

RDM – Scenario for Workshops

The UpNorth Alpaca Research team received a grant from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) for 2018-2019 to evaluate alpaca fibre production in Canada. The goals of this research are to evaluate 2 diets on 2 types of alpaca: Suri, which produce dreadlock type fleece, and Huacaya, which produce teddy-bear like fleece. The UpNorth Research team wants to determine whether changing the diet affects the overall fleece weight and fibre quality for each type of alpaca. The project will work with 3 breeders of Suri alpaca and 3 breeders of Huacaya alpaca, and use 20 animals from each farm to evaluate 2 diets (A vs B – 10 animals/diet). The trial will begin 1 month after the animals have been sheared in 2018 (May or June) and will continue for 1 year until their fleeces are harvested in 2019.

As the data manager, you are responsible for data collection, storage, and preservation. You must ensure proper collection and storage of the following information from each farm:

- Age, and parental information of each trial animal
- Initial and monthly body weights of all animals on trial
- Average feed consumed per month
- Weight of fleece harvested in 2018 if available and 2019
- Fibre quality measures from 2018 if available and 2019
- Breeder (farm) information:
 - Location
 - Herd size
 - 2018 fleece weights
 - 2018 fibre quality measures
 - Price paid per fleece in 2018

At the end of the trial, you will be asked to preserve the project data and to make it accessible to the public.

We will work through the Best Practices of Research Data Management to help you meet the goals of the project and the data requirements.