

# Research study: llama and alpaca poo needed!



Researchers at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Surrey are looking for llama and alpaca poo samples for a research project.

## PROJECT BACKGROUND

Gut parasites can cause serious problems in llamas and alpacas. However, there is very little information about which gut parasites infect llamas and alpacas in the UK and how many animals are infected. We would like to find out how common gut parasites are among llamas and alpacas in the UK and which animals are most likely to be infected. We hope that the study will lead to better management of gut parasites in llamas and alpacas.

## WHO CAN TAKE PART

Anyone in the UK who keeps llamas and alpacas can take part in the study.

## WHAT IS INVOLVED

We will ask you to collect fresh llama or alpaca poo samples from enclosures and send them to us at the University. We will provide you with containers for sample collection and stamped addressed boxes for safe postage of the samples. We will also ask you to complete a short questionnaire asking about the animals you keep and how you manage gut parasites.

## WHAT WE WILL DO

We will test the poo samples in our laboratory to see what parasites are present. We will use the questionnaire responses to look for risk factors for gut parasite infection in llamas and alpacas.

## BENEFITS TO YOU

We will inform you of the faecal egg counts for any samples you provide, if you wish.

## CONFIDENTIALITY

All personal details and information related to your premises will be held in complete confidence and handled in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations (2018).

## GET INVOLVED

If you would like to take part or for further information, please contact: