



Responsible Alpaca Standard 1.0

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RAF-101c-V1.0-2021.04.20





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The RAF-101c-V1.0 is effective as of April 20th, 2021.

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English is the official language of the Responsible Alpaca Standard. In any case of inconsistency between versions, reference shall be made to the English version.

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The Responsible Alpaca Standard will undergo a revision process at least every five years. The next revision is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2025 for completion in 2026. You may submit feedback to the standard at any time; send to ResponsibleWool@TextileExchange.org. Points of clarification may be incorporated into supplementary and guidance documents prior to 2025. More substantive feedback or suggested changes will be collected and reviewed as part of the next revision of the document.

Document Revision History

Responsible Alpaca Standard –V1.0, released April 20th, 2021



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Introduction

About the Responsible Alpaca Standard

The Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS) is an international, voluntary standard that addresses animal welfare in the alpaca supply chain and chain of custody of alpaca fiber material from certified farms to the final product.

Individual sites are certified by independent third-party certification bodies using annual audits. Material is tracked from the farm to the final product using transaction certificates, following the requirements of Textile Exchange’s Content Claim Standard (CCS). For more information or to apply for certification, please visit: TextileExchange.org/Standards.

The goals of the Responsible Alpaca Standard are to:

- Recognize the best practices of farmers;
- Ensure that alpaca fiber comes from farms with a progressive approach to managing their land, and from alpacas that have been treated responsibly;
- Create an industry benchmark that will drive improvements in animal care, land management, and social welfare where needed; and
- Provide a robust chain of custody system from farm to final product so that consumers are confident in the alpaca fiber in the products they choose is truly RAS.

About Textile Exchange



The Responsible Alpaca Standard is owned and managed by **Textile Exchange**. Textile Exchange is a global nonprofit that creates leaders in the sustainable fiber and materials industry. The organization develops, manages, and promotes a suite of leading industry standards as well as collects and publishes vital industry data and insights that enable brands and retailers to measure, manage, and track their use of preferred fiber and materials.

With a membership that represents leading brands, retailers, and suppliers, Textile Exchange has, for years, been positively impacting climate through accelerating the use of preferred fibers across the global textile industry and is now making it an imperative goal through its 2030 Strategy: Climate+. Under the Climate+ strategic direction, Textile Exchange will be the driving force for urgent climate action with a goal of 45% reduced CO2 emissions from textile fiber and material production by 2030.



Acknowledgements

The Responsible Alpaca Standard would not be possible without the help of the International Working Group (IWG) that worked to review, research, discuss, and approve the development of the Responsible Alpaca Standard.

We would also like to extend special acknowledgment to the alpaca industry and producers, as well as brands and retailers for their contribution and commitment to the Responsible Alpaca Standard.



How to Use This Document

This document sets forth the overall requirements for compliance with the RAS. Guidance and support documents are available at ResponsibleAlpaca.org.

This standard includes seven key sections (General Information, Principles of RAS, Animal Welfare Criteria, Land Management Criteria, Social Welfare Criteria, Farm Group Certification, and Chain of Custody), as well as additional Appendices.

In the RAS, the following terms are used to indicate requirements, recommendations, permissions, and possibilities or capabilities:

- “shall” indicates a requirement,
- “should” indicates a recommendation,
- “may” indicates a permission, and
- “can” indicates a possibility or a capability.

“Desired Outcomes” have been included to detail the intent of requirements, but they are not requirements themselves. They are designated by an icon before each module, see the following example:



Desired outcome: Access to sufficient feed and water suited to the animals’ age and needs to maintain normal health and to prevent prolonged hunger, thirst, malnutrition or dehydration.





Section A – General Information

A1. References

A1.1 All certified organizations are subject to the requirements of the following documents. All can be found at ResponsibleAlpaca.org.

- A1.1.1** *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard (CCS) - The **Content Claim Standard (CCS)** is a chain of custody standard that provides companies with a tool to verify a specific input material in a final product. It requires that each organization along the supply chain take sufficient steps to ensure that the integrity and identity of the input material are preserved.*
- A1.1.2** *TE-301 Standards Claim Policy - This document describes the language and design requirements for communication related to the RAS.*
- A1.1.3** *RAF-201c RAS User Manual – This document accompanies the standard and should be used for interpretation and guidance for users of the standard.*

A2. Requirement Levels

Each requirement is assigned to one of four levels:



CRITICAL

Critical requirements are the most important and they shall all be met during the audit to achieve and/or maintain certification. If non-conformity to any of the critical requirements is found, the scope certificate shall be immediately suspended or the site removed from the scope certificate and the supply chain shall be informed. In the case of an initial audit, the organization shall not receive a scope certificate until the critical non-conformity has been closed. A new evaluation is needed if the organization does not close the critical major non-conformity within 180 days.



MAJOR

Major requirements shall be met to achieve certification. Major non-conformities shall be closed within 30 days. Scope certificates may not be issued or reissued if there is an open major non-conformity. If a major non-conformity is not closed within 30 days after the audit, the certificate shall be suspended.



Mi

MINOR

Minor requirements shall be met. Minor non-conformities shall be closed within 60 days, though the organization remains certified through that time. If a minor non-conformity is not closed within 60 days after the audit, the minor non-conformity is upgraded to a major non-conformity with a timeline 30 days from the original deadline.

Minor non-conformities for LM requirements which are issued during an initial audit, or during a farm audit for a farm which has been part of a group for less than six months may be issued with a timeline of up to one year.

NOTE: Certification bodies may issue major non-conformities for minor requirements if, either alone or in combination with other non-conformities, the certification body believes they result in, or are likely to result in, a fundamental failure to achieve the objectives of the standard. Such fundamental failure may be indicated by non-conformities which continue over a long period of time, are repeated or systematic, affect a wide area, or are not corrected or adequately responded to by the client once they have been identified.

R

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations are not required to achieve or maintain certification. They serve as guidance and are best practices in the industry. They could be integrated as requirements in future versions of the standard. All recommended requirements shall be fully audited and recorded by the certification body, but do not have any effect on the certification status of the organization.

Certification bodies may issue critical, major, or minor non-conformities.

Full requirements for issuing non-conformities are found in *ASR-101 Accreditation and Certification Procedures for Textile Exchange Standards*.





Section B – Principals of RAS Certification

B1. Scope

B1.1 RAS certification applies to all supply chain sites of alpaca fiber: from the farm onwards for all processing of alpaca fiber. *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard* provides more detail on when certification is required. After the farm level, certification is under the umbrella of Responsible Animal Fiber, which includes the Responsible Alpaca Standard, Responsible Wool Standard, and the Responsible Mohair Standard.

B1.1.1 The RAS may optionally be applied to slaughter sites, even though this is not required by the standard. See B1.6 and Appendix C.

B1.2 The RAS may be applied globally.

B1.3 The Standard applies to supply chain sites of alpaca fiber only.

B1.3.1 Recycled alpaca fiber is ineligible for certification.

B1.4 The Standard applies to products that contain at least 5% RAS fiber, calculated as a percentage of the material. Final products containing non-certified virgin alpaca fiber are not permitted to be labelled with the RAS name or logo. See Section B2 and *TE-301-V1.0 Standards Claim Policy* for more information on allowed consumer communication.

B1.5 The Standard may also apply to by-products of alpaca processing (e.g. grease) where 100% of the by-products of alpaca processing come from RAS fiber.

B1.6 The Standard may also apply to non-food products of slaughter. Use of the RAS logo is not permitted, though text claims about the origin of the by-products are permitted. See B4 and Appendix C.

B2. Claims

B2.1 Claims related to the RAS may be either product-specific or general (non-product specific).

B2.1.1 RAS products that meet all of the following criteria qualify for product-specific labelling.

- a. Product is certified for the entire supply chain, as specified in *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard*.
- b. All alpaca fiber material in the product is RAS certified.



- c. All artwork and language meet the requirements of *TE-301 Standard Claims Policy*.
- d. Approval of final artwork has been obtained from an authorized certification body through a label release form.
- e. Only certified organizations may physically attach product-specific claims with reference to the RAS (e.g. hangtags, sewn-in labels).

B2.1.2 Organization that meet one or more of the following criteria may make general marketing claims (non-product specific) related to the RAS:

- a. Organizations with current certification to the RAS
- b. Organizations that purchase certified products or products that contain certified material (verified using transaction certificates)
- c. Organizations that have made public commitments to the RAS

B2.1.3 All claims related to the RAS are subject to the requirements of the *TE-301 Standards Claim Policy*.

B3. Farm Certification

B3.1 The following modules apply to all farms:

- a. Section C: Animal Welfare Criteria
 - i. AW1. Nutrition
 - ii. AW2. Living Environment
 - iii. AW3. Animal Management
 - iv. AW4. Handling and Transport
 - v. AW5. Land Management
- b. Section D: Land Management Criteria
 - i. LM1. Soil
 - ii. LM2. Biodiversity
 - iii. LM3. Fertilizers
 - iv. LM4. Pesticides



- c. Section E: Social Welfare Criteria
 - i. SW1. Human Rights
 - ii. SW2. Child Labor
 - iii. SW3. Working Conditions and Conduct
 - iv. SW4. Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining
 - v. SW5. Wages and Benefits
 - vi. SW7. Health and Safety
- d. Section G: Chain of Custody
 - i. G1. Farm Chain of Custody Criteria

B3.2 Farms may not carry both certified and non-certified alpaca.

B3.3 Farms shall provide certification body full access to all sites. Farms shall inform certification bodies of any biosecurity measures prior to the audit.

B3.4 Farms may be certified to the RAS according to one of the following certification types:

B3.4.1 Individual Farm Certification, or

B3.4.2 Farm Group Certification.

B3.4.3 Communal Farmer Group Certification

B3.5 Individual Farm Certification applies to farms wishing to become certified independently, or when the qualifications for Farm Group Certification are not met.

B3.5.1 Any farm may apply for Individual Farm Certification.

B3.5.2 Individual Farm Certification requires annual on-site audits of the farm.

B3.5.3 Individual Farm Certification may also include additional *confirmation visits* by the certification body without notice.

B3.5.4 Individually certified farms submit annual Farm Questions to the Certification Body.



B3.6 Farm Group Certification and Communal Farmer Group Certification applies to groups with a defined internal control system (ICS) in place for the group. The group shall meet the requirements of Section F of this Standard.

B3.6.1 Farm Group Certification and Communal Farmer Group Certification require annual on-site audits of the ICS and sample audits of *group members* according to the risk assessment of the certification body.

B3.6.2 Farm Group Certification and Communal Group Certification may also include additional confirmation visits of farm group members by the certification body without notice.

B3.7 A farm may be part of more than one scope certificate, including one Individual Farm Certification per Responsible Animal Fiber (RAF) standard and one or more Farm Group Certifications. The group certifications may be to the same or to different RAF standards.

B3.7.1 Communal Farmer Group Certification is for those farmers who are unable to meet the requirements for certification as an individual farm or a Farm Group. A farm, farmer, or herder may be part of one Communal Farmer Group per RAF standard, and shall not be part of any other scope certificates. See Section F for further details.

B4. Slaughter Certification (Optional)

B4.1 The RAS may optionally be applied to slaughter sites.

B4.1.1 The following modules apply to any slaughter sites opting to produce non-food products from RAS origin:

- a. Appendix C. Slaughter Site Module
- b. Appendix D. Transport Guidance

B4.1.2 Slaughter sites shall provide certification body full access to all sites. Slaughter sites shall inform certification bodies of any biosecurity measures prior to the audit.

B4.1.3 Annual on-site audits of the slaughter site are required.

B4.2 If RAS claims for non-food products are to be made, the following module shall apply:

- a. Section G: Chain of Custody
 - G2. Chain of Custody Criteria



B5. Supply Chain Certification

B5.1 The following modules apply to all supply chain sites subject to RAS certification:

- a. Section G: Chain of Custody
- G2. Chain of Custody Criteria





Section C – Animal Welfare Criteria

AW1. Nutrition



Desired outcome: Access to sufficient feed and water suited to the animals' age and needs to maintain normal health and to prevent prolonged hunger, thirst, malnutrition or dehydration.

Number	Requirement	Level
AW1.1	Alpacas shall have access to adequate nutrition, suited to the animals' age and needs, to maintain normal health and to prevent prolonged hunger or malnutrition.	C
	AW1.1.1 Feeding shall be addressed in a management plan.	Mi
	<i>See AW5.7 for emergency feed and water provisions.</i>	
AW1.2	Alpacas shall have an adequate supply of clean, safe drinking water each day.	C
AW1.3	The body condition of alpacas shall be routinely monitored as part of the farm's management system to confirm health of the animals.	Ma
	AW1.3.1 Farm workers shall be able to measure the Body Condition Score (BCS) of alpacas.	Ma
	AW1.3.2 If BCS scoring identifies evidence of inadequate nutrition, appropriate action shall be taken to return the animals to good health. These actions should be recorded.	Ma
AW1.4	Feed shall be stored properly.	Mi
	AW1.4.1 Hazardous material shall not be stored near feed storage areas.	Mi
AW1.5	Routine checks and monitoring shall be conducted regularly to ensure feed and water quality and quantity is maintained.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
	AW1.5.1 Equipment used to deliver feed and water shall be cleaned and maintained in good working order and any problems promptly rectified.	Ma
	AW1.5.2 Water points supplied from troughs, drinkers or natural water sources shall be clean and be of good quality and an accessible level at all times.	Ma
AW1.6	Changes in diet shall be introduced gradually.	Mi
	AW1.6.1 Alpacas shall be introduced to crop grazing and or supplementary feeding at a rate that allows the alpacas to adapt to the new feed.	Mi
AW1.7	Alpacas shall only be deprived of feed and water for reasonable management practices (such as shearing, transport, or slaughter). Deprivation periods shall be no longer than 6 hours.	Ma
	AW1.7.1 Alpacas held in sheds or yards for management practices (such as shearing) shall be monitored for signs of distress during time held off feed and water and remedial action taken.	Ma
	AW1.7.2 Animals in ill health or poor condition shall not be deprived of food or water until they recover.	Ma



AW2. Living Environment



Desired outcome: Animals are kept in an environment that provides the conditions and facilities needed for health, safety, comfort and normal behavior.

Number	Requirement	Level
AW2.1	Handling and housing systems (including shearing sheds and outdoor pens) shall be designed, constructed and maintained so as to minimize stress and the likelihood of injury to the alpacas during handling.	Mi
AW2.1.1	Buildings and outdoor pens shall be structurally sound.	Mi
AW2.1.2	Infrastructure shall be inspected and maintained regularly.	Mi
AW2.2	Housing shall be well ventilated.	Mi
AW2.3	Housing and pens shall be kept in a sanitary condition.	Mi
AW2.4	Alpacas in housing or outdoor pens shall be protected from either heat or cold stress.	Mi
AW2.5	Flooring in holding pens shall provide good traction.	Mi
AW2.6	Housed alpacas shall have access to a dry bedding area sufficient to avoid discomfort.	Mi
AW2.6.1	Alpacas housed or penned on solid concrete floor shall be given sufficient bedding.	Mi
AW2.6.2	Buildings shall be constructed to provide drainage.	Mi
AW2.6.3	Bedding from timber-based products sourced from chemically treated wood is prohibited.	Mi
AW2.7	Housed or penned alpacas shall have pens that provide sufficient freedom of movement and floor space to lie in a normal resting posture.	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level								
AW2.7.1	Housing and pen space required shall take into account the age, size and class of alpacas and environment.	Mi								
AW2.7.2	Each alpaca should have at least the following minimum area per animal after 24 hours or more in housing or pens:	R								
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of animal</th> <th>Minimum area per animal m² (ft²)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Less than 50kg (110lb)</td> <td>1.2 (13)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Between 50 and 80 kg (111-176 lb)</td> <td>1.8 (19)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Between 80 and 120 kg (176 to 264 lb)</td> <td>2.1 (23)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Type of animal	Minimum area per animal m ² (ft ²)	Less than 50kg (110lb)	1.2 (13)	Between 50 and 80 kg (111-176 lb)	1.8 (19)	Between 80 and 120 kg (176 to 264 lb)	2.1 (23)
Type of animal	Minimum area per animal m ² (ft ²)									
Less than 50kg (110lb)	1.2 (13)									
Between 50 and 80 kg (111-176 lb)	1.8 (19)									
Between 80 and 120 kg (176 to 264 lb)	2.1 (23)									
AW2.8	Long term close confinement in crates or tethering is prohibited.	Ma								
AW2.8.1	Tethering or use of crates shall only be used for a minimum time to address a special need such as the provision of medical care. See also section AW13.3 for requirements relating to restraint at shearing.	Ma								
AW2.9	Housed alpacas shall have access to a lit area for the normal period of daylight hours.	Mi								
AW2.9.1	Alpacas should have access to natural light.	R								
AW2.10	Housed or penned alpacas should not be exposed to sudden or loud noise that could cause fear or stress.	R								
AW2.11	Alpacas shall have access to natural pasture at all times unless emergency or severe weather conditions would otherwise negatively impact on their welfare.	C								
AW2.12	All alpacas shall have access to effective shade, <i>shelter</i> and/or windbreaks if necessary, to protect them from adverse weather conditions.	Mi								
AW2.12.1	Shelter may be natural or artificial as long as it is available and provides effective protection against prevailing conditions as needed.	Mi								



Number	Requirement	Level
AW2.13	All fencing shall be appropriate, and shall be regularly inspected and maintained.	Mi
AW2.14	<i>Stocking rates</i> shall be determined based on land type, pasture quality, seasonal conditions, class of stock, available feed and total grazing pressure.	Ma
AW2.14.1	Stocking rates shall be recorded and followed to plan pasture, feeding rations and water resource availability	Mi
AW2.14.2	The amount of feed on offer should be measured to calculate the number of available grazing days.	R
AW2.15	Alpacas shall be able to dust bathe.	Mi
AW2.16	Animals shall be protected from the threat of predators.	Ma
AW2.16.1	Predator control shall be humane. <i>See Land Management Section 2</i>	Ma



AW3. Animal Management



Desired outcome: Animals are managed in a way that promotes good health and prevents disease. Sick or injured animals are treated. Husbandry operations are carried in a way that minimizes pain and distress.

Number	Requirement	Level
AW3.1	The farm shall conduct routine welfare inspections and monitor for signs of disease or production disorders.	Ma
	AW3.1.1 The frequency of inspections shall be increased as required during, for example, extreme weather events, birthing times etc.	Ma
AW3.2	The farmer shall have a written management plan for herd health and animal welfare. <i>For Communal Farmer Groups, the written management plan for herd health and animal welfare can be prepared at group level.</i>	Ma
AW3.3	Alpacas that are found suffering from health problems shall be treated promptly.	C
	AW3.3.1 Responsible personnel shall identify and treat sick and/or injured animals and obtain veterinary advice when needed.	Ma
	AW3.3.2 Alpacas that can be treated that cannot move on their own shall only be moved using a humane conveyance method, such as a truck, sled, or cart.	Mi
	AW3.3.3 Animals who will not recover shall be promptly and humanely euthanized.	Ma
AW3.4	Any treatments, including herbal as well as veterinary treatments, for the health of the alpacas shall be appropriately administered.	Ma
	AW3.4.1 Records should be kept detailing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Substance (product) including herbal remedies administered and reason for treatment 	R



Number	Requirement	Level
	b) Animal or group identification c) Number of animals treated d) Date of treatment	
AW3.5	Measures shall be taken to prevent or control external and internal parasite infestations such as mange, lice and gastro-intestinal worms.	Ma
AW3.5.1	Advice shall be sought as needed from a veterinarian or specialist advisor on prevention, treatment, and strategies to avoid the development of resistant parasites.	Mi
AW3.5.2	When infestations are likely or are found to occur, alpacas shall be treated to control the parasites.	Ma
AW3.5.3	Grazing management is utilized to aid in parasite management, allowing for treatments to be administered during the most effective stage of the parasite's lifecycle.	Mi
AW3.5.4	Grazing areas and alpacas shall be managed to reduce the risk of facial eczema.	Mi
AW3.6	The decision to carry out injurious husbandry procedures such as castration, shall be based on a welfare risk/benefit analysis rather than as a routine.	Ma
AW3.6.1	The risk/benefit analysis shall include: a) The methods used and steps taken to minimize suffering. b) Regular review of whether the procedures remain necessary, the procedures and pain management protocols used. c) Pain management options shall be discussed with a veterinary surgeon and options shall be reviewed regularly.	Ma
AW3.7	Animal husbandry procedures shall be performed or supervised by a competent stockperson, using well maintained equipment designed specifically for the purpose.	C



Number	Requirement	Level
<i>Note: See AW5.11.1 for requirements for contractors to sign the RAS Contractors Declaration.</i>		
AW3.7.1	Farm shall have written and/or visual standard operating procedures on how animal husbandry procedures are to be carried out.	Mi
AW3.8	Good hygiene practices shall be followed in relation to facilities, personnel, handling and instruments.	Ma
AW3.9	Castration shall only be carried out on males that are being kept beyond puberty.	Ma
AW3.9.1	Pain relief shall be applied when castration is carried out.	Ma
AW3.9.2	The procedure shall only be performed using surgical methods (i.e. scalpel).	Ma
AW3.9.3	The procedure shall be carried out by the time the alpaca reaches 12 months of age.	Ma
AW3.9.4	Farmers shall monitor for signs of post-operative complications and take appropriate corrective actions.	Ma
AW3.10	Any alpaca marking for identification shall be in accordance with current legislation and best practices. <i>Note: Tagging, tattooing, and ear tassels or ribbons are permitted methods of identification.</i>	Ma
AW3.10.1	Hot branding is prohibited.	Ma
AW3.10.2	Earmarking (notching) is only permitted under the following conditions: a) Where there is a risk of loss of tags from the natural environment or theft; b) Where ear notching does not remove more than 10% of each ear; and c) When ear notching tools or surgically sharp scalpels are used.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
AW3.11	Action shall be taken promptly to treat lameness and to remove any causes of lameness.	Ma
AW3.11.1	Herds shall be monitored for lame alpacas on a regular basis.	Mi
AW3.11.2	Stock people shall be able to recognize lameness, assess severity and take prompt action to resolve the lameness as quickly as possible.	Mi
AW3.12	Alpacas shall have their teeth checked regularly.	Ma
AW3.12.1	Teeth that are overgrown shall be rasped or trimmed.	Ma
AW3.13	Shearing shall be performed by, or under the direct supervision of, a competent shearer.	C
	<i>Note: See AW5.11.1 for requirements for shearers to sign the RAS Contractors Declaration.</i>	
AW3.13.1	Shearing shall be carried out under the direct supervision of the farmer or a person appointed by the farmer.	Ma
AW3.13.2	Shearing shall be done using techniques and equipment designed to minimize stress and injury.	Ma
AW3.13.3	Particular care shall be taken not to cut or injure the animal, especially the teats/udders of female alpacas and the penis/sheath and scrotum of males.	Ma
AW3.13.4	An action plan shall be instituted to address and prevent any recurring problems with injuries or mishandling.	Ma
AW3.13.5	Written and/or visual “Shearing Standard Operating Procedures” shall be posted in a visible location of the shearing shed.	Mi
AW3.14	Alpacas shall be handled calmly and confidently to minimize stress at shearing.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
<i>Note: See also section AW4 for general handling standards that must be met in addition to these specific shearing requirements.</i>		
AW3.14.1	Restraint shall be for the minimum time required to effect shearing.	Ma
AW3.14.2	If alpacas are restrained with ropes for shearing these shall be tied in a way that does not restrict blood flow.	Ma
AW3.14.3	Ropes that are soft and do not abrade the skin shall be used if alpacas are restrained with ropes.	Ma
AW3.14.4	At least two people shall be available to lift and restrain an alpaca for shearing.	Mi
AW3.14.5	Restrained alpacas shall be under constant supervision.	Mi
AW3.14.6	Restrained alpacas shall be released from restraint if they are struggling so much that they might injure themselves.	Mi
AW3.14.7	Alpacas shall be restrained in positions that ensure they cannot inhale regurgitated stomach contents.	Mi
AW3.14.8	Alpacas shall not be sheared lying directly on concrete or bare earth.	Mi
AW3.14.9	Alpacas should be placed on a mat if they are sheared when they are lying down.	R
AW3.15	Pre-shearing planning shall consider climatic conditions and ensure that mitigation measures are in place in the event of changing conditions.	Ma
AW3.16	All shearing related injuries shall be attended to promptly.	Ma
AW3.16.1	In the event of a severe cut or injury the shearer shall cease shearing immediately to treat the injury.	Ma
AW3.16.2	Pain relief shall be applied for serious injuries when suitable pain relief is available.	Ma
AW3.16.3	Records of serious injuries shall be kept.	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level
AW3.17	Breeding strategy shall address welfare traits and suitability for the type of environment in which the alpacas are raised.	Ma
AW3.18	Artificial breeding procedures shall be carried out by competent operators.	C
AW3.18.1	Cervical artificial insemination and pregnancy diagnosis shall only be carried out by persons trained and competent with the techniques.	Ma
AW3.18.2	Routine electroejaculation is prohibited.	Ma
AW3.18.3	Laparoscopic artificial insemination shall be carried out only by veterinarians or by trained and competent operators under veterinarian supervision. Appropriate pain relief shall be used.	Ma
AW3.19	Birthing shall be supervised and timely action taken while keeping disturbances to a minimum. Breeds or strains suited to easy births and good maternal care should be used.	Ma
AW3.19.1	All workers shall be able to recognize the signs of birthing difficulty and know when and how to provide appropriate assistance and when to seek assistance from an experienced producer or veterinarian.	Ma
AW3.19.2	Embryotomy shall only be performed on dead cria by a skilled person or veterinarian.	Ma
AW3.20	The birthing period shall be planned to coincide with local climatic conditions favorable to good welfare and survival.	Ma
AW3.21	Practices and procedures for cria feeding shall be planned prior to the start of the birthing period.	Mi
AW3.21.1	Artificially reared cria shall receive a sufficient amount of colostrum after birth to ensure their welfare.	Mi
AW3.21.2	Cria shall have access to milk in their diet until they are at least 36 weeks old.	Mi
AW3.22	Isolation of individual alpacas shall be minimized.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
	AW3.22.1 In case individual isolation cannot be avoided, the confined alpaca shall be given a companion or be able to maintain visual contact with other alpaca. Exception to contact with neighboring alpacas may be made for quarantine purposes.	Mi
AW3.23	When introducing males to a new group, alpaca shall be monitored for signs of aggression.	Ma
AW3.24	Alpacas shall be euthanized without delay if they are experiencing severe pain or illness and do not have a reasonable expectation of improvement.	C
	AW3.24.1 All workers shall have clear set of criteria to recognize when an animal needs to be euthanized, and be instructed to act accordingly.	Ma
	AW3.24.2 The euthanasia shall be done using a method that is quick, causes minimal stress and pain, and results in a rapid loss of consciousness followed by death without the animal regaining consciousness.	Ma
	AW3.24.3 Except in situations of emergency euthanasia, stunning prior to killing is required. Stunning may only be skipped in cases where the animal is in severe pain and finding access to tools for stunning would prolong the suffering. If emergency euthanasia is carried out by cutting the throat best practice guidance shall be followed.	Ma
AW3.25	When an animal is slaughtered on-farm, it shall be done using a method that is quick, causes minimal stress and pain, and results in a rapid loss of consciousness followed by death without the animal regaining consciousness.	C
	AW3.25.1 Slaughter shall be carried out by either: a) a trained, competent worker b) a licensed slaughterman c) a veterinary surgeon	Ma
	AW3.25.2 Acceptable methods of slaughter for alpacas include: a) Firearm b) Penetrating and non-penetrating captive bolt guns. Use of the captive bolt gun shall be immediately followed by	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
	a secondary method to ensure death (such as exsanguination or pithing).	
AW3.25.3	Death shall be confirmed through observation of pupils, heart beat and lack of respiration prior to disposal or further processing.	Ma
AW3.25.4	Alpacas shall be slaughtered away from the view of other animals except in unavoidable cases.	Ma
AW3.26	The spinal cord shall not be severed or broken in any animal until after confirmation of death.	Ma



AW4. Handling and Transport



Desired outcome: Good human-animal relationships are in place and animals are handled and transported around the farm and off the farm in a way that protects welfare.

Number	Requirement	Level
AW4.1	Animals shall be handled humanely; mistreatment of animals is unacceptable.	C
AW4.1.1	Mistreatment includes rough physical contact such as kicking, striking, slamming gates on the alpacas, tripping, throwing or dropping animals, dragging or pulling alpacas by the fleece, tail, ears, head or neck, or dragging by the back legs.	C
AW4.1.2	Extra care shall be taken when handling alpacas with special needs, such as young crias, heavily pregnant females, lame alpacas and breeding males. Heavily pregnant females shall only be handled when absolutely necessary.	Ma
AW4.1.3	Electric prodders shall not be used.	Ma
AW4.1.4	Halters shall be fitted so as not to obstruct breathing.	Mi
AW4.1.5	Chukkering is prohibited.	Mi
AW4.2	Audible or visual aids to handling (e.g. rattles or flags) should be used in preference to physical contact.	R
AW4.3	Alpacas moved on foot shall not be forced to proceed at a pace that will cause exhaustion, heat stress or injury.	Ma
AW4.3.1	Alpacas shall be driven in a calm manner at a relaxed pace, natural to that animal, and not faster than the pace of the slowest animal.	Ma
AW4.3.2	Sick, injured, disabled, severely lame, or heavily pregnant animals shall be moved only when necessary and at a pace to suit their condition.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
	AW4.3.3 Contingency plans shall be made to move alpacas that become lame or weak by vehicle.	Mi
AW4.4	Livestock guardian animals shall be suitable for the farm environment and the expected predator threat.	Ma
AW4.5	In situations where the farm is responsible for or in control of the transport of alpacas, the requirements of the RAS Transport Guidance (Appendix D) and regional legal requirements shall be met.	Ma
AW4.6	The farmer shall keep records of injury and death rates associated with all transport of their alpacas and take actions to address high rates.	Mi
AW4.7	Farmers shall not knowingly sell their alpacas to traders or brokers who intend to export their livestock for slaughter internationally.	C



AW5. Management, Plans and Procedures



Desired outcome: Farmers have a clear strategy and set of protocols to safeguard the welfare of their animals, and to demonstrate compliance to the relevant RAS.

Number	Requirement	Level
AW5.1	Farmer shall comply with all applicable legislation on animal welfare and land management.	C
AW5.2	Parallel production is prohibited: all alpacas on the farm shall fall under RAS certification.	C
AW5.3	All other animals kept on the farm shall be treated humanely.	Ma
	AW5.3.1 Continuous confinement of any animal on the farm is prohibited. Animals shall receive nutrition, care, handling and veterinary attention as required for their health, safety and comfort.	Ma
AW5.4	Farmer shall give the auditor full access to the farm and operations that fall under certification.	C
	AW5.4.1 As directed by the auditor, this shall include access to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Buildings and pens b) Land c) Documents d) Alpacas e) workers 	C
AW5.5	Records shall be kept for a minimum of five years.	Mi
AW5.6	Mortality records shall be kept.	Mi
	AW5.6.1 If mortality rates fall outside expected levels, actions shall be taken, and the problem resolved.	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level
	AW5.6.2 Unexpected deaths and disease outbreaks shall be investigated, and remedial and preventive actions shall be taken.	Mi
AW5.7	An emergency plan shall be in place to maintain alpaca welfare in exceptional circumstances.	Ma
	AW5.7.1 The emergency plan shall include measures that will be taken to ensure adequate feed and water are made available to alpacas in the event of situations such as drought, snowstorms and other exceptional circumstances.	Mi
	AW5.7.2 A strategy shall be in place for the provision of shelter in the event of emergency situations caused by extreme weather events.	Mi
	AW5.7.3 If animal welfare is at risk, which cannot be mitigated, arrangements shall be made to relocate, sell, or humanely euthanize alpacas to ensure their welfare is not adversely affected.	Mi
AW5.8	Quarantine procedures should be in place when new animals are introduced.	R
AW5.9	Farmer shall be knowledgeable on current and best practices regarding animal welfare and land management in alpaca production.	Ma
	AW5.9.1 Farmer shall have understood the requirements of RAS.	Ma
AW5.10	Workers shall be trained or experienced and competent in handling animals, and shall possess and practice the ability, knowledge and competence necessary to maintain the health and welfare of the animals. They shall be knowledgeable in current best practices for animal welfare and land management for alpaca production.	Ma
	AW5.10.1 Training records should be maintained.	R
	AW5.10.2 Workers shall be made aware of the relevant parts of the RAS.	Mi
AW5.11	All external workers that come onto the farm to perform work involving the alpacas shall be made aware of the relevant parts of the RAS.	Ma
	AW5.11.1 All subcontractors shall sign the RAS Contractor Declaration.	Ma





Section D – Land Management Criteria

Soil



Desired outcome: Farmers have an understanding of what will impact the health of their soil, and have a strategy to mitigate damage and improve soil health.

Number	Requirement	Level
LM1.1	Land shall not be degraded by overgrazing and/or other management techniques.	Ma
	LM1.1.1 Soil and land health including forage resources, soil erosion, compaction, organic matter and any other areas of risk relevant to the farm, shall be addressed through actions and in a written management plan.	Mi
	<i>For Communal Farmer Groups the written management plan for soil, land health, and biodiversity can be prepared at group level.</i>	
LM1.2	Soil compaction shall be monitored and managed.	Ma
	LM1.2.1 Steps shall be taken to prevent or minimize soil compaction and to restore damaged areas.	Ma
LM1.3	Soil erosion shall be monitored and managed.	Ma
	LM1.3.1 Steps shall be taken to prevent or minimize soil erosion and to restore damaged areas.	Ma
	LM1.3.2 The risk of sedimentation of water bodies with soil from fields should be assessed and managed (e.g. erosion control, avoidance of compaction, and riparian buffer strips).	R
LM1.4	Soil organic matter shall be monitored and managed.	Mi
	LM1.4.1 Steps shall be taken to prevent or minimize loss of soil organic matter and to restore damaged areas.	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level
LM1.5	The farmer shall monitor key indicators of land health.	Mi
	LM1.5.1 Monitoring sites shall be set for pasture composition and soil degradation.	Mi
	LM1.5.2. Where there is grazing on public lands, the farmer shall demonstrate that that the criteria designated by the permitting authority are met or exceeded.	Mi
LM1.6	Hazardous materials shall not be disposed of on the farmland unless specifically allowed by law and it is safe to use the affected land for grazing.	Ma



Biodiversity and Water



Desired outcome: Farmers have an understanding of what will impact of the biodiversity of their land, and have a strategy to protect and improve it over time.

Number	Requirement	Level
LM2.1	<p>The farm shall develop a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) that conserves and enhances biodiversity on and around the farm.</p> <p><i>For Communal Farmer Groups the written management plan for biodiversity can be prepared at group level". The template provided incorporates the Biodiversity Management Plan requirements.</i></p>	Ma
LM2.2	<p>Forage resources shall be monitored and grazing will be managed to protect, restore and enhance the biodiversity value of the farm.</p> <p>LM2.2.1 There shall be no grazing of areas important for biodiversity in times of the year when it could have a negative impact on natural ecosystems, native vegetation or on wildlife species.</p> <p>LM2.2.2 Livestock stocking rates and grazing management practices shall be adjusted to avoid negative impacts to areas important for biodiversity (e.g. from overgrazing, compaction, or erosion).</p> <p>LM2.2.3 Livestock stocking rates and grazing management practices shall encourage biodiversity and reflect the importance of native species within pastures.</p> <p>LM2.2.4 Any areas of degraded land shall be identified in the Biodiversity Management Plan, along with appropriate restoration measures.</p>	Mi
LM2.3	<p>The farmer shall monitor and manage invasive alien species of flora or fauna on the farm.</p> <p>LM2.3.1 The farmer shall not intentionally introduce any invasive alien species, and shall implement measures to avoid accidental or unintended introduction (e.g. through the transportation of soil, plant materials, water, etc.).</p>	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level
	LM2.3.2 Where invasive alien species are present on a farm, the farmer shall adopt measures to avoid their spread and eradicate them from natural ecosystems.	Mi
LM2.4	Farms shall implement measures to minimize livestock-wildlife conflicts.	Ma
	LM2.4.1 The population and behavior of predators shall be monitored.	Mi
	LM2.4.2 The farm should adopt proactive co-existence planning to deter predators.	R
	LM2.4.3 Wildlife corridors or routes used for migration should be maintained, if these are known to exist on the farm.	R
LM2.5	Hunting, fishing or gathering of protected, threatened or endemic plant or animal species is prohibited.	Ma
LM2.6	Lethal control of predators shall only be used as a measure of last resort, if permitted legally and when carried out humanely.	Ma
	LM2.6.1 Lethal control shall target the specific, individual animals(s) that is/are creating the conflict.	Ma
	LM2.6.2 Lethal control of any animal shall result in instantaneous unconsciousness and death.	Ma
	LM2.6.3 Use of poison, leg hold traps, and snares are prohibited.	Ma
	LM2.6.4 Lethal control is not permitted for protected, threatened, or endemic predator species.	Ma
	LM2.6.5 Each time lethal control methods are used, a record of all killed animals shall be kept (including date, species, and reason for use of lethal methods). The non-lethal methods to minimize livestock-wildlife conflicts shall be immediately reviewed to identify improvements to avoid further conflict.	Mi
LM2.7	Deforestation and the conversion of natural ecosystems to agricultural land is prohibited.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
LM2.7.1	Existing native vegetation within the productive areas of the Farm shall be protected and maintained, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) existing vegetated zones adjacent to aquatic ecosystems; b) traditional field boundary features such as hedgerows and ditches, and c) large native trees 	Ma
LM2.7.2	Deforestation and the conversion of natural ecosystems to agricultural land shall not have occurred, June 1, 2016 onwards.	Ma
LM2.8	Production activities shall not degrade or significantly impact the biodiversity values for which a Protected Area or Key Biodiversity Area are designated.	Ma
LM2.9	Aquatic ecosystems and water bodies shall be conserved and enhanced.	Mi
LM2.9.1	River banks should be managed to keep erosion and soil runoff to a minimum.	R
LM2.9.2	Riparian ecosystems should be protected and restored, as part of the Biodiversity Management Plan.	R
LM2.9.3	Buffer zones should be maintained adjacent to wetlands and watercourses, within which fertilizer, manure and pesticide applications should be restricted.	R
LM2.9.4	Natural wetlands shall not be drained.	Mi



Fertilizers



Desired outcome: Farmers use the minimum amount of inputs to meet the nutritional needs of their land to maintain their carrying capacity.

Number	Requirement	Level
LM3.1	There shall be a fertilizer management strategy that is reviewed annually.	Ma
	LM3.1.1 The strategy shall include calculations of likely crop requirements, taking account of available nutrients in soil, organic manures, composts, and crop residues is in place and be based on the principles of efficiency and reduction of use.	Mi
	<i>If fertilizers are used, the requirements are applicable irrespective of land class.</i>	
LM3.2	The farmer shall test and record soil nutrient levels, at intervals relevant to maintaining a healthy vibrant soil.	Mi
LM3.3	Fertilizers applied shall be appropriate and as specific to the situation as possible with minimal side effects.	Mi
	LM3.3.1 Manures and fertilizers that can have a negative effect on soil microbial life and/or which contain heavy metals shall not be used.	Mi
	LM3.3.2 Fertilizers and manures shall only be applied to the intended crop area, specifically avoiding water bodies, riparian zones, and natural ecosystems.	Mi
LM3.4	Application methods and equipment that minimize waste and pollution shall be adopted.	Mi
	LM3.4.1 Application equipment shall be kept in good working order, cleaned after use, and regularly calibrated.	Mi



Pesticides



Desired outcome: Farmers use the minimum amount of pesticides to achieve adequate control of pest burden on their farm.

Number	Requirement	Level
LM4.1	There shall be an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan or strategy that is reviewed annually.	Ma
	LM4.1.1 The IPM plan or strategy shall be based on the principles of prevention, observation, monitoring and intervention. The plan shall include the recommended thresholds or triggers to use pesticides where these are available.	Mi
LM4.2	Farmers shall have a monitoring program for crop and pasture.	Mi
	LM4.2.1 Decisions to use pesticides shall be based on monitoring and thresholds.	Mi
LM4.3	Biological, physical and cultural control methods shall be used instead of chemical methods if they provide satisfactory control.	Mi
LM4.4	Pesticides applied shall be appropriate and as specific to the situation as possible with minimal side effects.	Mi
	LM4.4.1 Farmers shall apply pesticides in appropriate weather conditions, according to the directions on the label and/or manufacturers' directions, with appropriate and well-maintained equipment.	Mi
	LM4.4.2 Pesticides shall only be applied to the intended crop area, specifically avoiding water bodies, riparian zones and natural ecosystems.	Mi
LM4.5	Farmers shall use the minimum amount of pesticides to achieve adequate control of pest burden on their farm.	Mi
	LM4.5.1 Prophylactic use of pesticides is prohibited.	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level
LM4.6	Measures shall be in place the limit the impact of pesticide use.	Mi
	LM4.6.1 Farmers shall take care to avoid damage to beneficial organisms.	Mi
	LM4.6.2 Risks from pesticide application for human and animal health or the environment shall be minimized.	Mi
	LM4.6.3 Systems shall be in place to ensure that pesticides reach all targeted areas and to minimize losses to non-target areas or the atmosphere.	Mi
LM4.7	Actions shall be taken to avoid pesticide resistance.	Mi
LM4.8	Application records shall be kept for all pesticides that have been used.	Mi
LM4.9	Farmers shall dispose of used pesticide containers safely, or through a collection and recycling program.	Mi
	LM4.9.1 Disposal of pesticides in rivers, streams, drains or other surface or ground waters is prohibited.	Mi





Section E – Social Welfare Criteria

Small scale farmers with no employed staff where the farm work is mostly done by the farmer, family members or the community only need to demonstrate compliance with SW2. Child Labour, SW6. Communities SW7. Health and Safety

SW1. Hiring Practices



Desired outcome: The farmer demonstrates good practices with regard to fair hiring, which is free of discrimination and intimidation and directly combats risk factors for forced labor.

Number	Requirement	Level
SW1.1	The farm shall have policies and codes of conduct to ensure fair hiring.	Ma
	SW1.1.1 Policies, codes of conduct, and information on grievance mechanisms shall be made available to workers upon hiring.	Mi
	SW1.1.2 There should be procedures in place to record, track and document, all post-arrival legal requirements for migrant workers.	R
SW1.2	The farm shall not engage in or support the use of forced or compulsory labor, including prison labor, as defined in ILO Convention 29.	Ma
SW1.3	The farm shall operate in accordance with local laws and not engage in hiring practices that increase risk of forced labor and other human rights abuses.	Ma
	SW1.3.1 The farm shall not engage in hiring practices which increase the risk of forced labor including, but not limited to, charging fees for recruitment to workers; requiring that workers lodge deposits or security payments; withholding passports, other personal documentation, wages or benefits; charging for document processing fees; or engaging in intimidation or coercion.	Ma
SW1.4	The farm shall orient all employees to the terms of their contract and provide them contracts in their native language, or a language that is understood by both parties.	Mi



Number	Requirement	Level
SW1.4.1	The farm shall maintain a copy of worker contracts in writing, and provide workers timely access to these at their request.	Mi



SW2. Child Labor



Desired outcome: Children are protected from exploitation, not engaged in dangerous work, and able to participate fully in formal education. Children are able to safely learn farming from their family members by engaging in age-appropriate activities outside of school hours and lessons.

Number	Requirement	Level
SW2.1	The farm shall not employ workers under the age of 15 or legal minimum (whichever is higher).	Ma
	SW2.1.1 Workers under the age of 18 shall not be engaged in the worst forms of child labor or hazardous child labor, as defined in ILO Convention No. 182 and Recommendation No. 190.	Ma
SW2.2	Farmers may engage their own children in work provided that children shall not be engaged in the worst forms of child labor or hazardous child labor, as defined by the ILO. Work shall not interfere with schooling.	Ma



SW3. Working Conditions and Conduct



Desired outcome: Workers work in a respectful environment, free from all forms of discrimination, harassment and abuse. Workers are enabled to speak out and have their concerns addressed in a clear, timely, and courteous manner.

Number	Requirement	Level
SW3.1	Discrimination, as defined in ILO Convention No. 111, is prohibited.	Ma
	SW3.1.1 Discrimination by employers in hiring, compensation, treatment or daily activities of any kind is prohibited.	Ma
	SW3.1.2 Non-discrimination codes of conduct shall be shared with all employees. Employees shall be aware of their rights.	R
SW3.2	Harassment, verbal abuse or physical abuse of any kind at any time is prohibited.	Ma
	SW3.2.1 Codes of conduct prohibiting harassment and abuse shall be shared with all employees. Employees should be aware of their rights.	R
SW3.3	Corruption, extortion and/or bribery of workers or families are prohibited.	Ma



SW4. Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining



Desired outcome: All workers are free to organize and collectively bargain without interference or penalty from farm management.

Number	Requirement	Level
SW4.1	The farm shall operate in accordance with local legislation related to freedom of association and collective bargaining.	Mi
	SW4.1.1 Farmers should not discriminate, punish, or penalize in any way workers who choose to organize or collectively bargain.	R



SW5. Wages and Benefits



Desired outcome: Workers receive payment in a transparent and consistent manner that is non-discriminatory and provides for appropriate rest and leave for the worker.

Number	Requirement	Level
SW5.1	Workers shall receive wages that comply with local legal minimum wages or collectively bargained wages, whichever is higher.	Mi
	SW5.1.1 Farmers shall not use consecutive short-term contracts and/or false apprenticeship or other schemes to avoid meeting obligations to personnel under applicable labor laws and regulations.	Mi
	SW5.1.2 Farmers shall pay all wages in legal tender and provide benefits due in a manner convenient to workers, without delay or substitutions e.g. vouchers, coupons, or promissory notes.	Mi
SW5.2	Equal pay for equal work should be provided for all workers regardless of gender, work status, religion, political affiliation, nationality, or other factors.	R
SW5.3	Farmers should provide paid vacation leave for workers and should document said paid leave agreements in employment contracts.	R
SW5.4	In-kind benefits (e.g. meals, housing, etc.) may be provided as a portion of wages in compliance with local laws and regulations.	Mi



SW6. Communities



Desired outcome: Farm activities respect the rights of and have minimal negative impact on communities.

Number	Requirement	Level
SW6.1	Farms shall acknowledge and adhere to legal rights of communities regarding sites, land and other resources.	Mi
	SW6.1.1 Farms shall respect the customary rights and religious and cultural significance to communities of locations and resources.	Mi
SW6.2	Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) should be obtained for any activity that may affect the lands, territories and resources that Indigenous Peoples customarily own, occupy or otherwise use.	R
SW6.3	Farms should engage local communities on farm management decisions that risk adversely affecting communities and should engage them on issues which create community concern.	R



SW7. Health and Safety



Desired outcome: Workers work in facilities and environments that are safe and healthy.

Number	Requirement	Level
SW7.1	Infrastructure shall be inspected regularly to ensure the safety of buildings.	Ma
	SW7.1.1 Fire risk assessment shall be conducted and steps taken to address risks.	Mi
SW7.2	Access to clean and potable water shall be provided at the main farm site.	Ma
	SW7.2.1 If risks have been identified, regular testing of water sources should be conducted.	R
SW7.3	Facilities for proper hygiene and comfort, including hand-washing facilities, toilets, and a place to store food shall be available at the main farm site.	Mi
SW7.4	Potentially hazardous work situations shall be clearly identified and unnecessary risks eliminated.	Ma
	SW7.4.1 Farmers shall conduct and document a risk assessment of potential health and safety risks and hazards, which is updated on a regular schedule or when new equipment or conditions are introduced and accompanied by preventative and corrective actions to address said risks.	Mi
	SW7.4.2 Clear signage shall exist to identify areas or equipment that are potentially hazardous.	Mi
SW7.5	Machines shall have clear instructions on safe usage, are maintained to limit hazards, and dangerous parts are guarded or encased.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
SW7.6	For hazards that can be minimized through the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), the organization should provide workers with appropriate PPE at no cost to the worker.	R





Section F – Farm and Communal Farmer Group Certification

The following requirements apply for Farm Group and Communal Farmer Group Certification. Farm Group and Communal Farmer Group Certification applies for groups with a defined *internal control system* (ICS) in place for the group. The group shall meet the requirements of this section of this Standard.

Farm Group and Communal Farmer Group Certification requires annual on-site audits of the ICS and sample audits of farm group members according to the risk assessment of the certification body. Farm Group and Communal Farmer Group Certification may also include additional *confirmation visits* of group members by the certification body without notice.

References to a farm below refer to any member farm in the group.

F1. Eligibility for Farm Group and Communal Farmer Group Certification

Farm Group Certification

- F1.1** The farm group shall be managed by a legal entity which represents the entirety of the *farm group* and is considered to be the applicant or certified *organization*.
- F1.2** The following categories of sites may be *group members*:
 - F1.2.1** Farms.
- F1.3** The ICS location for a farm group shall be in the same country as the farms. If the certified organization's main operation is in another country, it may be included as a subsequent site in the scope certificate and may be involved with the work of the ICS.

Communal Farmer Group Certification

- F1.4** The Communal Farmer Group shall be managed by a legal entity which represents the entirety of the *communal farmer group* and is considered to be the applicant or certified *organization*.
- F1.5** The following categories of sites may be *communal farmer group members*:
 - F1.5.1** Farms
 - F1.5.2** Farmers
 - F1.5.3** Semi-nomadic and nomadic herders



F1.6 Farms, Farmers, and herders may be eligible for participation in Communal Farmer Group certification if the following criteria are met:

F1.6.1 The farmer faces significant economic constraints, such as lack of capital assets and low access to finance (i.e. lack of economies of scale);

F1.6.2 The farmer faces significant information constraints, including lack of technical knowledge and low access to market information;

F1.6.3 The farm/farmer also meets at least two of the following criteria:

- a. The farmer has little or no land security,
- b. The farm is independent and not affiliated with a company for which they produce fiber,
- c. The farm has a small number of livestock,
- d. The farm relies on family labor,
- e. Animal fibers are the farmer's primary source of income,
- f. The farm uses relatively low levels of agricultural inputs and has comparatively low yields relative to the range of yields for the given commodity and context, and
- g. The farm has a relatively small land footprint.

F1.7 The organization and all members shall be located in the same country or be within neighboring countries in the European Union.

F2. Internal Control System Requirements

F2.1 The organization shall have an *internal control system (ICS)* in place.

F2.2 The organization shall appoint an *ICS Manager* who is responsible for the management of the ICS and for ensuring conformity to the RAS by all farms.

F2.3 The organization shall cooperate with the certification body's risk assessment process and with the coordination of information and auditing for member farms.

F2.4 The ICS shall maintain documented procedures which show how Farm Group and Communal Farmer Group Certification requirements are met, including procedures for at least the following elements:

F2.4.1 Accepting, adding and removing group members;



- F2.4.2** Maintaining records;
- F2.4.3** Training of group members and ICS personnel;
- F2.4.4** Internal inspection of group members; and
- F2.4.5** Use of RAS logos and promotional claims within the group.
- F2.5** The ICS shall maintain the following records:
 - F2.5.1** A documented management structure of the ICS, and
 - F2.5.2** A complete list of group members.
- F2.6** The ICS shall maintain the following records for each farm:
 - F2.6.1** A signed membership agreement which specifies rights and obligations of group members to conform with the RAS and permit inspections by the *ICS inspectors* as well as audits by the certification body;
 - F2.6.2** Maps or sketches of the farm showing where alpaca are located;
 - F2.6.3** Completed Farm Questions for each farm;
 - F2.6.4** Records of internal inspection results, showing the farm's conformity or non-conformity with all applicable requirements; and
 - F2.6.4** Records of which farm group members are part of other scope certificates, including the name of the certified organization and type of certification (Individual Farm or Farm Group) in each case.
- F2.7** The ICS shall ensure that
 - F2.7.1** all group members have access to a copy of the RAS or the relevant sections of the Standard; and
 - F2.7.2** all group members understand the relevant requirements of the Standard and are aware of consequences of non-conformity.
- F2.8** Group members and ICS personnel (including ICS inspectors) shall be provided with training regarding the RAS which is sufficient to meet their responsibilities. Training records shall be maintained.

F3. Group Member Requirements

- F3.1** Group members shall conform with the requirements of Section B3.

F4. Inspection of Members

- F4.1** The ICS shall select one of the following two options:
 - F4.1.1** The ICS shall document and implement an inspection protocol to ensure that RAS requirements are met by all group members and shall meet requirements F3.2-F3.5. or



F4.1.2 The ICS shall decline to conduct internal inspections, in which case requirements F3.2-F3.5 shall not apply.

NOTE: If the ICS declines to conduct internal inspections, the certification body will audit all farms in the farm group or communal farmer group annually, and will audit any new farms joining the group prior to the farm being approved to join.

F4.2 The inspection protocol shall include a process for handling non-conformity, including the following elements:

F4.2.1 Identification of non-conformities against all applicable requirements of the Standard;

F4.2.2 Grading of non-conformities according to the levels identified in A2. Requirement Levels.

F4.2.3 Follow-up to ensure that non-conformities are closed within a specified timeline which is not more than 30 days for major non-conformities and 60 days for minor non-conformities;

F4.2.4 Immediate suspension from the group in the case of critical non-conformities, until such non-conformities have been closed; and

F4.2.5 Documentation of non-conformities issued and closed, including explanation of corrective actions taken.

F4.3 The ICS shall appoint one or more ICS inspectors to carry out inspections. The ICS manager may also be an ICS inspector. ICS inspectors shall not be responsible for inspections of family members or themselves.

F4.4 The ICS shall carry out annual inspections of each group member. Inspections shall be carried out on-site.

F4.5 A written inspection report shall be prepared for each inspection, including identification of all non-conformities. Photos or other verification of the date and location should be included.

F5. Adding and Removing Members

F5.1 Members may be added to the group after the following steps have occurred:

F5.1.1 Information required by F2.5 and F2.6 has been received by the ICS,

F5.1.2 The ICS Inspector has completed an inspection of the site, or the certification body has conducted an audit of the site in the case that the ICS has declined to conduct internal inspections,

F5.1.3 All critical and major non-conformities for the site have been closed, and

F5.1.4 The ICS has received approval from the certification body for the addition of the site.



- F5.2** The ICS shall have the authority to remove members from the group. If a member is removed, the ICS shall notify both the group member and the certification body of the removal in writing, including the reason for removal (e.g. voluntary, non-payment, non-conformity).





Section G – Chain of Custody



Desired outcome: The integrity of certified material is maintained through to the final consumer.

G1. Farm Chain of Custody Criteria

- G1.1** Alpaca fiber is eligible to be sold as RAS by a farm if:
- G1.1.1** The farm is RAS certified at the time the alpaca fiber is shipped from the farm; or
 - G1.2.2** The farm first becomes RAS certified no later than one year after the time the alpaca fiber was shorn, providing the following points are met:
 - a. At the time of the audit, no critical non-conformities are found.
 - b. Chain of custody of the previously shorn alpaca fiber is confirmed
- G1.2** The farm shall maintain records of the following:
- G1.2.1** Incoming and outgoing alpaca;
 - G1.2.2** Volumes of alpaca fiber produced;
 - G1.2.3** Volumes of alpaca fiber sold as non-RAS, and as RAS under each applicable scope certificate; and
 - G1.2.4** Technical specifications (e.g. micron) of alpaca fiber produced.
- G1.3** The farm shall conduct an annual volume reconciliation which demonstrates that the volume of alpaca fiber sold as RAS is plausible based on the number of alpaca, yield per alpaca and other relevant factors. For Farm Group Certification, this may be done by the ICS instead of by each farm.
- G1.4** For Individual Farm Certification, the farm shall request transaction certificates from the certification body for each sale of RAS wool.
- G1.5** A farm group member may be listed as the seller on a transaction certificate issued under the farm group scope certificate. The farm shall make a copy of the scope certificate including the listing of the farm as a farm group member available to the buyer. Note that this arrangement is only possible with ICS agreement, and that a future Textile Exchange database may require that the ICS be listed as the seller for tracking purposes only.



NOTE: Transaction certificates are not required for sales of wool from a farm group member to the ICS. The ICS may restrict when it will request transaction certificates on behalf of a farm.

G1.6 For Farm Group Certification, if the ICS is taking physical possession of the alpaca fiber, the ICS shall maintain farm-level traceability for the alpaca fiber covered by each transaction certificate.

G1.7 If a certified organization is doing any of the following activities, Section G2. shall apply.

G1.7.1 Purchasing RAS alpaca fiber from farms which are not part of the same scope certificate;

G1.7.2 Processing alpaca fiber (e.g. scouring); or

G1.7.3 Conducting outsourcing activities, as defined in the CCS other than storage of discrete lots of RAS alpaca fiber.

G2. Chain of Custody Criteria

G2.1 The organization shall conform the requirements of the *CCS-101 Content Claim Standard* (CCS) whereby:

G2.1.1 Each reference of “CCS” in the Content Claim Standard shall be understood as “RAS.” In the case of contradiction with the CCS, the RAS requirement supersedes that of the CCS.

G2.1.2 “Claimed material,” as defined in the CCS, refers to *RAS material* for the RAS.

G2.2 Certified organizations that are physically attaching consumer-facing RAS claims shall meet the following requirements:

G2.2.1 RAS hangtags or communication shall only be applied when a corresponding label release form has been issued by an authorized certification body, in accordance with *TE-301 Standards Claim Policy*.

G2.3 The organization shall maintain records of technical specifications for all RAS material on file. This shall include both finished products and incoming material inputs.





Appendix A – Definitions

Refer to *TE-101 Terms and Definitions for Textile Exchange Standards and Related Documents* for definitions of terms used in these procedures. Key definitions are included below. Defined terms are shown in italics in the first usage in this document, and in some other uses for clarity.

Body Condition Score: System of measuring the fat and muscle cover of an animal – and therefore how good its nutrition and health has been - by reference to a standardized scale, normally from 1 (very thin) to 5 (obese).

Captive Bolt Gun: Device used to stun animals prior to *slaughter* or *euthanasia*. The gun has a retractable steel bolt that hits the forehead of the animal with sufficient force so as to render it instantly unconscious. Captive bolts may be penetrating or non-penetrating.

Carrying Capacity: The average number of animals that can be placed on a pasture for a year without harming it. It is a measure of the pasture’s ability to produce enough forage to meet the requirements of grazing animals.

Chukkering: When a loop of rope is tied around the caudal abdomen, just tightly enough to flex, and each hindleg is placed in turn through the loop just proximal to the fetlock. The alpaca is then immobilized lying down.

Colostrum: Milk produced by female mammals in the first days after giving birth. This milk has a higher fat content than normal milk and is particularly rich in proteins and antibodies. A young animal needs to receive sufficient colostrum so that it can acquire immunity.

Competent person: Someone who has acquired the knowledge to safely and humanely carry out a specific task or operation.

Electric prodder: Handheld object also known as ‘hot shot’ used to administer an electric shock when an animal is touched with it.

Electric stunning: Passing a current through the brain of an animal to render it instantly *insensible*. Stunning through the head can be followed by stunning the heart which causes death.

Emasculator: A tool for *castrating* a male animal. There are different types of emasculators. Some contain a blade/scalpel to completely remove the testes and others work by clamping the spermatic cords with no blade or cutting. Only the latter, bloodless emasculators, are permitted.



Embryotomy: Dismemberment of a [dead] fetus when natural birth is not possible.

Euthanasia: Ending the life of an animal using a method that produces rapid unconsciousness and subsequent death without evidence of pain or distress.

Farm: Any site where crops or livestock are raised for the production of food and/or textiles. Non-adjacent fields may be considered part of the same farm, provided they are under the same management (i.e. same farmer). For RAS: Limited to alpaca farms (for production of food and/or alpaca fiber).

Farmer: A person raising livestock [alpacas/sheep/goats] on a farm where there is a fixed base of operations (i.e. broadly using the same public/government/forest/wild area land areas.) and where the land available is largely the same from year to year. Animals may be moved away from the base site, but the farmer does not usually stay overnight with those animals.

Group: A scope certificate which includes multiple, separately owned *sites* whose conformity with the standard falls under the responsibility of another separately owned legal entity with an *internal control system (ICS)*. The entity which manages the ICS is considered the *organization*. Group eligibility requirements are defined in RAS.

Group Member: A site which is part of a group certification. The word 'member' may be used to refer to a group member.

Internal Control System (ICS): The system used by an *organization* for the oversight and management of certification for multiple *sites*, such as a *group*.

ICS Inspector: A person responsible for conducting inspections of sites covered by an *ICS*.

ICS Manager: The ICS manager (or management group) is responsible for the implementation of the *ICS*.

Mortality: Percentage or proportion of a herd that die.

Notching: Cutting the ears of sheep to permanently identify them. Notching is usually done in a pattern particular to the farm or ranch.

Organization: A legal entity which is *certified* to or in the process of becoming certified to the RAS. A scope certificate is held by an organization, and an organization has one or more sites.

Pain Relief: The administration of analgesic and local anesthetic drugs given with the aim of providing significant alleviation of pain.



Pasture: Land covered with vegetation suitable for grazing or foraging by animals.

Pesticides: Substances used for destroying insects or other organisms harmful to cultivated plants or to animals. Pesticides include bactericides, baits, fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, lures, rodenticides and repellents.

Pithing: Destruction of the brain by insertion of a metal rod. Carried out after the use of penetrating captive bolt gun.

Predator: Animal that hunts, kills, and eats other animals in order to survive.

RAS Material: The specific material that is being verified by the RAS as a content claim in a product which is sold.

Semi-nomadic and nomadic herders: A person who spends all or part of each year travelling on foot with their animals [alpacas/sheep/goats] to gain access to land for grazing. Semi-nomadic and nomadic herders may or may not follow the same route each year and use broadly the same land areas.

Shelter: Something that gives animals protection either via natural features such as trees or artificial structures like buildings or shades, however, it will not necessarily provide the same level of protection as *housing*.

Site: Any geographically distinct unit within a certificate scope. Locations which are geographically distinct or have different civic addresses are considered to be separate sites (see exception for *farms*). *Subcontractors* are not considered to be sites. The word *facility* is used in some documents and has the same meaning as site.

Includes: farms, *processors*, offices

Stocking Density: Number of animals kept in a particular space (e.g. in a house or on a transport vehicle).

Stocking Rate: Number of animals kept on a particular area of land.

Stun: Action of rendering an animal insensible and unconscious.



Appendix B – Risk Assessment

Certification bodies conduct a *risk assessment* on each organization prior to each audit and assign a risk designation of low, medium, or high risk. Higher risk levels require certification bodies to visit more farms and/or to conduct more *semi-announced* and *unannounced audits*. Full requirements for risk assessments can be found in the documents *ASR-101 Accreditation and Certification Procedures for Textile Exchange Standards* and *RAF-102 RAF Certification Procedures*.



Appendix C – Slaughter Module (Optional)

This appendix applies to slaughter sites. RAS certification is optional for slaughter sites; RAS alpaca fiber may be sold from farms when the slaughter sites are not certified.



Desired outcome: The slaughter process prevents or minimizes pain and distress. All animals are stunned (rendered unconscious and insensible to pain) prior to slaughter.

S1. Management and Training

Number	Requirement	Level
S1.1	All personnel unloading, handling, stunning and slaughtering animals shall be trained and competent to carry out the tasks required of them, so as to protect animal welfare.	C
	S1.1.1 Training shall include:	Ma
	a. Animal welfare principles	
	b. Good handling practices	
	c. Identification of sick/injured animals	
	d. Stunning methods and checking effectiveness of stunning	
	e. Slaughter methods	
S1.2	There shall be a named person who is responsible for animal welfare and who has the authority to stop slaughter operations if there is a risk to alpaca welfare.	Ma
S1.3	Documented standard operating procedures for all parts of the operation shall be developed and implemented.	Mi
S1.4	Records of training shall be kept.	Mi



S2. Casualty Animals

Number	Requirement	Level
S2.1	Animals that are down and unable to rise shall be euthanized promptly using a method defined by these standards.	Ma

S3. Preslaughter Handling

Number	Requirement	Level
S3.1	Animals that are down and unable to rise shall be euthanized promptly using a method defined by these standards.	C
S3.2	The use of electric prods is prohibited.	Ma
S3.3	Holding pens shall provide enough space for animals to move around and lie down together.	Ma
S3.4	Holding pens shall provide shade and shelter to maintain alpaca thermal comfort.	Ma
S3.5	Water shall be provided in holding pens.	Ma
S3.6	If animals are held for 12 hours or more they shall be fed.	Ma
S3.7	Flooring in all areas accessed by live animals shall be non-slip to prevent animals slipping or falling.	Ma

S4. Slaughter Equipment

Number	Requirement	Level
S4.1	Suitable equipment including reserve equipment for the slaughter of alpacas shall be available.	Ma
S4.2	Stunning/slaughter equipment shall be well maintained as per the manufacturer's instructions.	Ma



S5. Stunning and Killing Methods

Number	Requirement	Level
S5.1	Animals shall be stunned using a method that causes immediate unconsciousness that lasts until death. Acceptable methods for alpacas are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Penetrating captive bolt guns b. Firearm 	C
S5.2	The stunning or killing device shall be positioned correctly according to the species and the method being used.	Ma
S5.3	If electrical stunning is used an appropriate current that causes alpacas to become immediately insensible must be used.	Ma
S5.4	If electrical stunning is used electrodes shall be positioned to span the brain of the animal.	Ma
S5.5	The correct cartridge or propellant for alpacas shall be used with captive bolts or firearms.	Ma
S5.6	Alpacas shall not be shackled and/or hoisted unless they have first been effectively stunned.	C
S5.7	If animals show any sign of sensibility they shall be immediately re-stunned.	Ma
S5.8	Animals shall be checked to ensure they are insensible before being bled.	Ma
S5.9	Following stunning alpacas shall be bled as soon as possible.	Ma
	S5.9.1 Alpacas shall be bled within 15 seconds of head-only electrical stunning.	Mi
	S5.9.2 Alpaca shall be bled within 60 seconds of head/heart electrical stunning, captive bolt stunning, or shooting with a firearm.	Mi
S5.8	The bleed wound shall sever the major blood vessels in the neck and allow rapid blood loss such that insensibility is maintained until the point of death.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
S5.9	No further processing shall be carried out until the death of the alpaca has been verified.	Ma
S5.10	Alpacas shall not be slaughtered in sight of other animals.	Ma

S6. Chain of Custody

Number	Requirement	Level
S6.1	The slaughter site shall have a plan that shows how incoming alpacas are identified, how skins from certified herds are identified from different herds and how the skins are handled from removal from the carcass until the material leaves the facility.	Ma
S6.2	The slaughter plant shall have procedures for verifying that animals came from RAS-certified farms.	Ma
S6.3	Records shall be kept of the number of alpacas slaughtered from RAS-certified farms and the corresponding number of skins from RAS certified farms.	Ma



Appendix D – Transport Guidance

TG1. Responsibilities, Competency, and Stockmanship

Number	Requirement	Level
TG1.1	At every stage of transport, animals shall be cared for by a sufficient number of personnel, who collectively possess the appropriate ability, knowledge, and competence necessary to maintain the health and welfare of the animals.	C
TG1.2	The person in charge of an animal may change as it moves from the farm to its final destination. The responsibility for implementing the standard shall therefore lie with the person(s) selecting and presenting animals for transport, and also the person(s) or organization(s) accepting the animals for transport.	Ma
	TG1.2.1 Where the responsibility changes, the person(s) or organization(s) accepting the animals for transport shall provide a copy of their Standard Operating Procedures.	Mi

TG2. Documentation

Number	Requirement	Level
TG2.1	All required documentation shall be completed and accessible to the relevant personnel prior to embarking on and during travel, so that incomplete or inaccessible documentation does not cause any delay in animals reaching the destination or being unloaded at the destination.	Mi
TG2.2	There shall be a contingency plan in place that allows the needs of animals to be met in the event of any delays arising during the journey.	Mi



TG3. Fitness for Travel

Number	Requirement	Level
TG3.1	All alpacas shall be assessed as fit for transport. The following animals shall not be transported unless it is for the purposes of veterinary treatment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. sick, injured, weak, or disabled animalsb. those that are unable to stand unaided and bear weight on each legc. those that are blind in both eyesd. those that cannot be moved without causing them additional sufferinge. those whose body condition would result in poor welfare because of the expected climatic conditions.	C
TG3.1.1	If animals meeting these conditions are suffering and unlikely to recover, they should be euthanized on the farm. They should not be transported to auction or slaughter.	R
TG3.2	The following animals shall only be transported if the journey is short (less than 50km) and the purpose is to improve conditions for the animal and the journey will not cause unnecessary pain or suffering. Otherwise, transport shall be delayed until they are fit to travel. <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Heavily pregnant females (past 90% gestation)b. Newborn crias where the navel has not completely healedc. Females that have given birth in the previous seven days	Ma



TG4. Separation

Number	Requirement	Level
TG4.1	<p>Alpacas shall be handled and transported separately from other species. The following separations shall also be applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Alpacas of significantly different sizes or agesb. Sexually mature males from femalesc. Animals hostile to each otherd. Tied animals from untied animals <p><i>NOTE: TG4.1 does not apply where animals have been raised in compatible groups, are accustomed to each other and where separation would cause distress or where animals are accompanied by dependent young.</i></p>	Mi

TG5. Preparation for Transport

Number	Requirement	Level
TG5.1	<p>Animals shall be appropriately prepared for transport, including through the provision of sufficient food and water, as appropriate to the species, age, condition, and expected length and conditions of the journey, so that pain, injury, or distress to themselves or other animals is avoided.</p>	Ma
TG5.2	<p>Before undertaking a journey during which the animals will be fed and watered, animals shall be familiarized with the feed to be offered and the methods by which the feed and water are given.</p>	Mi



TG6. Transport Vehicles and Facilities for Livestock

Number	Requirement	Level
TG6.1	The vehicle and its loading and unloading facilities shall be designed, constructed and maintained to avoid injury and suffering and to ensure the safety of the animals.	Ma
TG6.2	Ramps shall be set at an incline of no greater than 27 degrees and have measures in place to prevent injury.	Mi
TG6.3	Conveyances and containers shall be designed to ensure adequate ventilation or oxygenation to allow the free flow of air or oxygen to all animals, even when stationary, to prevent the build-up of harmful concentrations of gases or impurities, water vapor or temperature.	Mi
TG6.4	Conveyances and containers shall be designed to provide protection from adverse weather that may be a risk to the animal's health and welfare.	Mi
TG6.5	Where animals show signs of heat or cold stress or distress from exposure to noxious gases, immediate corrective action shall be taken.	Ma
TG6.6	Animals shall not be transported when climactic conditions are likely to cause significant discomfort or harm.	Mi

TG7. Loading and Unloading

Number	Requirement	Level
TG7.1	Animals shall be loaded and unloaded in a way that minimizes the risk of pain, injury, or distress to the animals. The use of electric prodders is prohibited.	Ma
TG7.2	Alpacas shall not be dropped, dragged, or pulled by the fleece, tail, ears, head, limbs, or neck.	Ma
TG7.3	Stocking density shall be sufficient to allow animals to adopt a natural posture during the journey.	Ma
TG7.4	Alpacas shall not have their legs tied during transport	Ma



TG8. Recommended Space Allowance

Number	Requirement	Level														
TG8.1	There shall be space for each alpaca to lie down (cush) during transport.	Mi														
	TG8.1.1 Each alpaca should have the following minimum area in transport:	R														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Live weight (kg)</th> <th>Minimum floor area (m²)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>20</td> <td>0.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>40</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50</td> <td>0.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td>0.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80</td> <td>1.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Live weight (kg)	Minimum floor area (m ²)	20	0.4	30	0.5	40	0.6	50	0.7	60	0.8	80	1.0	
Live weight (kg)	Minimum floor area (m ²)															
20	0.4															
30	0.5															
40	0.6															
50	0.7															
60	0.8															
80	1.0															

TG9. Journey Times, Food, Water, and Rest

Number	Requirement	Level
TG9.1	Journeys shall be direct, without any prolonged stops.	Ma
	TG9.1.1 All animals should be transported for the shortest possible time.	R
TG9.2	Water, feed, and opportunity to rest shall be made available to animals as appropriate to meet their health needs.	Ma
TG9.3	After each 24 hours of travel non-pregnant adult alpaca shall have a rest period of at least 12 hours.	Ma
	TG9.3.1 Alpacas between 6 to 12 months of age and pregnant females up to 7.5 months gestation shall have a rest period of at least 12 hours after every 8 hours of transport.	Ma



Number	Requirement	Level
	TG9.3.2 Alpacas up to 6 months of age, lactating female alpacas and alpacas that are more than 7.5 months through their gestation shall have a rest period of at least 12 hours after every 4 hours of transport.	Ma
TG9.4	During every specified rest period, alpacas of all ages shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. be unloaded;b. have access to food and clean waterc. have enough space for exercise and rest.	Ma
TG9.5	Water and feed shall be provided at least once in every 24 hours to animals older than 12 months, except for animals traveling on a journey that will be entirely completed within 30 hours. <i>The relevant period for determining feed and water requirement is the total period of deprivation of feed and water from the time of initial loading until unloading after the second or last journey.</i>	Ma

TG10. Monitoring and Records

Number	Requirement	Level
TG10.1	Animals shall be inspected for injury or signs of pain or distress at regular intervals during the journey, including at rest breaks taken by the operator of the conveyance and at refuelling stops.	Ma
TG10.2	Animals found to be distressed or injured shall be assisted, treated or if necessary, euthanized as soon as practicable.	Ma
TG10.3	The mortality and injury rate shall be recorded.	Mi