

DYNAMITE® Results

From DYNAMITE® Supervisor Margaret Valvo, Fort Collins, CO

I just returned from the Great Western Alpaca Show in Denver, Colorado that ran from May 2nd to 4th. We had over 800 animals entered in the show and about 1300 animals in the barn on display. This is the first year for the show and it seemed quite successful. We had animals from as far away as Canada and Florida.

The judges commented frequently about the "dry fleeces" they were encountering in the show ring. The animals that won were those with "well nourished" fleeces that had high luster and brightness, and deep color. One blue-ribbon winner, a black Suri male, had been on **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** for three months before the show. His owner tried **DYNAMITE®** initially to remedy hair loss on his nose and ears. The owner claimed that it was not helping with the hair loss, and yet she admitted that the hair was coming back finally. She said his hair loss was a seasonal issue, and she believed that the regrowth of the hair was a seasonal response rather than the effect of **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed**. All I know is that the judge was very excited about the deep, rich black color of this Suri alpaca!

I did not hear a lot of talk about the alpaca feed crisis in the mid-west but there appeared to be an underlying somberness about the issue when it was raised. The owner of an alpaca farm that lost over a million dollars worth of their top herdsires was at the show. The only thing on his 7' by 8' black ranch display, which takes up an entire 8' pen (and is usually filled with ribbons and photographs), was a very large photograph of one mahogany suri herdsire. I do not know all the animals that were lost, but in its starkness, the display appeared to me to be a memorial to the animals that had been lost. It was a very sobering feeling to walk past the pens of his animals and realize how many animals were not there because of this tragedy.

In talking to current and potential alpaca breeders about **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** it was interesting to notice

that many current breeders are hesitant to make a switch in their feeding practices at this time. Many said to me, "I don't like to change their diet." It seemed to me that they were afraid to make any changes because their animals appeared to be okay on their current rations, and faced with the reality of the recent events in the alpaca world they were just going to stay put, rather than risk any change – even if it might be for the good.

The drought in the west has impacted many regional alpaca breeders, and they are now seeing the results of hay that does not have the nutrients necessary to support their animals adequately. Some breeders who dismissed the idea of feeding **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** earlier in the year are coming back to reconsider. In January, 2003 one alpaca breeder from Colorado swore to me that she would never feed pellets because she had experienced a choke situation once with some other pelleted feed and never wanted to go through that again. In May 2003 she returned to the **DYNAMITE®** booth, seeking help for her animals. She is now entertaining the possibility of feeding **DYNAMITE®** pellets because she realizes that her animals need more nutrition.

Another breeder from Nebraska, had a suri male with weight maintenance problems. Her alpaca is being fed 8 pounds of grain a day and still could not keep weight on. I had never heard of an alpaca eating that volume of grain, and I could not imagine what this must be doing to the balance of the animal's gut and the acidic condition that must be present as a result of the grain intake. I suggested switching to **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** with additional Dyna-Pro added to his diet to provide the necessary nutrients and facilitate digestion and absorption of those nutrients. The breeder was very pleased to hear that there might be some help for

this animal, and she is going to try **DYNAMITE®**.

Karen Kosakowski and Hobie Aldrich, **DYNAMITE®** distributors and owners of Crescent Peak Alpacas in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, told me about one of their black suri males that they had put on **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** in September 2002 for hair loss. Within three weeks of being on **DYNAMITE®** feed his hair had grown back. In the last few weeks they moved this male to another pen and noticed

that he was losing the hair on his ears again. Upon close observation they discovered that he was getting pushed out of his feed bowl by other more aggressive animals. They feel that his hair loss is a direct result of him not being able to get sufficient nutritious feed, and they are going to

change him back to the original stalling set-up so he can get his share of the **DYNAMITE®**!

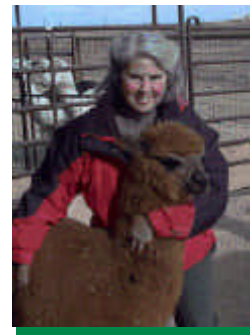
Alpaca breeders Roy and Diane Shaw are also pleased with **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed**. Last year, one of their female alpacas that had just given birth was diagnosed with sarcoptic mange last year. She developed severe scabbing which increased until it covered almost her entire backline. The scabs were very hard and crusty, and difficult to get rid of. She was isolated, given medication for an extended period and her owner washed the scabbed skin daily. All the animals in the barn where she had been were given prophylactic doses of Ivermectin and the barn was washed down with bleach. After many months of treatment the condition abated. The animal was transitioned to **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** in February 2003 and in March was offered **DYNAMITE® Free Choice Minerals**. When a cup of each of the four free choice minerals appeared in her stall she devoured almost the entire portion of **Izmine™**. Her owners were shocked! They realized that she must really need something in the **Izmine™**. By allowing her to "free choice", her owners are

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supporting her continuing healing process. She has not returned to the **Izmine™** since her initial feast, so she must have gotten what she needed for now.

Another female in their herd was having difficulty holding a pregnancy. She would repeatedly test as pregnant for a short time and then be open again. She started on **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** and after about 6 weeks was bred successfully. She continues to hold her pregnancy and, according to her owners, is feeling so frisky and free in her joints that she is dancing around on her hind feet. Can't wait to see this **DYNAMITE®** dancing cria!

-Margaret Valvo



Pictured to the left: Margaret Valvo with one of her Dynamite Alpacas.

More Good Alpaca News!

From Paige Romaine, customer of Carol Sharon, DYNAMITE® Director Sacramento, CA

I am writing this in hope that it will help others. I own Alpacas and a few of my Alpacas had some skin problems. One was also really thin when we had him sheared.

I now start all Alpacas on **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** when they get to my ranch. Here's why:

Within a couple of months of being on **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed**, my under-weight Alpaca was up to normal weight. All of the Alpacas that had skin problems are doing great. The hair on their noses and on the back of their ears is growing back. But, the real test was on my girl, Savannah, who had a profound zinc deficiency. All of the information I had received from Doctors and books told me that I had a very long road ahead of me. I was told that I had to wait at least a year and a half before I would see any turn-around on her. She had really bad,

bald elephant skin under her arms and back legs. Her tummy was almost completely bald. Her skin was very inflamed and some of her bald spots would occasionally crack and bleed.

My Alpacas have been on **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed** for almost six months now and they're doing great. My girl's hair is growing back and she doesn't seem itchy and irritated anymore. We still have a ways to go, but WOW, in just six short months, she looks good! We thought it would take MUCH longer to get this far!

A vet had told me to put my animals on Llama pellets. I compared ingredients and what a good laugh THAT was! There was no comparison to **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed**. So, I told the vet about **DYNAMITE®** and he was very impressed with what was in it and how well Savannah was improving on it.

I feed all my "babies" **DYNAMITE® Alpaca Feed**, from the oldest to the youngest and every one in between, no matter what they ate previously. At Retiredice Alpacas (my Alpaca Ranch), we eat nothing but **DYNAMITE®** !

Thank you for caring enough to make such a wonderful product. I have such good trust in your products, I am now starting my six English Mastiffs on **DYNAMITE® Chicken and Rice Dog Food!**

Thank you, again,

Paige Romine
Retiredice Alpacas



Alpaca Before, with bald, irritated spots.



Alpaca After, with hair re-growth and healing skin.