

WELLINGTON VETERINARY CLINIC, Inc.
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BREEDING ALPACAS & LLAMAS

- Over-breeding is the number one cause of infertility in females. Breed once per cycle – the inflammation caused in the uterus by the male has to be seen to be believed. If unsure of a female's receptivity, separate from stud and try again tomorrow. Remember, the goal is one good breeding.
- Behavior testing at 5 and 13 days post-breeding is extremely important. Because of the unique reproductive physiology of alpacas & llamas, problems with breedings can often be diagnosed based on behaviors at these intervals. Keep thorough records and keep them accessible. The breeding chart on the following page should help to organize the information. Records are the first things I ask for when breeding problems arise.
- Maiden females should be checked prior to first breeding for persistent hymen membranes that may prevent breeding by the male.
- Ultrasound detection of pregnancy should occur between 27-35 days post-breeding. I recommend a second ultrasound between 80-110 days to confirm that the female is still pregnant. After this time, abortions are much less common and should be more easily noticed by the owner (i.e. receptive behavior testing, vulvar discharge, fetus or membranes found on the ground).