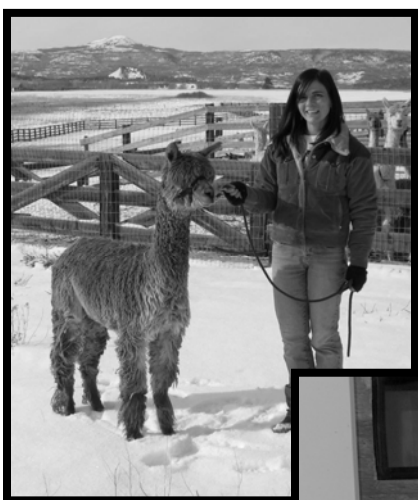


# Preface

We (David, Toni, and Claire) are very excited to bring this long-anticipated text to life! We hope you will enjoy reading and using it as much as we have enjoyed putting it together. This text is offered as a tool to improve the understanding of reproduction and neonatal care of llamas and alpacas. The authors have over 50 years of combined experience with reproduction and health care of camelids. The text herein documents much of this experience. Some information is useful to owners and breeders to improve the reproductive health and maintenance of alpacas and llamas, some information is intended to expand the knowledge and understanding of the physiology of these magnificent animals, and other areas are intended for veterinarians providing care for llamas and alpacas. This text represents our understanding of current research involving llamas and alpacas, our opinions based on clinical experiences with over 50,000 llamas and alpacas, and many years of diligence. Enjoy!



## Dedication

This book is dedicated to our families who have tolerated, persevered, endured, and enjoyed our passion for llamas and alpacas. Also, this text is dedicated to the many students and veterinarians who have helped us along the way. The many summer scholars and camelid elective students who were involved in the camelid programs over the years helped make this effort possible.