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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR USING PREG-TONE WITH LLAMA & ALPACA

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NOTE: Your new PREG-TONE Series 6 is set up for swine and must be changed if it is to be used on llamas or alpacas. See Animal Selection Chart.

Recent science has shown that the Preg-Tone can produce 99%+ accuracy in the alpaca and llama.

One testing protocol that has proven successful works as follows:

Though success may not be high, begin testing with the Preg-Tone at 28 days gestation. From 35-40 days gestation and onward, you should achieve very high success. Use the Preg-Tone to make sure that the female has not resorbed or aborted the fetus up to the last trimester.

Testing should begin on the LEFT side, since some 90% of all pregnancies in camelids take place in the left uterine horn. If testing on the left side is unsuccessful, then repeat the procedure on right side. From the literature: "*Transabdominal ultrasound is best performed on the left from day 35 to day 90. After day 90 a right or ventral approach is more likely to be successful because of how the uterus moves relative to the other organs.*"

Wet the test area thoroughly with coupling fluid (cooking oil). It is often necessary to also remove fiber. With the female standing, place the probe about 6 to 8 inches (15-20cm) down from the udder. On maiden females, you may need to place the probe a little higher, about 5 inches (12cm) from the udder. Be sure to squeeze out all air bubbles (ultrasound will not pass through air). You will normally get the contact tone first, which signifies that you have good skin contact. However, if the animal is pregnant and you begin by pointing the probe just right, you will get the pregnant tone without first getting the contact tone. Often, the positive tone is immediate when the probe is pointed straight into the belly from the angle that is defined by the female's belly. Sometimes, directing it up to a more vertical line. (It would be difficult to pick up the female's bladder from this position without really pushing into the belly and directing the probe toward the rear.)

One last thing to be aware of, you can get false positive signals from a full bladder or from ruminant elements. This is why knowing the location of the uterus and other internal organs is important. Make sure you aim at the uterus, and it should work fine.