

## 10 EASY STEPS IN SKIRTING A SURI LLAMA FLEECE FOR SHOW

1. Dump the fleece out of the bag onto the skirting table.
2. Check the fleece for soundness by taking a sample staple and putting tension in the middle to see if it easily breaks. For fleeces with a high degree of staining on the tips, (usually in cria fleeces), pull on the tips to see if they are brittle and break. If you find the fleece breaks, **DO NOT SKIRT THIS FLEECE FOR SHOW!**
3. Remove excess dust and debris by 'bouncing' the fleece on the table. Small debris will fall through, as well as some 2<sup>nd</sup> cuts.
4. Determine what part is the "prime" fleece or blanket for show. Take a small sample from the middle of the fleece and compare it to other areas of the fleece. Remove anything that doesn't match for color or length. Look for areas that are discolored, different lengths, guard hair, matted, or contain pieces of dung or hay, and remove them gently. **Be careful not to destroy the lock structure!**
5. For solid color classes only, pull out the odd color patches and/or spots that may be significantly lighter or darker in the fleece and put them aside as "Seconds". For multi-colored classes, the colored spot need to remain with the blanket.
6. Next, carefully search the fleece for more second cuts, noils, debris, or anything you may have missed in the previous steps.
7. Turn the fleece over and repeat Steps 5-7, then repeat until you are certain you have removed the debris, guard hairs, non-uniform color spots, and matting and staining.
8. Next, arrange the fleece for placement in the clear plastic bag by having the lock ends on the outside. Place the fleece in the bag so that the best area (center of the fleece) is at the opening of the bag. This way the judge's first impression will be very positive.
9. Tie the bag with a rubber band so that the fleece won't fall out on transport. **Be sure to remove the rubber band before checking in your fleece for show.**
10. Your fleece is now ready for check-in.

