentines are winning in the showing and fleece contests. And yes, their exotic look is catching the eye of many llama breeders. The Argentine llama is causing quite a stir in today's llama world. The Argentine Llama Aficionados (ALA) is busy planning their first on-line auction of guaranteed full and part Argentines to be held on June 5th through the 7th this year. The sale will feature ALA member llamas from all over the country. Be sure to check it out at [www.ArgentineLlamas.org](http://www.ArgentineLlamas.org)!

The ALA is continuing to grow. Members receive a semi-annual newsletter with news about the Argentine llama. Pictures of show wins and new cria arrivals are featured, along with member profiles. This year the group has worked on putting together a show standard for halter classes featuring full and part Argentine llamas. The first show to feature the new classes will be the Lama Market show being held in Wisconsin this June. There will be Argentine owners traveling across country to take part in this show. We also have members, now marketing Argentine fiber products. Be sure to check out the ALA website for a list of members who would be happy to give you more information on Argentine llamas. You will find members who specialize in producing full Argentines to those who find adding the Argentine ingredient to their llamas is exactly what they want to breed for. If you are looking for something different, you may want to consider checking out the Argentines. It is indeed an exciting time for Argentine owners!



# What Can You Do With An Argentine? Or Accidentally Argentine

by Laura Harrawood

When you've had llamas for even a short while and get in on a couple of public appearances you start to know the natural progression of typical llama questions.

Q #1. Is that a llama or an alpaca?

A #1. Hopefully no one needs help with this one? Right?

Q #2. Do they spit?

A #2. My answer is.... Yep, they do but usually it's because you've done something to deserve it.

Q #3. What do you do with a llama?

A #3 My answer is... The same thing you do with a dog, a cat, or a horse... feed them, water them, clean up their poop and love them. Oh Oh—that sounds

like a pet!! So I guess my llamas are pets. The final question, though, why an Argentine, is a little bit harder to answer until you've actually seen one. Until you've seen an Argentine up close and personal you may not "get it". You can't describe the taste of pickles to someone who has never tasted one but once you eat a pickle you know what they taste like. Argentines are outstanding and impressive. It is easy to admire and appreciate beauty, conformation strength and quality.

Having raised *mini* llamas for 5 years, I **accidentally** bought an Argentine that was small. He is 7/8 Argentine and was a happy accident for me. I wasn't looking for

an Argentine but once I got one I suddenly needed more. Who knew. An Argentine, a mini and an appy. No deliberation, no ciphering.... he's my new herdsire.

I then got another 1/2 Argentine female who is a tough llama but aloof and cautious. She's got a left rear hook that is lightning fast and as quick as a mouse trap. But boy howdy she has the most beautiful babies... so there she is in my field being a symbol of history and noble caution in an experienced mother whom I respect. Dot and I have an understanding and it is working out well for us.

So not all Argentines are created equal. Some excel in bone, some in fiber,

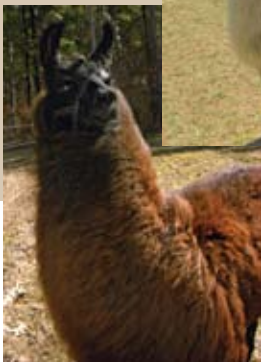
*Continued on page 18...*

## Bid on Us at the ALA Online Auction June 5-7

Right  
**PH LuCinda**  
1/2 Argentine  
yearling (F)



Below  
**PH Priscilla Pearl**  
1/2 Argentine (F)



**Full/Part  
Argentines**

Sharon & Jerry Williamson  
NI 3122 W. Prairie Rd.  
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phllamas@centurytel.net

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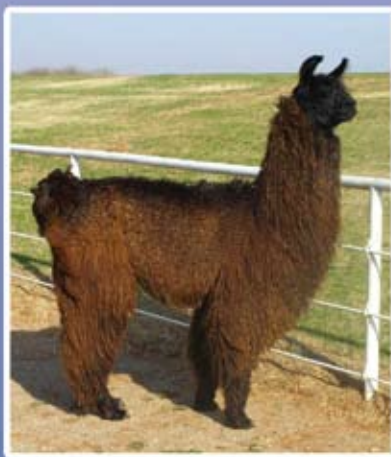
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some in facial structure, personality or conformation. Some Argentines have it all. My *other* 1/2 Argentine named "Puppy" does not excel in every single typey Argentine trait, but I can get her bred and change her babies. I named her Puppy because I think she looks like a giant golden Retriever Puppy. She is 1/2 Argentine and 1/2 .... something else. She looks a lot more Argentine to me than the "something else", though. Puppy is a llama of course but is so sophisticated and civilized that she appears to have been schooled by mystic noblewomen.

### PACKING WITH ARGENTINES

Experts who pack have their ideas of perfect pack llamas. They look at legs, back, conformation and gait. They like fiber with guard hair and not too heavy of fiber on the legs. One thing they will tell you, though, that one of the most important attributes is attitude. When the perfect llama does come around... keep 'em. Puppy is a pleasure to walk with and *she carries my stuff !!*. She actually enjoys the walk, looks happy and alert and interested, not fearful and worried. It wasn't hard to get her used to wearing the pack or walking with it. Some llamas really struggle with pack training and it is sort of like trying to push water up a tree. I've seen a lot of Disney movies in my life and I still have some magical thinking that you can always tame an unruly animal. Reality is that some llamas are just a little short on people skills. Then

again, some times people are a little short on *llama* skills too. Every llama can not be every thing, all ways.

When we hike, Puppy keeps pace with my pace, runs when I run which I'm pretty sure she thinks is funny. I mean.... I never did run gracefully and that skill hasn't improved with age. Puppy should have to walk first once in awhile so I could laugh at her. I make her jump over stuff which I'm sure she thinks is stupid. She does it without question like I am so simple minded that I don't know the easiest way around a fallen tree. She sometimes will try to walk around a log but I make her jump over it and she does it. I can put my hands over her eyes for no good reason at all and she lets me. She doesn't mind leaving her buddies to take a walk with me.... *she likes me*.

### ARGENTINE FIBER

The typical (typey) Argentine fiber is as good as it gets.... kind of like a hot breakfast when you're on vacation. Many of the Argentines produce a variation of brown fiber. They do come in all colors, though, from black to white and all manner of multi-colors too. As a hand spinner and fiber addict I love a true black fiber that can be shorn, spun, knitted and worn without ever having to worry about the item bleeding out dye on to something else. This true black color will never bleed and will probably wear out long before it fades. Other true colors stand on their own merit or can be over-dyed. I love

all the possibilities of over-dying. Even dark browns can be over-dyed to make a whole new spectrum of colors. One of my favorite dye techniques is rainbow dyeing. It is a process where you dye a fiber with 3 primary colors in the same pot. The primary colors stay primary but then migrate into each other as well to make a variety of other colors in the same pot. I love to rainbow dye natural colored fiber because if you miss a spot it doesn't matter. The natural color (red, brown, gray) shows through and makes it even more interesting. Typical Argentine fiber is soft and has a fine hand to it. It is abundant so you get a lot more bang for your buck on the back of an Argentine. It is fine as well. More fiber per square inch makes a finer fiber.

### ARGENTINE PERSONALITY

I added Argentines to my herd only a year and a half ago, which is certainly not enough time for me to be an expert but I report what I see. I see a calm and sensible personality in most Argentines. When visitors come to our barn and see the llamas they are immediately drawn to my Argentines. When my reluctant partner (my husband, Tom) met my first Argentine, he finally got semi-excited about the llama business.

My llamas are pets.... . Pets with a purpose, a job and a value added bonus of fiber. Many cats, dogs or horses, don't offer even 1/2 of all that.



# Minnesota Minis

## Where the Mini is Mighty!

[www.minnesotaminis.com](http://www.minnesotaminis.com)

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*First Cria are due summer of 2009  
Limited select breedings now available*

Visit us at [WWW.TAICHI LLAMAS.COM](http://WWW.TAICHI LLAMAS.COM)

## Argentine Llama Fiber— From a Self-Proclaimed Fiber Junkie's Viewpoint

by Kelly Radding of TuckerWoods Farm, CT



*Argentine Just Perfect April 09.  
Fleece regrowth almost even with leg  
and upper neck wool. Will most  
likely be even by the time sheared.*

That Argentine look; the short, triangular face, the stovepipe legs, the fiber on the face, the fiber on the legs, the fiber over the toes, the fiber, the fiber.

Oh that glorious fiber! Our Argentines are known for their fine, dense fiber coverage and staple length. But what does that really mean from a fiber viewpoint?

It means that our Argentines produce a luxury fiber whose hand and style is consistent over a large percentage of their body. That translates into a better yield of fiber per animal. Average clips can be 3lbs of barrel wool to upwards of 7lbs or more of usable fleece - more

than double the typical yield of a non-Argentine llama. Average staple length growth per year can be up to 6" . We have a half Argentine male that grows an 6" to 8" staple each year. Argentines are also known for the fineness of their fiber. There has been Argentine fiber with recorded micron counts between 18 and 21.

What can we do with all that fiber?

### YARN & ROVING

Make yarn, of course! Or at the very least, make roving so that handspinners can make yarn. Handspinners are

*Continued on page 20...*







Salsera



Carol@buckhollowllamas.com  
610 582-9051  
www.buckhollowllamas.com



RE Zepher

Salsera, our Halter Champion, placed 6th in the heavy wool class at the 2006 ALSA Grand Nationals. She is correct and perfectly balanced with the typical Argentine fiber and density. RE Zepher, is a unique color with magnificent fiber and the typical bone. Both animals have all the typical Argentine qualities with added superb conformation and great balance. Salsera is bred to Zepher for a fall 2009 cria. Contact me about our in utero program for this girl in particular. The structure on both the dam and sire is superb so just think of that offspring. It will be easy to fill mom's shoes in the showing so do not miss out on this gem. Paul Taylor said of Salsera, "she is exactly what we have been striving for." We only have two Argentines; but we do have two of the best to bring you their best.

## PH Boy Oh Boy

Part Argentine • Herdsire  
ILR #266772 • Sire: Arg. Felix X My Susie Q  
Breeding fee: \$1000.00

PH Boy Oh Boy (aka Bob) will put awesome part-argentine bloodlines in your llama breeding program. Bob has tall body structure, great bone, correct conformation, wonderful presences. Reserve your 2009 breedings.



Full/Part  
Argentines

Sharon & Jerry Williamson  
N13122 W. Prairie Rd.  
Trempealeau, WI 54661  
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phllamas@centurytel.net  
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beginning to take notice of llama as a luxury fiber. Our wonderful soft, dense, fine-fibered Argentine fleeces can and do rival a lot of alpaca for softness of hand. I have had many people handle our argentine llama roving and guess that it is alpaca. Handspinners are beginning to take notice that llama breeders are breeding for fiber in addition to conformation and disposition, and that the fiber they are producing is exceptional. Handspinners are beginning to seek out llama fiber to spin; the old myth in the spinning world that llamas are only good as pack or guard animals is fast unraveling. Our Argentines are poised to take the handspinning world by the 'proverbial' tail!

### ENTER FLEECE SHOWS

Our Argentines are consistently winning and placing high in both ALSA sanctioned and non ALSA fleece shows; once entered, our argentine fleeces



*Skirting table with fleece on it.  
Not Argentine, but our mini Tick Tock  
who won Best In Show Single Coat  
at the 2006 Nationals*

routinely come home with ribbons, and many times take top honors. An interesting fleece show for our llamas is known as a Spin- Off. This is where the animal's fleece is judged for fleece quality according to the show's rules but it is also judged from a handspinning point-of-view. The entry is a 2 oz sample from which a small sample is hand-carded and spun and then judged.

