

LLAMA



ALPACA

**LLAMAS &
ALPACAS BY; D.K
THAPA**

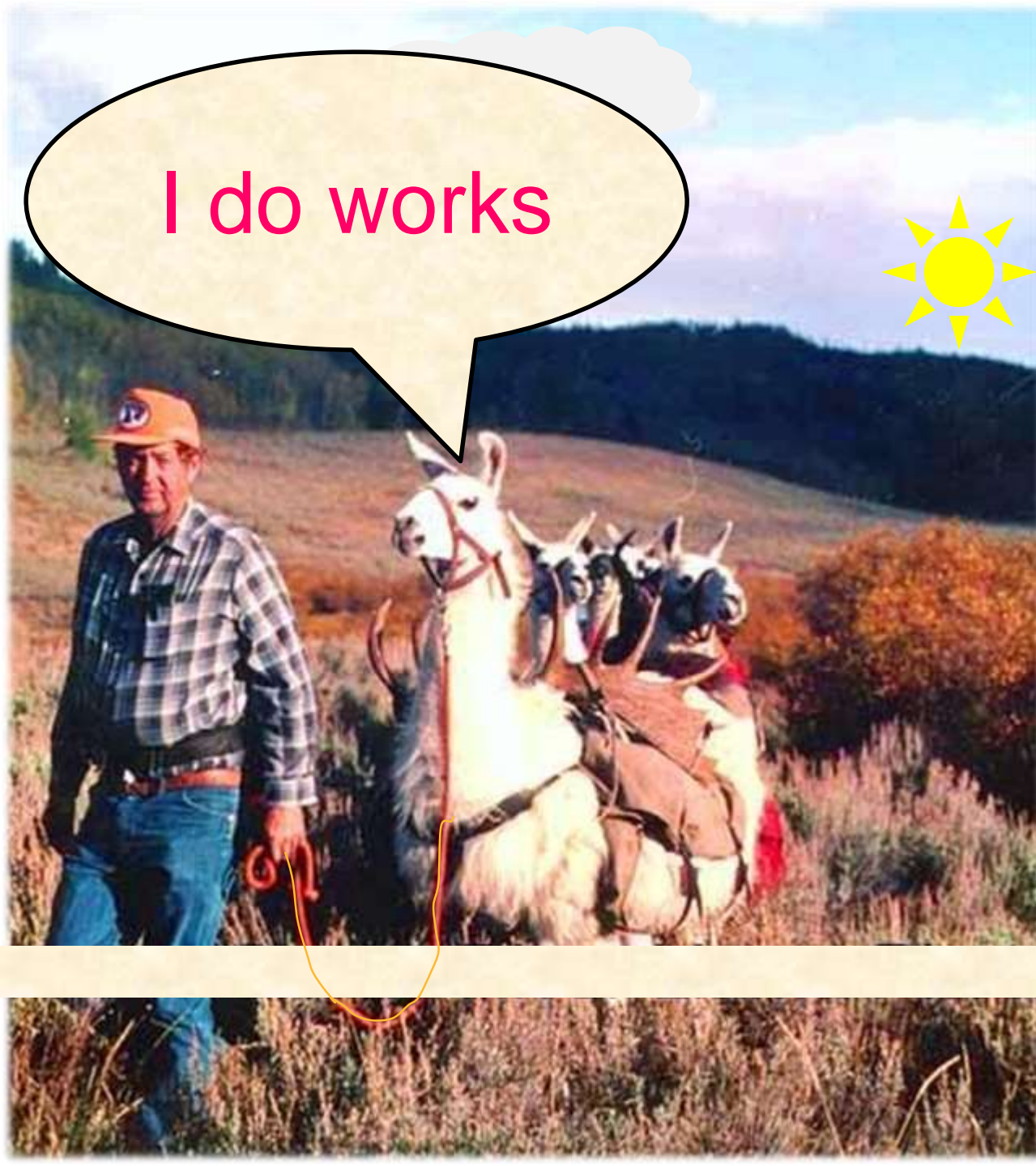
WHAT ARE LLAMAS & ALPACAS?

- Social and domesticated members of the South American Camelid family
- They are the oldest domestic animals in the world (domesticated around 6000 years ago)
- Hornless, cud-chewing animals having even number of toes and padded feet
- Look like long-necked camels without humps
- Have the most amazing big eyes with very long eyelashes
- **Llamas** are mainly used as pack and guard animals
- **Alpacas** are generally meant for wool & meat production

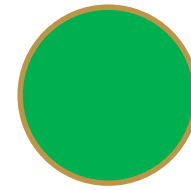
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Llamas
used for
PACK
purpose



BRIEF HISTORY



- Camelids originated from the central plains of N. America about 40 million years ago
- Began migrating around 3 million years ago
- Those heading west became camels
- Those moving south along the Andean mountain ranges of Bolivia, Chile and Peru are the modern llamas, alpacas, vicunas and guanacos
- Llamas are believed to be descendents of the guanaco (*Lama guanicoe*), while alpacas were domesticated from the wild vicuna (*Vicugna vicugna*) for fiber production

CLASSIFICATION

Kingdom : Animalia

Phylum : Chordata

Class : Mammalia

Order : Artiodactyla

Suborder : Tylopoda

Family : Camelidae

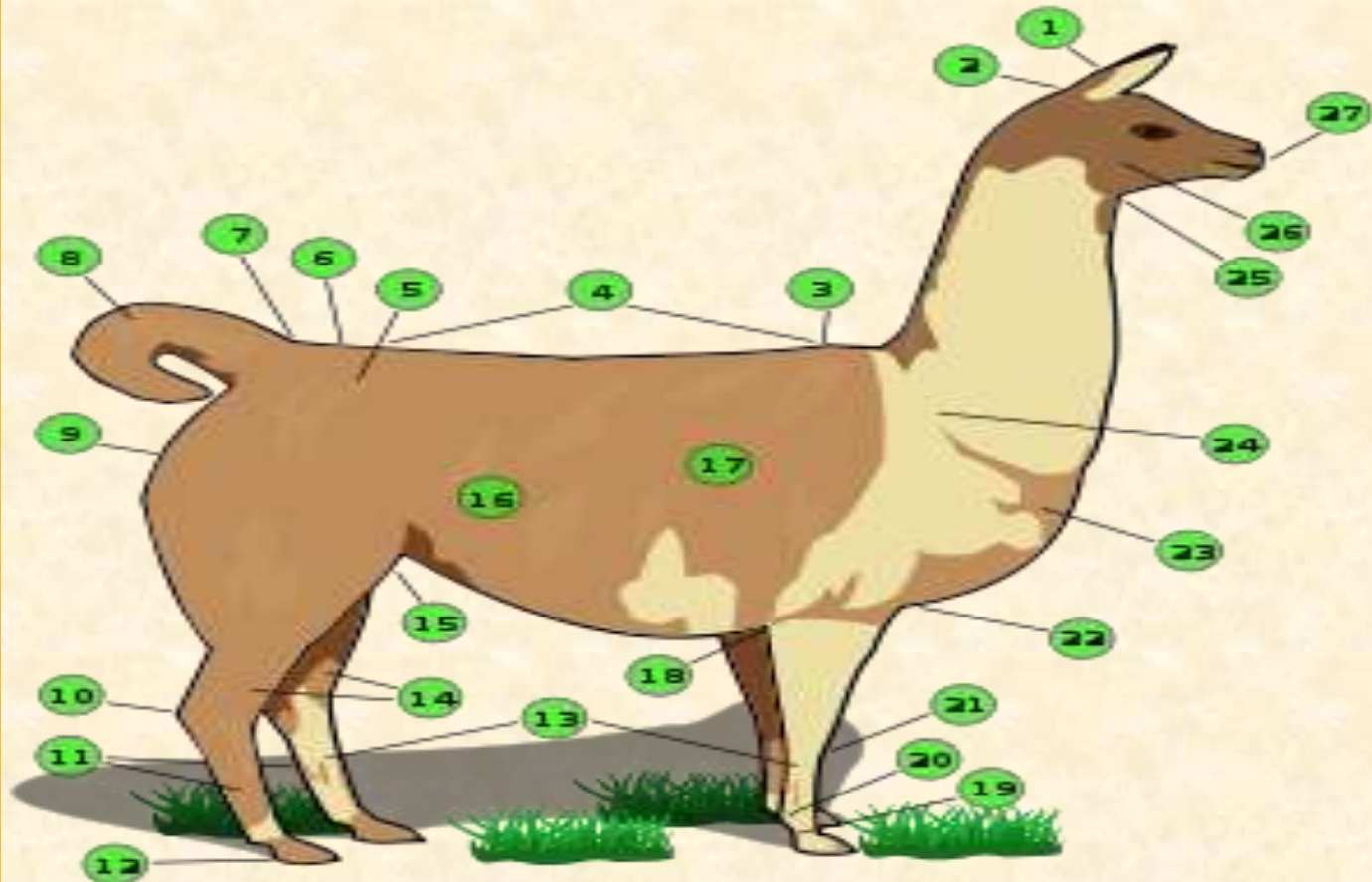
Genus : *Lama*

Species : *L. glama* (Llama)

Genus : *Vicugna*

Species : *V. pacos* (Alpaca)

BODY PARTS OF LLAMA



1:ears; **2:**poll; **3:**withers; **4:**back; **5:**hip; **6:**croup;
7: base of tail; **8:**tail; **9:**buttock; **10:**hock; **11:**metatarsal gland; **12:**heel; **13:**cannon bone; **14:**gaskin; **15:** stifle joint; **16:** flank; **17:**barrel; **18:**elbow; **19:**pastern; **20:**fetlock; **21:**knee; **22:**Chest; **23:**point of shoulder; **24:**shoulder; **25:**throat; **26:**cheek or jowl; **27:**muzzle



BODY FEATURES

- An adult alpaca weighs between 48-84 kg
- Adult llamas usually weigh around 130-200 kg
- Height at wither: 40-45” for llama; 36” for alpaca
- Split prehensile lip
- Pseudo ruminants: have three chambered stomach; *omasum is either small or absent*
- Able to adapt to a variety of climates
- Chromosome number is 74
- Life span: alpaca- 20 to 25 years ; llama- 15 to 30 years



ALPACA FIBER

- Two types of alpaca: the **Huacaya**- fleece has a wavy quality and grows perpendicular to skin and the **Suri**- have locketed, lustrous fine fiber (longer than Huacaya) which hangs in ringlets vertical to the ground
- Fleece is free of lanolin, making the processing of the raw fiber relatively easy, without the use of harsh chemicals
- Fiber is flame resistant
- Without lanolin, it doesn't repel water
- A fleece from one alpaca can produce as much as **5kg** of fiber

TWO TYPES OF ALPACA



HUACAYA



SURI



A
shorn
ALPACA

REPRODUCTION



- **Breeding age-**
 - male: 24-36 months; female: 18-24 months
- Females are induced ovulators and breed throughout their life
- Females have four teats
- Gestation period: 350 days-llama; 335 days-alpaca
- Involution period: 14-21 days
- Newborn is called “**CRIA**”
- Twins are rare; they usually produce 1 offspring per each parturition



A dam (llama) and her **CRIA**

BEHAVIOUR



- Generally quiet and docile
- Use a field toilet and forms dung piles, thus extremely hygienic when compared to other animals
- They make a humming sound
- Male produces a special sound- 'orgle' during mating
- They communicate through posture, ear and tail movement
- Sometimes, they may spit to each other to show their dominance over another member of the herd
- If a llama is agitated, it will lay its ears back

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LLAMA AND ALPACA

- **EARS:** Alpacas have smaller, pointed ears while **llamas** have long banana shaped ears
- **COAT:** Llama has a very coarse outer coat over a softer inner coat whereas **alpaca** has a very fine single coat
- **TOOTH:** Alpaca's tooth have no enamel on the tongue side of their incisors and they continually grow as they wear down from grazing whereas **llama's tooth** are fully enameled
- **FIBER(Amt):** Alpaca produces more fiber than a llama (though an adult **llama** is twice the size of an adult alpaca)

CONTD...

ALPACA



LLAMA



- **BACK & TAIL:** The back of **alpaca** is slightly rounded and the tail slope down from the back whereas a **llama** has a flat, level back with the tail placed right off the end of the back



REFERENCES

Wikipedia

www.llama-facts.com

www.alpaca-facts.com



THANK

YOU

