

4-H

Llama Proficiency Program

A Member's Guide

OVERVIEW

The 4-H Llama Proficiency program helps you learn what you need to know about your 4-H project. Your project leader will assist you in setting and achieving your goals. You will learn the basic principles of animal husbandry by owning and/or caring for and keeping records on one or more llamas.

There are many resources to help you learn more about your project:

- The University of California Davis has free resources available online by visiting: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/4HYouthDevelopment/> This site lists a variety of project materials and resources recommended for use in your project.
- The Tehama County 4-H Resources and Lending Library at our county 4-H Office includes other books, videos, and reference materials that can be checked out by members and leaders.
- Check to see if there is a breeder's organization in your community that conducts educational activities and shows. Local breeders are excellent sources of help and information.

There are five levels in the Project Proficiency Program. You may choose how many levels you wish to complete:

- ◆ Level I – “Explorer”, you begin to learn about many different aspects of raising llamas.
- ◆ Level II – “Producer”, you practice and refine the many skills involved in learning about and raising llamas.
- ◆ Level III – “Consumer”, you become an experienced raiser of llamas.
- ◆ Level IV – “Leader”, allows you to show your own leadership potential.
- ◆ Level V – “Researcher”, you carry out a demonstration or experiment on some aspect of llamas, and prepare a paper or portfolio.

As you work through the proficiency program, your leader will date each skill item as you complete it. When all items in a proficiency level are completed, your leader will sign the Certificate of Achievement.

LLAMA

Level I - Explorer

Date
Completed

- _____ 1. Name the four members of the South American camelid family.
- _____ 2. Name five desirable conformation traits in llamas.
- _____ 3. What are three forms of llama identification?
- _____ 4. What are three reasons why llamas make good pack animals?
- _____ 5. What is castration?
- _____ 6. What is the term for a baby llama?
- _____ 7. What is the average weight span for an adult male llama?
- _____ 8. What is the average lifespan of a llama?
- _____ 9. Discuss the type of feeds in your area.
- _____ 10. What are the nutritional requirements for llamas?
- _____ 11. Do llamas spit? Explain under what circumstances.
- _____ 12. What is desensitization?
- _____ 13. Describe a basic obstacle course having 6 obstacles.
- _____ 14. Demonstrate how to catch a llama and halter it.
- _____ 15. Demonstrate how to lead and tie a llama with an approved safety knot.
- _____ 16. Exhibit ability to handle a llama through a basic obstacle course.
- _____ 17. Visit a llama breeder's farm or facility.
- _____ 18. Attend a llama show as a spectator or an exhibitor.

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

LLAMA Level II - Producer

Date
Completed

- _____ 1. Is there a llama registry? If so does it have a name?
- _____ 2. On registration papers, how many generations are shown?
- _____ 3. How many compartments does a llama's stomach have?
- _____ 4. At what age is the average cria weaned?
- _____ 5. Name at least two sounds that llamas make.
- _____ 6. In the Andes, what color llama is most desirable for wool products?
- _____ 7. Explain the purpose of halter, showmanship, and obstacle classes for llamas.
- _____ 8. Name the three gaits of a llama.
- _____ 9. Explain the purpose of a spit rag.
- _____ 10. Name the parts of a saddle pack.
- _____ 11. Explain how to groom a llama for show.
- _____ 12. Show the proper procedures used to check a llama's ears, eyes, nose, teeth, tail and feet.
- _____ 13. Demonstrate how to put a pack on a llama.
- _____ 14. Demonstrate how to prepare a llama for a fair or public exhibition.
- _____ 15. Give a demonstration pertaining to the llama project.
- _____ 16. Design an obstacle course for a beginning llama. (six obstacles)

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

LLAMA Level III - Consumer

Date _____
Completed _____

- _____ 1. What is the average age to begin breeding females?
- _____ 2. What is the average age male llamas become mature enough to breed.
- _____ 3. When does ovulation occur?
- _____ 4. How long is the average gestation period of a pregnant llama?
- _____ 5. Explain the sound males make when breeding.
- _____ 6. What is imprinting?
- _____ 7. Name three signs that indicate an imprinted llama.
- _____ 8. Explain the process of desensitization.
- _____ 9. What is cushing?
- _____ 10. What is the tail posture for a submissive llama? An alert llama?
- _____ 11. What types of parasites affect llamas?
- _____ 12. How are the different parasites controlled?
- _____ 13. Name the body parts of a llama. (name at least 10)
- _____ 14. Demonstrate how to desensitize a llama.
- _____ 15. Be a member of a llama organization.
- _____ 16. Exhibit a llama at a llama show and/or fair.
- _____ 17. Give a demonstration on a llama project.
- _____ 18. Demonstrate how to crush a llama.
- _____ 19. Demonstrate how to perform a showmanship pattern with a llama.
- _____ 20. Demonstrate how to successfully trim the nail part of a llama's foot.

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

LLAMA

Level IV - Leader

Date
Completed

1. Serve as Junior or Teen leader in this project for one year.
2. Assist younger members in designing and constructing needed equipment.
3. Name some genetic factors you should consider as it relates to a breeding program for llamas.
4. Describe the nutrient requirements of your llama using proper terminology as it relates to a breeding program, show and pet llama.
5. List the normal pulse, respiration, temperature, and number of teeth for a llama.
6. Explore some aspect of the project through a historical perspective.
7. Explore a career and industry related options.
8. Prepare and present a presentation about llamas to a group outside of your 4-H club.
9. Learn courtesy and appropriate etiquette by inviting and introducing a speaker on a project related topic. Describe five things to consider when inviting, introducing, and thanking a guest speaker.
10. Design or improve some aspect related to the project; marketing, equipment, materials.
11. Participate in planning a 4-H county, state or sectional event.
12. Prepare an aspect of your project and contribute it to the county resource library for others to use, like a CD, record keeping forms, etc.

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

LLAMA

Level V - Researcher

Date
Completed

1. Carry through and report on the results of a demonstration comparing measurable differences in management procedure. (experiment)

2. Prepare a paper of 300 words or more on one of the following subjects. Orally summarize report at project meeting or other educational event.

- Management of llamas
- Feeds, feeding and nutrition
- Diseases, prevention, control and general sanitation
- Markets and methods of marketing
- Reproduction, breeding and genetics
- Keeping and using records as a basis for improving your llama project
- Other

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Certificate of Achievement

This certifies that

*has completed the Llama Proficiency
in Tehama County.*

Explorer

Producer

Consumer

Leader

Researcher

Date

Date

Date

Date

Date

Initials

Initials

Initials

Initials

Initials

