

# The AOA Percentage Registry

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A Proposed  
Bylaw Change

# The Percentage Registry

A Percentage Registry is a system that registers animals into levels based on the percentage of DNA validated genetics they carry, rather than requiring them to be 100% DNA validated.



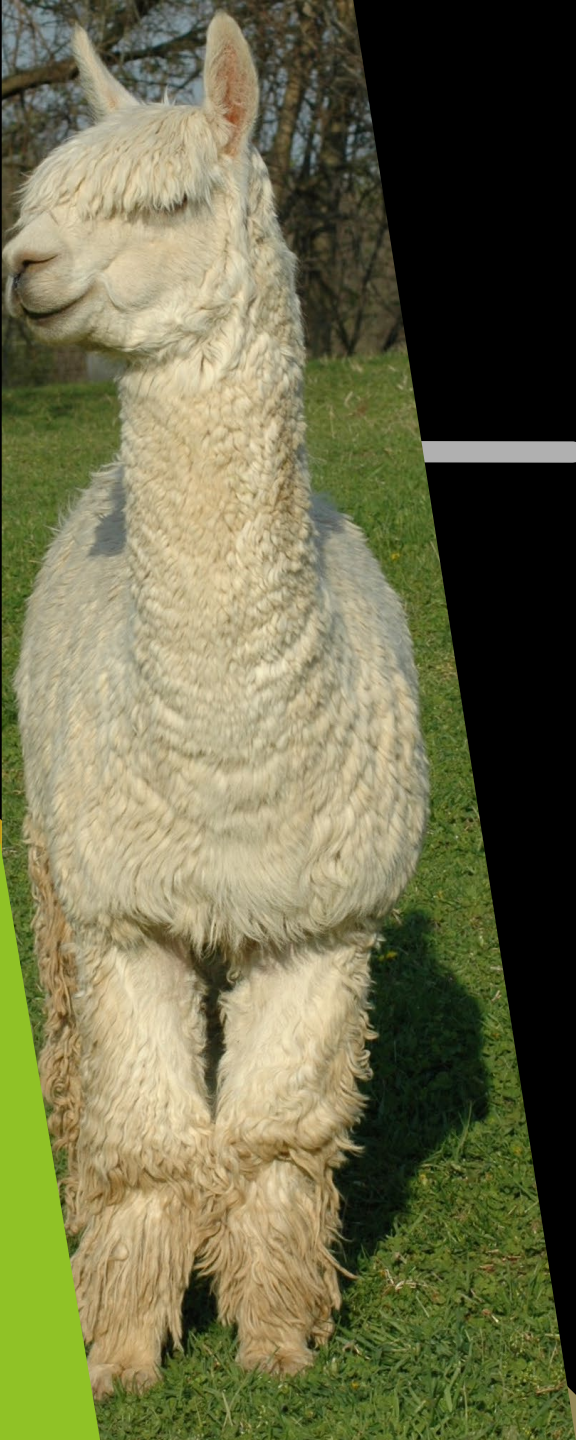
# The Percentage Registry

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***It is a separate and independent of the closed AOA Registry.***

**It would allow currently unregistered alpacas to be registered by AOA.**





# The Percentage Registry

## Purpose:

- ▶ It allows owners to track and register alpacas that are not DNA validated.
- ▶ Allows owners to have a documented lineage showing a certain percentage of recognized breed genetics.

# What is a Percentage Registry?

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- ❖ This type of registry is common in other livestock organizations. The Percentage Registries exist adjacent to their “Purebred” registries.
- ❖ Offers transparency in lineage for buyers and sellers- allowing buyers of currently unregistered stock to now view lineage that would have been unknown previously.
- ❖ This complementary registration system was first considered several years ago, but not feasible due to website limitations and cost. Our new registry management system can accomplish this at no additional cost to AOA.

# The Percentage Registry

The Percentage Registry enables owners to enter documentation of their alpaca, such as:

- ❑ Parents (if known)
- ❑ Gender and Breed
- ❑ Microchip or ear tag.
- ❑ Color and Pattern

This can be valuable information if alpacas are, sold, evacuated in a disaster, the owner dies, or documentation of an alpaca's identity is required for transporting across state lines.



# The Percentage Registry

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## **How It Works:**

Animals are first entered as “Listed” alpacas- their parentage may or may not be DNA validated.

Animals are classified by their genetic makeup (e.g., 50%, 75%, 87.5% purebred). Each generation of breeding with DNA validated alpacas increases that percentage.

The Percentage Registry provides official recognition for these animals, which is important for breeding programs and maintaining genetic diversity.

# The Percentage Registry

A “Listed” alpaca would retain its ability to be registered in the closed AOA Registry *if*:

1. Both parents of The “Listed” alpaca are registered in the AOA closed Registry.
  2. The “Listed” alpaca’s parentage is validated by DNA testing.
  3. The owner that registered them as “Listed” permits the current owner to change their status from “Listed” in the Percentage Registry to “Registered” in the closed AOA Registry.
- \*\*\* Fees to move to the current AOA Registry would still apply.

# The Percentage Registry

Still permits owners to acquire DNA analysis for their alpaca if they wish to.

Allows owners to acquire color genetics testing and fiber testing.

Allows full participation in AOA Show competitions.

# Why Create the Percentage Registry?

- ❖ The Alpaca Owners Association strives to welcome ALL alpaca owners to our organization and industry.
- ❖ Allows registration of animals that aren't 100% DNA validated, making it easier for new breeders to participate in AOA and affiliate activities .
- ❖ AOA wants all alpaca owners to have easy access to accurate information about alpacas, their fleece, and best practices for caring for alpacas. AOA membership provides that.

# Why Create the Percentage Registry?

Genetic Improvement Over Time:  
Encourages breeding toward improvement  
while maintaining traceable lineage.



# Why Create the Percentage Registry?

## **Transparency:**

Buyers and sellers can see the genetic makeup of each animal, which builds confidence and trust.

## **Flexibility:**

Supports diverse breeding programs without excluding animals that have valuable traits but aren't 100% DNA validated.

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# Why Create a Percentage Registry?

To Create More Opportunities For Youth Participation

- ▶ AOA recognizes that the future of our alpaca industry rests on building youth involvement now and for years to come.
- ▶ Using unregistered alpacas at shows limits youth involvement to participating only in Performance classes.

# Why Create a Percentage Registry?

## To Create More Opportunities For Youth Participation

- ❖ Youth Halter classes are available only to those youth that have AOA Registered alpacas.
- ❖ Allowing Percentage Registry alpacas to compete in AOA and Affiliate shows provides encouragement for youth to compete in halter shows.
- ❖ It also encourages them to become more involved in breeding decisions to “create” improved and competitive alpacas.

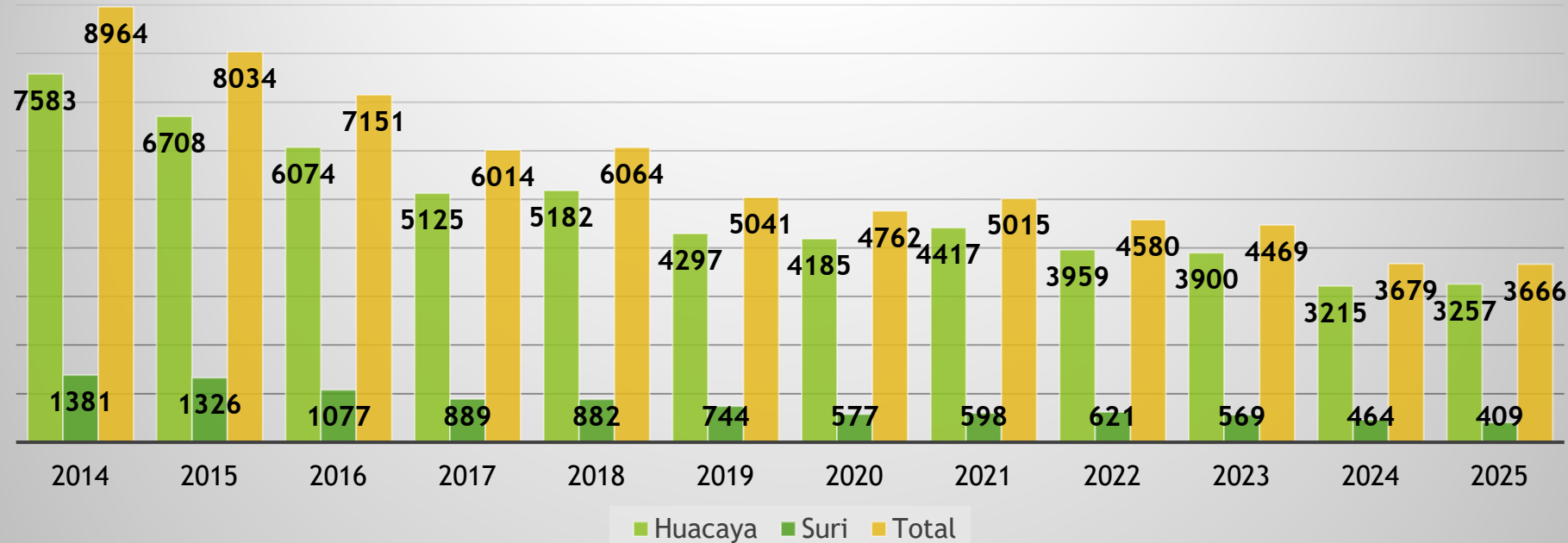


# Why Create the Percentage Registry?

## Understanding Demographic Trends

The population of registered alpaca has been declining over the past several years. This means we are losing track of alpaca owners and national alpaca numbers.

Registrations by Year



# Why Create the Percentage Registry?

## Increased Volume of Registrations

More breeders will be able to enter animals into the AOA system—even if those animals initially have undocumented backgrounds. This expands the Registry base and increases future registrations as lines advance.

## Clearer Pathways for Offspring

Future offspring will automatically enter the appropriate percentage tier and continue advancing, ensuring continuous registry engagement.



# Other Considerations

The Percentage Registry could potentially increase affiliate memberships, because most unregistered alpaca owners do not belong to affiliates and often are unaware of their existence.



## Other Considerations


Currently, our competitor, the International Llama Registry (ILR) allows the registration and showing of alpacas without parental validation.



The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of a sheep's wool being processed into yarn. The wool is shown in various stages, from raw, dark fibers to spun, white yarn. The image is partially obscured by a dark, semi-transparent triangular overlay on the right side, which contains the text. The overall color scheme is dominated by the natural colors of the wool and the vibrant green geometric shapes on the right.

## How Would This Affect Our AOA Closed Registry?

The Percentage Registry will have NO effect on the AOA Registry. They will be separate entities.

A young girl with a circular badge on her shirt stands next to a large alpaca in a fenced outdoor area. The alpaca is light brown with a darker brown tuft on its head. The girl is wearing a light-colored tank top and has a circular badge on her chest. The background shows a dirt area with a metal fence and some buildings in the distance under a blue sky.

## How Will the Percentage Registry Affect AOA Members?

Members may find their unregistered alpacas more marketable because new owners and their children will be able to register their new alpacas in the Percentage Registry and participate in all AOA Show System activities.

# How Will the Percentage Registry Affect AOA Members?

The excitement of competition and sense of community generated by shows serves as an excellent introduction to our industry and often leads to the purchase of closed AOA Registered stock from AOA members who are attending shows, thus increasing marketing opportunities for AOA members.



# How Will the Percentage Registry Affect AOA Members?

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By increasing AOA membership and revenue streams, AOA is better positioned financially to offer education and innovation to benefit our beloved alpacas, our members, and the alpaca industry.





## How Will the Percentage Registry Affect AOA Members?

- ▶ Currently, AOA and its affiliates are only able to reach the AOA membership to inform them of news and events in our industry.
- ▶ Adding a new group of owners through the Percentage Registry will increase show participation and awareness of various opportunities such as conferences, fiber pools, and online events. This will help to make those activities more cost-effective for AOA, its affiliates, and its members.



## How Will the Percentage Registry Affect AOA Members?

The Percentage Registry will provide AOA with a more accurate number of alpacas in the United States. This is valuable information when working with government entities, researchers, grant providers, advertisers, and manufacturers.

# How The Percentage Registry Works

## Tiered Registration Levels

The Percentage Registry uses multiple levels based on lineage and DNA verification to recognize alpacas progressively.

## Level 1 Registration

Level 1 includes alpacas with unregistered lineage, allowing initial registration and recognition. These are “Listed” alpacas.

## Advancement with DNA Verification

DNA testing of parents allows offspring to progress to higher registration levels, increasing lineage credibility.

## Encouraging Responsible Breeding

This structure supports utilizing registered stock to improve breeding outcomes from Percentage Registry alpacas.



# How It Works

The Percentage Registry provides a tiered registration system common to other livestock industries.

Levels of Registered Progression			
Generation	Parentage	% Registered Genetics	Description
Listed	0 %	0 %	Unregistered alpaca with no traceable registered lineage. Eligible only for "Listed" in Percentage Registry unless parentage is DNA validated.
Percent F1	0 % crossed with 100% Registered	50 %	First-generation offspring. Half percent genetics. Registered as "50% Registered."
Percent F2	F1 crossed with 100% Registered	75 %	Three-quarters percent genetics. May be registered as "75% Registered."
Percent F3	F2 crossed with 100% Registered	87.5 %	Considered "high percentage cross."
Percent F4	F3 crossed with 100% Registered	93.75	"High Percent Validated" level – equivalent to 15/16ths registered genetics.
Percent F5	F4 crossed with 100% Registered	96.875 %	In other livestock industries such a high percentage would allow an animal to be fully registered. <i>This is not permitted with our closed AOA Registry.</i>

# Different Scenarios for the Percentage Registry

Listed Alpaca "FRED"



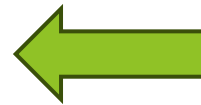
Fred is an unregistered alpaca with no known parentage.



Fred's owner wants to create a record of Fred in case of emergency



Fred's owner submits Fred's information to AOA, including color, and microchip to AOA's new Percentage Registry.



Fred is now registered as a Listed alpaca in AOA's Percentage Registry



# Different Scenarios for the Percentage Registry

## Listed Alpaca Sally



Sally was rescued from a bad situation, and her new family would like to show her now that she is healthy!



Sally's owner submits her information to the new AOA Percentage Registry, including color, sex, and microchip.



Sally is now registered as a Listed alpaca in AOA's Percentage Registry and can show in AOA Certified shows!

# Different Scenarios for the Percentage Registry

Betty is a young alpaca with AOA Registered parents. Betty's owners do not know if they want to use her for breeding and do not want to have to submit a blood card for DNA validation to the closed AOA Registry.

Listed Alpaca Betty



Betty does very well at AOA Shows and her owners are encouraged to breed her to help improve their herd.



Betty's parents are DNA validated with AOA and Betty now becomes a Breeder in the closed AOA Registry

Betty's owner submits Betty's blood card to AOA for DNA validation of both parents

# Different Scenarios for the Percentage Registry

George is the product of a pairing between his dam, a Listed Alpaca, and his sire, a herdsire registered in the closed AOA Registry.



George's owners send in George's blood card to AOA for DNA validation of his sire.



George's sire is verified by DNA and George now becomes a 50% huacaya in the new AOA Percentage Registry.



(Once registered, George grew an extra pair of legs!)

# Different Scenarios for the Percentage Registry

50% Alpaca George



George's owner decides to breed him to one of her Huacaya females that is registered in the closed AOA Registry.



George's owner sends in a blood card for the resulting cria (George x registered female) for DNA validation of both parents since George is a 50% registered alpaca.

The resulting cria is now a 75% registered Huacaya in the AOA Percentage Registry.



# Different Scenarios for the Percentage Registry

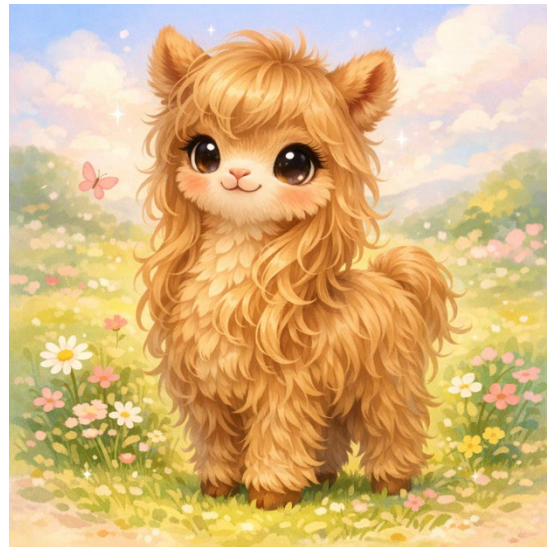
**\*\*Percentage registries calculate the offspring's percentage by averaging the parents' percentages\*\***

Lisa decides she wants to breed her 50% registered Suri male with her 50% registered Suri female.



Lisa submits a blood card for the resulting cria of the cross between 2 50% Suri alpaca for DNA validation.

The cria is validated through the DNA validation and is now 50% registered in the AOA Percentage Registry.



# In Conclusion

**A complementary Percentage Registry will:**

- ❖ **Include a new alpaca owner demographic in AOA and our industry.**
- ❖ **Increase AOA and Affiliate membership.**
- ❖ **Increase AOA and affiliate show participation.**
- ❖ **Expand AOA's reach to educate and ensure best practices for alpaca care.**
- ❖ **Expand member marketing opportunities by reaching more alpaca owners.**
- ❖ **Provide more accurate data on the United States alpaca population.**

# THANK YOU!

