



Ccara Llamas

Back to the basics



Introduction

- Bred for 4000 years in Peru as pack animals, likely originated from guanacos
- AKA: k'ara, q'ara, classic, working llama
- Other breeds developed as well: curaca, tapada, lanuda, and more



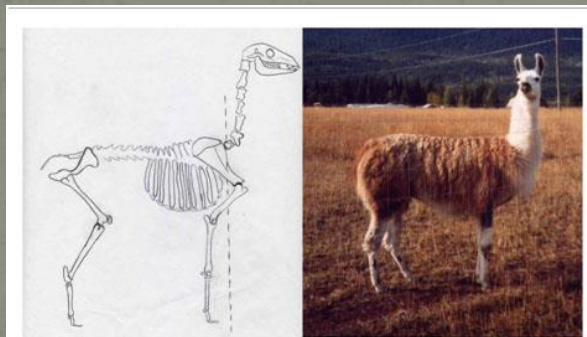
Physical Characteristics

- Overall appearance
 - Balanced, athletic
 - Body type may vary somewhat
 - Generally 42 to 48 inches at the withers

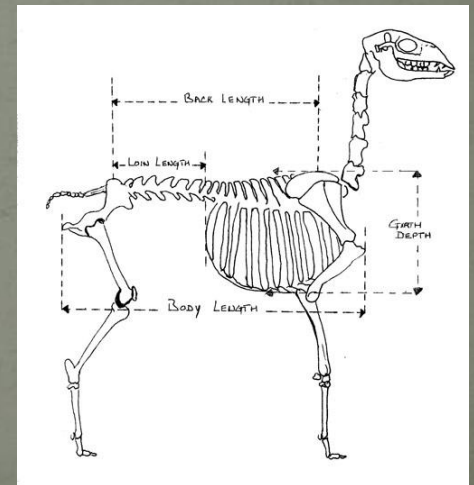


Physical Characteristics

- Overall appearance
 - Legs longer than girth depth
 - Plumb line dropped from behind neck is well ahead of front legs
 - Top of hip and top of withers at or near same height; back has a slight natural curve
 - Back is not long; shorter is stronger



With a long sloping hip & shoulder and long upper leg bones, this rangy llama would likely have a long efficient stride and be suitable for long-distance packing.



Physical characteristics

- **Legs and feet**
 - **Well muscled chest and upper legs, front and back**
 - **Not overly wide in front or rear leg set – no sway in the stride**
 - **Rear legs show proper angulation in relation to the rear point of the pelvis**
 - **No “knock knees” or “Cow hocks”**



Physical characteristics

- Legs and feet
 - Slight toeing out in the front is normal
 - Pasterns short, with some angulation



Physical characteristics

- Coat
 - Close-lying hair on face, ears and lower legs (no “wool”)
 - Elsewhere, double-coated fleece that sheds yearly and can be combed out
 - Distinct “mane” of guard hair on the back of the neck



Physical characteristics

- **Coat**
 - Length of guard hair may vary over body, usually shorter or absent on neck
 - Color: any color acceptable; Ccaras frequently exhibit “wild” or agouti pattern similar to a guanaco



Movement

- **Stride**
 - Smooth, long steps.
 - Narrow track (without cross-over) limits sway
 - Most llamas naturally walk with a pacing gait (both legs on one side move at the same time)



Other essential characteristics that must be included in breeding selection

- **Disposition**
 - **Manageable, calm**
 - **Tractable, trainable**
 - **Willing, curious**
- **Reproduction**
 - **Easy breeders, reproductive soundness**
 - **Easy birthers, good milkers, attentive mothers**

The value of ccaras

- As a genetic repository
- As a reliable working animal
- As a cultural icon



The appeal of ccaras

- Practical
- Easy care coat
- Historical value – at risk of disappearing



Ccara registry

North American Ccara Association (www.ccarallama.com)

- **Registered through the ILR, with Ccara designation**
- “Llamas seeking entry into the registry will need to be ILR registered, at least three years of age, and a minimum of 43” height at the withers.”
- “The first three generations admitted to the registry will require screening to determine eligibility. Crias born to third generation registered Ccara parents - meaning that both parents, all four grandparents and all eight great grandparents have been screened - will be accepted without screening.”

Ccara registry

North American Ccara Association (www.ccarallama.com)

- Screeners are rare east of the Mississippi (only 2)
- Screeners may not screen their own llamas
- Criteria for screening may be found at the above website under “Screening and Registration”



Trip to Peru – December 31 2018 - Jan 11 2019

- Arranged by Bill Redwood
- Will visit multiple llama ranches in different parts of the country
- Visits to cultural sites as well
- Cities will include Cerro de Pasco, Cuzco, Nuñoa, Tisco, Arequipa
- \$3000 per person – 4 places left (capped at 10)
- More information at <http://redwoodllamas.com/llama-peru-trip/>



Questions?

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