

WALKABOUT VI

July 25th & 26th, 2008

A Stellar Selection of the Finest Show and Breeding Stock



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*Please
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Fun
Llama Event
of 2008*

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Hi Tammie, when was your first introduction to llamas and what was the hook that prompted you to buy your first llamas?

I first saw a llama at a petting zoo and thought they were the most unique animals. I always said if I lived on a farm again I would get one. I eventually started dating a guy who knew of my love of the llama and in an effort to impress me talked his parents in to letting me keep some at their farm. My devotion to the llamas stuck better than my devotion to the guy!

Where are you and your llamas located? What size herd do you have? What has been your direction in your breeding program?

Since the “relationship realignment” my llamas have been living at my friend Sue Wilde’s farm.

Interview with

Tammie Efraimson-Hiraga

by Sue Wilde

She was kind enough to offer to board them and it works just great. I am a city gal employed as a mental health therapist in Lethbridge, AB but I get to enjoy life on the farm to help with shearing, herd health, halter training, shows, etc. I have about 11 llamas and my direction has been to keep large, well conformed non suri females and breed them to a high quality suri male.

You have been a member of your local club and an organizer of the local llama show each year. What do you see as the most valuable aspects of having a strong local club?

Through the ups and downs in the llama biz it is important to have people to share your love and enthusiasm for the llamas and to remind yourself that it is about more than great sales. Canadian breeders were hit hard during the BSE as we had a restricted market. The shows gave us something to look forward to and to keep us focused on improving our breeding programs. When the border opened, Canadian breeders were ready with some incredible breeding stock.

What do you think is the best way to get people to come out and support a llama show?

Offer a show that appeals to all sorts of llama people. Our show offers a lot of fun classes such as costume, obstacles, showmanship as well as classes for the serious breeders to showcase their best. This year we are planning to enhance our fleece show and we continue to focus on the youth as this industry depends on them for sustainability

You are a member of the Llama Futurity Association and have supported their sales with some great success. Tell us about your females that have done so well for you. How should people choose the right llama for a sale?

I think you have to take your best. A high profile show like LFA brings



together the best in our industry. If you want to be successful you must demonstrate a high regard for quality. I take the ones I wish I could keep!! If it isn't sad to put them on the trailer they are not the right one. It is also important as a small breeder to try and continue to support a sale as you become more familiar to the llama community.

When you are a small breeder what do you suggest as some ways to get your farm name known out in the industry? Keeping this in mind, what are your plans for this year's llama sales?

I think to become known in the industry the best tip I can give is to get involved. Whether it is on the show committee, your local club or consigning llamas to sales you must make yourself visible. This year I have consigned to Cascade two of my non suri females with very correct, high luster suri boys at side who will offer an opportunity to enhance a suri program with fabulous males and my large girls who can produce more suris! I also plan to submit more of my best to LFA.

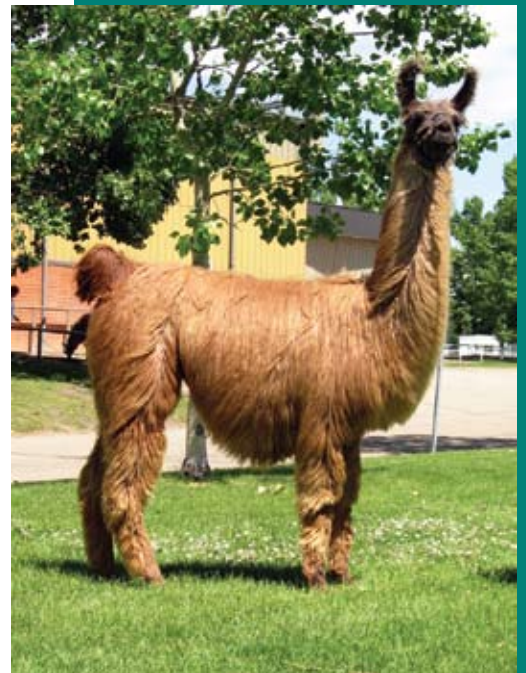
What is a favorite llama experience that you can share with us?

I think the best experience was having our first cria. We looked forward to it for months and when he arrived, although we knew he wasn't the most marketable little guy, he was special. We spent a lot of time with him and everything he did was fascinating to me. Of course having one of the high selling females at LFA last year wasn't a bad moment either!

What do you think are some important aspects to owning llamas that can keep people enthusiastic about the industry?

Find something you love about llamas besides making money as the market fluctuates like everything else. It is easy to get preoccupied with the "value" of the llamas but the value is really in what they add to our lives. For some they are simply something beautiful to look at out the front window, to others their fiber is a catalyst to artistic expression, and to most of us they have guided us to develop lasting relationships with the only other people in the world who can understand why we love llamas!

Continued on page 10...



*High Selling Female
LFA 2007 Sale
Lot 64 — Earth
Angel's
Evengeline*

LOT 30

CONSIGNED TO
CASCADE LLAMA SALE, MAY 3, 2008
Both dams are Reserve Grand Champions!

EARTH ANGELS SHAKIRA & EARTH ANGELS CRUZ (FFF Maserati)
She is bred back to grey suri
LLLL Zak for a 3/1 package

PERFECTION'S TO THE T & EARTH ANGELS ROCCO
(Peruvian Wildcard)
Sell as a 2/1 package

Tammie Efraimson-Hiraga
earthangelsllamas@hotmail.com
phone : 403 388-4385 or 403 330-4322

LOT 90

CRUZ

Western New York
LLAMA & FIBER
Classic

May 31 & June 1, 2008

JUDGE: Mrs. Debbie Shellabarger

Friday, May 30

- 12:00 Noon - Llamas can begin to arrive
- 9:00pm - Llamas must be in place

Saturday, May 31

- 9:00am - Llama show exhibitor meeting with Judge

- 9:30am - ALSA Llama Show begins

- 10:00am-5:00pm - Vendors open

Sunday, June 1

- 8:30am - ALSA Llama Show begins

- 10:00am-5:00pm - Vendors open

The Fairgrounds • Hamburg, NY

Early entry deadline - May 3 ★ Late entry - May 17

**For an entry form or more information, visit
www.the-fairgrounds.com**

SHOW SUPERINTENDENTS - Ron & Judy Billick



...Continued from page 9

What is the new project you have diversified into with your dog interest?

Again another experience I can credit the llamas with! I was at the last Star Sapphire sale when I discovered the most amazing looking dog. I went and spoke to the woman with the dog and she told me it was an Australian Labradoodle. I thought about the dog the whole drive home. I told the guy I was dating — who is now my husband Darren — that I was going to get a labradoodle. I spent the next year researching and then made a deposit and waited 13 more months for my puppy. We just had our first litter last week and we couldn't be more thrilled with the results.

What are the similarities of breeding for the best llama and the best dog?

I have to say I learned a lot from the llamas that has helped me with the labradoodles. Most importantly buy the best breeding stock you can afford. Don't cut corners. I believe in quality rather than quantity and an educated consumer will know the difference!

Thanks Tammie for being a part of the LamaLink and all the best in 2008 with your llamas.

**SUMMER
 FUN!**

HEADQUARTERS

AMERICA'S

FAIR

ERIE COUNTY FAIR

August 6-17, 2008

ALPACA Show
August 6 & 7, 2008

JUDGE: Deb Yeagle

LLAMA Show
August 8-10, 2008

JUDGE: Philip Feiner

*★ Early entry deadline
 June 28*

Late entry - July 12

**For more information or an entry form for these fair shows,
 visit www.americas-fair.org after May 15
 (716) 649-3900 • junderberg@americas-fair.org**