



Everything You Need To Know about Alpacas

Alpacas come from the same family as llamas and camels. They are cute and curious-looking animals. But, how much do you know about them? This handy infographic tells you all you need to know about alpacas:

History of Alpacas



Alpacas became domesticated by the Incas in Peru more than 6,000 years ago

The first alpacas got exported from Peru back in 1984



There are two breeds of alpaca:



Suri



Huacaya

Alpaca eating and living facts

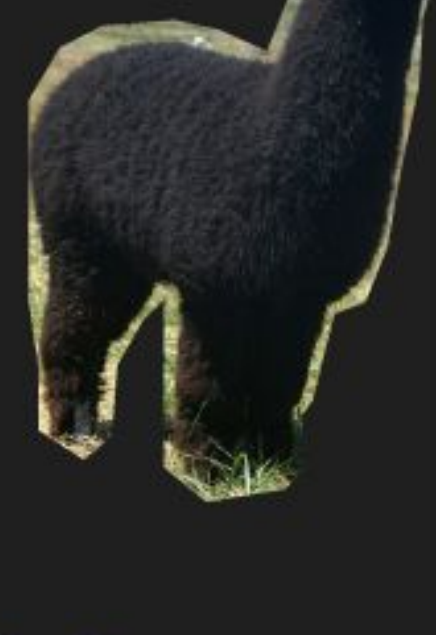
They are around **81-99 cm** tall at the withers (i.e. the ridge between their shoulder blades)



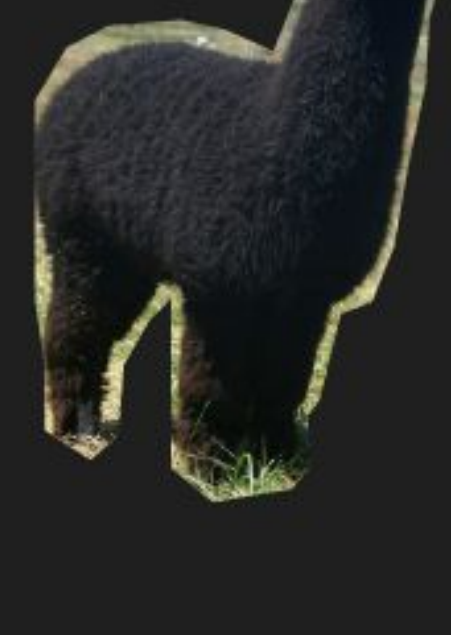
Adult alpacas weigh around **48-84 kilograms**

Alpacas use a communal dung pile (i.e. toilet area)

They can live for up to **20 years**



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Two black alpacas can produce a white alpaca baby



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A white female alpaca and a black male will produce a black baby



Their diet consists of hay and grass



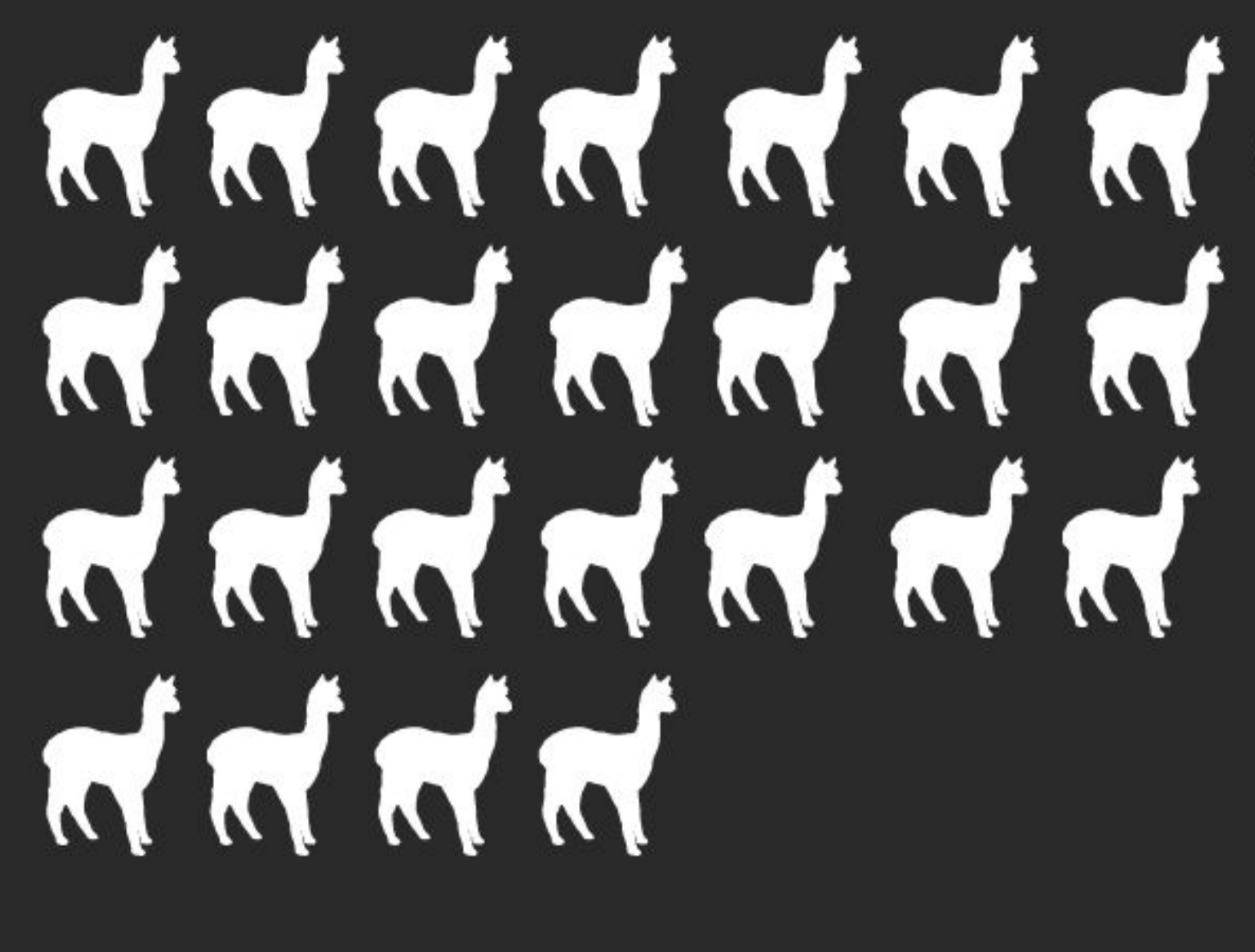
They eat around 2% of their body weight

That equates to around two bales of hay or grass per animal, per month



Alpaca hair is known as "fleece" or "fibre", and has a lustrous and silky feel to it

They come in a range of up to 16 different colours



It's possible to raise up to 25 alpacas in a single hectare

How much does it cost to buy an alpaca?

Field pets cost around **£500 + VAT**

Alpacas are "VATable" as they are known as exotic pets



£55,000

The top alpaca stud in the UK sold for £55,000

Hensting Alpacas

www.alpacas-hampshire.co.uk

02380 602080

derek@alpacas-hampshire.co.uk

Sources: <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/stories/10-things-you-didnt-know-about-alpacas> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alpaca>