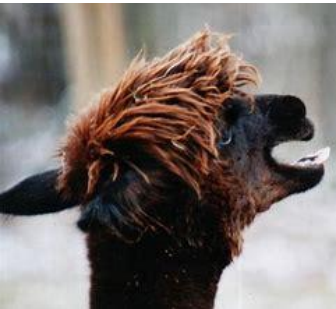


Alpaca Behaviors

By Campbell Pohlman



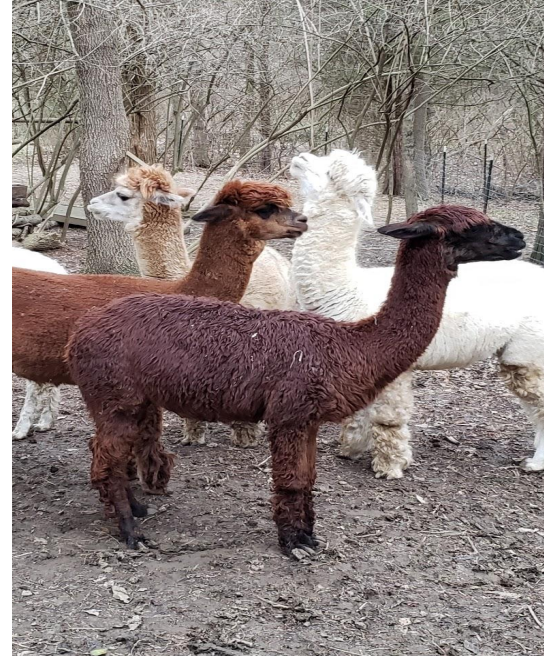
Why It's Important to Understand Alpaca Behaviors

An alpaca's behavior tells you a lot about its health and happiness. That's why it's so crucial to understand what these behaviors mean. I will explain some of the more basic behaviors in this presentation.



Flehmen

Flehmen is when an alpaca gets irritated. When an alpaca is doing this, their faces are pointed to the sky, kind of like when a wolf howls. It looks like the alpaca is about to spit as well.



Curiosity

Alpacas are very curious animals. They often are interested in new things. It might be a squirrel inside the pen or you coming out to feed them. They most likely will form a small group and come close to the new thing to check it out, as shown in the pictures below.



Pronking

Pronking is a behavior that shows that the alpaca is happy and excited. Pronking kind of looks like a mix between running and jumping. Here is a video of what pronking looks like:

[Pronking Video](#)



Kushing

Kushing is a behavior that alpacas do when they are tired. Kushing is when the alpaca is laying down, but still has it's head up. It is a resting position.



Affection

Affection in alpacas can be shown in many ways. Affection can be shown by nuzzling your hand, running towards you when you walk over to the alpaca pen, or even when the alpaca actually kisses you. It depends on the alpaca how they want to show affection.



Alpaca Sounds

In addition to physical behaviors, alpacas can express behavior through sounds. Some of these include:

- Humming
- Alert call
- Screeching

Here is what an alert call sounds like:

Alpacas let out alert calls to scare away danger and to warn others around them.



Here is what humming sounds like:

A humming alpaca means that it is happy and calm.



Here is what screeching sounds like:

Alpacas screech to warn nearby
alpacas that there is danger.



Conclusion

In conclusion, alpacas do a lot of behaviors, physically and verbally. It is important to know these, so you are aware of your alpaca's health and happiness. It's important to get used to your alpaca's behaviors so you know how to make it happy and healthy.

The End