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Suri Network Herd Improvement Program (SHIP)

How to Participate in SHIP Herd Classification

This document outlines the procedures and requirements for farms/breeders to participate in Classification program for SHIP.

Other documents and literature discuss the purposes, development and frequently asked questions about SHIP.

This document and others can be found on Suri Network's website, www.SuriNetwork.org, and then click on "EPD, Classification & Breed Standard" on the right hand column.

Procedure & Requirements to Participate in SHIP's Herd Classification Program

Please review this entire document before beginning the process

Step 1. Complete a SHIP Application & Authorization Form and mail, fax or e-mail the application and authorization form to the Suri Network Office. See Exhibit A. (Mail: Suri Network, PO Box 1984, Estes Park, CO 80517. Fax: 970-586-6685. E-mail: Office@SuriNetwork.org.) Non-members of Suri Network are required to pay a non-refundable application fee of \$75.

Note: A Herd Classification is to include all Suris you own that are approximately 1 year of age or older. If you co-own a Suri, be sure you have the other owner(s) signed permission.

If you board Suris for other owners and these animals are to be included in the Herd Classification, the other owner must complete a separate signed application and authorization.

If another farm(s) in a separate nearby location is also having a Herd Classification in conjunction with you to share classifier cost savings, that farm(s) needs to complete a separate application and authorization at the same time.

Step 2. Call Ken at the Suri Network Office (970-586-5876) to do a preliminary review of how your classification will work including dates, eligibility determinations, and coordination with a classifier and fees. Open communications between the farm, classifier & the Suri Network office are encouraged to assure the process flows smoothly.

Step 3. *In advance of the classification* and as soon as practical, send to the Suri Network office copies of all ARI certificates for each and every Suri to be classified. Prepare a list of all Suris to be classified including the name, ARI#, Sex, Color, Date of Birth, Sire and Dam. Send this list along with the copies of the Certificates. Keep a copy of this list for the actual classification. The classifier will want a copy of the herd list in advance to prepare for the classification. See Exhibit B for a sample Herd list form. *(The certificates and lists may be e-mailed)*

(Note: You may be able to download ARI Certificates from ARI and if you participate, obtain herd lists from Alpaca Ease or Alpaca Herd Works)

If other farm(s) or boarded Suris are participating in a planned joint classification schedule, each farm or owner must do the same.

NO ARI Certificate? If you do not have an ARI certificate because the Suri has not completed the registration process with ARI or it is a pet or fiber Suri that will not be registered, you need to complete the No ARI Certificate Form and send it in to the Suri Network Office with the other ARI certificates. See exhibit C.

Step 4. *Fiber laboratory Tests.* Fiber test results offer important objective data for EPD calculations and to participate in the SHIP program and herd classification you must authorize the laboratory (Example: Yocum-McColl Testing Laboratories, Inc.) to release these results to the Suri Network. See exhibit D. Send the authorization form to the testing lab and a copy to Suri Network along with your application for participation in the classification program.

You should include all test results that may go back several years. When making this request, it is important that you specify very clearly the identification of the Suri (name, ARI number, test number) and the date of the test. *Be sure Suri Network has a copy of the ARI certificate for each Suri tested.*

See other explanatory documents or frequently asked questions for the purpose of fiber test results in the SHIP program.

Step 5. *Classification Fees/Costs:* There 2 basic costs for a Classification.

1. \$250 per day for a classification, plus
2. Travel and room & board expenses, where applicable.

If you agree to have a consultation or herd review with the Classifier after the classification, this agreement is between you (the farm) and the classifier only, including any additional fees they charge, and does not involve Suri Network.

A classifier can process between 40 to 50 alpacas per day. Your preparedness is important to keeping costs down.

- a. Each Suri takes 7-10 minutes to classify.
- b. Shorn Suris need to have bagged fleece on tables.
- c. There needs to be a clean, dry flat area for the review of conformation and fiber traits.
- d. All Suris need to be ready for review with handlers to manage them.
- e. A herd list available. – See Step 3.
- f. Proper coordination with other area breeders when cost sharing fees and expenses.
- g. Communicate with the Classifier in advance to ensure you are ready.

Share costs with other farms. Where possible, share costs. Example: You have 15 Suris and your neighbor down the road has 25 Suris. You both agree to have a classification, which should be done in one day. Thus, there is only a one day fee of \$250 charge, which you agree to share. Also, the two farms agree to provide meals and lodging for the classifier, as well as transportation costs. If the classifier is flying, you agree to provide round-trip transportation to and from the airport. Each situation will vary and require coordination between farms and the classifier.

Step 6. *Classification costs for Suri Network members.* As of Fall 2011, Suri Network has a limited budget to share a portion of the farm's classification fee of \$250 per day. This cost sharing is available on a first-come first-served basis as long as funds are available for *Suri Network members only*. To apply, a farm *must pay 50% of their estimated share* of the classifier's fee **in advance to the Suri Network**, when the application and fiber release copy is filed. The date the payment and application is received at the Suri Network office establishes the "first-come first-served basis for funds from Suri Network.

The Suri Network will cover a maximum of 50%, (\$125) of the daily fee, but not to exceed \$5.00 per alpaca. Example 1: 50 alpacas at \$250 less \$125 paid by SN results in a cost to breeders of \$125 or \$2.50 per alpaca. Example 2: 15 alpacas at \$250 less 15 X \$5.00 = \$75 paid by SN, breeder owes \$175. The breeder(s) involved will pay all travel, lodging and meal costs for the classifier.

Step 7. *How & when are payments made.* (1) The Classifier submits all invoices for classification fees to Suri Network. Suri Network then reviews the invoice and matches details to the application and classification material submitted. (2) Then, Suri Network invoices the farm(s) for the appropriate classification fees (less Step 6 if applicable). Invoices to the farm are due upon receipt. Suri Network then makes payment to the Classifier when the farm makes their payment to Suri Network. The farm(s) reimburse the classifier for travel and room & board expenses.



APPLICATION FORM
SURI HERD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (S.H.I.P.)
CLASSIFICATION AND EPD PROJECTS

For participation in the Suri Classification and EPD Program

Date _____ Suri Network Member Yes No

Farm/Ranch Name _____ ARI Code _____

Owner/Partner Name _____ ARI Code _____

_____ Code _____ Code _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ E-Mail _____

No. of Suris in Herd _____ Full Fleece _____ Shorn (Bagged Fleece) _____ # of Agisted Suris _____

_____ Classification Only _____ Herd Review Only

_____ Combined Classification and Herd Review _____ Documentation Reports

Regional Affiliate Organization _____

Nearest Major Airport _____ Distance to Farm Location _____ Miles

Other Suri Owners/Herds in area _____

I agree to abide by the Suri Network Herd Improvement Guidelines and Procedures to provide copies of ARI Certificates for all Registered Suris, SN I.D Form for Un-Registered Suris, and a Full Herd Listing for the Herd Evaluation and EPD use and publication of the Data collected for all Suris within my herd. I agree to pay my share of Travel Expenses to the Certified Classifier at the completion of the evaluation.

_____ ARI Certificates _____ Covered Level Location _____ Alpaca Handlers _____ Bagged Fleece

Nearest Town/City for Overnight Hotel Accommodations _____

_____ On Farm Overnight Accommodations _____ Shared Travel Expenses for Classifier

Signature _____

Send Form with ARI Copies to Suri Network - P.O. Box 1984, Estes Park, Colorado 80517



AUTHORIZATION FORM

SURI HERD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ***CLASSIFICATION and EPD PROJECTS***

DATE _____

I \ We, (NAMES) _____, as owners of

(FARM NAME) _____,

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____,

... do hereby authorize the Suri Network Organization to collect, maintain, publish and utilize any/all data collected during Classification Herd Reviews or Fiber Testing, from any wholly or partially owned alpacas, within the Suri Alpaca Herd listed above, or located on other properties, for the purposes stated in the Classification and EPD projects within SURI HERD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

I/We also authorize any and all FIBER TEST DATA, for any wholly or partially owned alpacas, completed by any authorized Fiber Test Laboratory, to be forwarded to the Suri Network Organization Main Database for the Suri National Herd and the Suri Herd Improvement Program.

Owner Signature

Owner Signature

Please list all related ARI Owner Codes involved with your wholly or partially owned alpacas.

ARI Owner CODE _____ Joint Owner ARI Code _____

ARI Owner CODE _____ Joint Owner ARI Code _____

Received Suri Network _____ Date _____ Received by Classifier _____ Initials _____ Date _____

Copy Sent to Testing Labs _____ Yocum McColl _____ Ian Watt _____ Other _____

Suri Network *E-Mail: office@surinetwork.org* *Ph: 970-586-5876* *Fax: 970-586-6685*

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(SHIP) NO ARI CERTIFICATE FORM

Complete this form for each Suri for which there is no ARI Certificate (non-breeder, etc.)

Farm Name: _____

Personal Name(s) _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone# _____ Email: _____

Suri Name: _____

Ear Tag or Microchip# _____

Owner's Name(s) _____

Suri's DOB: _____

Suri's Sex _____ (original sex if non-breeder)

Sire's full name: _____ ARI# _____

Dam's full name: _____ ARI# _____

Attach Sire's and Dam's ARI Certificate if possible.

Reason for No ARI Cert. (i.e. pending, pet, non-breeder,) _____

Send this form to the Suri Network Office along with other certificates.

Suri Network SHIP Program Sample Submission Fiber Testing Data Release Form

Please attach a Suri fiber sample which has been taken from a 4" x 4" area (middle of the side) and placed in a moisture proof sealed, gallon sized freezer bag, and retained in the staple configuration (as it grows naturally from the skin outward on the animal). Staple length measurements require the submission of the large fiber sample size.

Total fleece weight includes all fiber shorn at date of sampling. If the fleece is sorted, place the different sorts in light plastic bags and weigh them all together. Subtract the weight of the plastic bags (tare) to obtain net fleece weight.

Mail sample with this form and \$9.50 to:

Yocom-McColl Testing Laboratories, Inc.

Suri Network SHIP Program

540 West Elk Place, Denver, CO 80216-1823

Disclaimer: I understand that this form is used to inform Yocom-McColl Testing Laboratories Inc. (Yocom-McColl) that I wish to have this Suri fleece sample tested and hereby grant Yocom-McColl the right to to include any and all data derived from this sample in the Suri Network SHIP Program and any future fiber studies of the Suri Network. I understand that I will receive a copy of this data in the form of a printed histogram report from Yocom-McColl.

Signed _____ Date _____

Breeder Name:

Farm Name:

Address:

Email:

Ph:

Cell:

Suri Alpaca Identification

Suri Name:

ARI#

Microchip#

Color (abbreviation) LF

Date of Birth: (mm/dd/yy)

Date of Sample: (mm/dd/yy)

Sample Location: Mid Blanket

Previous Shear Date: (mm/dd/yy)

Total Fleece Wt (Lbs) 0.0

Complete the following form for multiple Suris

