

Glossary for Suri Network Suri Breed Standard

Note: At the end of the Glossary there is a figure of the skeleton of the alpaca for your reference.

Base Narrow: When viewing the alpaca from the front or the back, the feet are set too close together. They should be aligned with the shoulder from the front and hip from the rear. With this condition, they are placed medial to the shoulder and hip.

Base Wide: When viewing the alpaca from the front or the back, the feet are set too far apart. They should be aligned with the shoulder from the front and hip from the rear. In this condition, they are placed lateral to the shoulder and hip.

Buck-kneed: The carpus is bowed forward.

Calf-kneed: The carpus is bowed backward.

Carpal Valgus: Bowing of the knee (carpus) inward leading to angulation of the lower limbs laterally.

Carpal Varus: Bowing of the knee (carpus) outward leading to angulation of the lower limbs medially.

Cow Hocked: When viewed from the rear, the hocks of the alpaca are deviated medially (toward the midline).

Curved Tail: The tail deviates to the side in a C-shape but has normal coccygeal (tail) vertebrae. The curvature is due to muscular or neural origin.

Fetlock: The joint on the front or hind leg below the carpus and hock. It is located between the pastern and the cannon bone.

Fused Ears: a condition in which the ear canal is very narrow and the overall ear is smaller than normal.

Genotype: the genetic makeup of an organism or group of organisms with reference to a single trait, set of traits, or an entire complex.

Hock: the joint in the hind leg above the fetlock joint, corresponding anatomically to the ankle in humans.

Incisor Malocclusion:

Brachygnathia: the upper jaw is either too short (superior or upper shortened jaw)

Prognathia: the lower jaw is too long (inferior or protrusion of the lower jaw)

Kinked Tail: A deviation of the tail caused by a hemivertebrae (malformed coccygeal (tail) vertebrae) or a C-shaped coccygeal vertebrae.

Knee (carpus): The joint between the shoulder and fetlock on the front leg.

Kyphosis: When viewed from the side, the spine of the alpaca has a hump in the middle with the shoulders and pelvis lower than the middle of the back.

Lordosis: When viewed from the side, the spine of the alpaca has a dip in the middle with the shoulders and pelvis higher than the middle of the back.

Pastern: The part of the foot between the fetlock joint and the toes.

Phenotype: the appearance of the animal as a result of its genotype and its interaction with the environment.

Polydactaly: Multiple toes

Post-legged: Less than normal angulation of the rear limb leading to a straight leg.

Profile: View of the animal from the side

Shoulder: The joint connecting the foreleg with the body.

Sickle Hocked: When viewed from the side (profile), excessive angulation of the hock joint.

Splayed toes: A condition in which the toes are spread apart and point laterally and medially.

Straight-legged: Less than normal angulation of the front limb leading to a straight leg.

Syndactaly: Toes fused together

U-Neck Set: a conformational fault in which the neck dips in a “u” shape at the junction of the neck and shoulders.

Withers: the highest part of the back at the base of the neck

Wry Face: a condition which occurs when the upper jaw (maxilla) is deviated laterally which leads to a crooked nose. The deviation can be very slight to a 90 degree deformity.