



WARATAH ALPACA FIBRE CO-OPERATIVE

FLEECE PREPARATION OUTLINE

Waratah was established as a fleece selling agent to collect and sell Australian alpaca fleece on behalf of its suppliers and especially on behalf of its members. Waratah is committed to development of the Australian alpaca fibre industry. It aims to support quality, sustainable fleece production and to increase sales to purchasers for all colours and classes of alpaca fleece.

Waratah must, however, be responsive to market demands. Waratah will notify members and other suppliers of its requirements as these are anticipated and will accept only those colour lines and classes that it has called for.

How to present fleeces to Waratah

- Waratah prefers to accept saddles and pieces, however, neck fleece over 40mm may be accepted for consignments of short-length fleece;
- The supplier must **skirt all saddles** delivered to Waratah to the relevant micron ranges (as shown on the pricing list);
- All fleece received by Waratah must be packaged as a **bale** (ie classed as a single class and pressed) **or** as a **butt** (loosely packed into a bale bag);
- Waratah cannot accept saddle fleece delivered in individual plastic or other bags;
- Where micron test results for unclassified fleece is available, please attach those results to the Consignment Sheet and reference the relevant butt;
- Fleece which is outside the optimal staple length (70-110mm - see pricing list) may be packed in the same butt as optimal length fleece but should be separated from optimal length fleece with a layer of paper;
- Only one colour of saddle fleece will be accepted in a butt; and
- Where more than one micron line is packed into a butt the lines must be separated by a layer of paper as shown in the diagrams on Page 2.

White or Light Fawn Huacaya or Suri fleece should be packed in the Butt as shown in the diagram below:



Waratah Alpaca Fleece Co-Op required butt layers:

Huacaya and Suri White or L Fawn



This shows the preferred layering of alpaca fleece by Suppliers for delivery to Waratah Alpaca Fibre Co-Op.

- Each fibre layer is separated by paper and on the paper a brief note that includes the Supplier's Name, details of the layer below including approximate micron (if known) and weight
- The advantages of this approach are:
 - reduced plastic waste
 - ease of access by the classer
 - reduced cost to the Supplier (e.g. you keep your plastic bags for next shearing)

As at 6 Aug 2024

Coloured Huacaya fleece should be packed in the Butt as shown in the diagram below:



Waratah Alpaca Fleece Co-Op required butt layers:

Huacaya Coloured



This shows the preferred layering of alpaca fleece by Suppliers for delivery to Waratah Alpaca Fibre Co-Op.

- Applies to M/ Dark Fawn, Brown, Grey and Rose Grey and Black in separate butts
- Each fibre layer is separated by paper and on the paper a brief note that includes the Supplier's Name, details of the layer below including approximate micron (if known) and weight
- Micron ranges have been compressed to assist in filling the bales quicker and hence speed to market
- The advantages are:
 - reduced plastic waste
 - ease of access by the classer
 - reduced cost to the Supplier (e.g. you keep your plastic bags for next shearing)