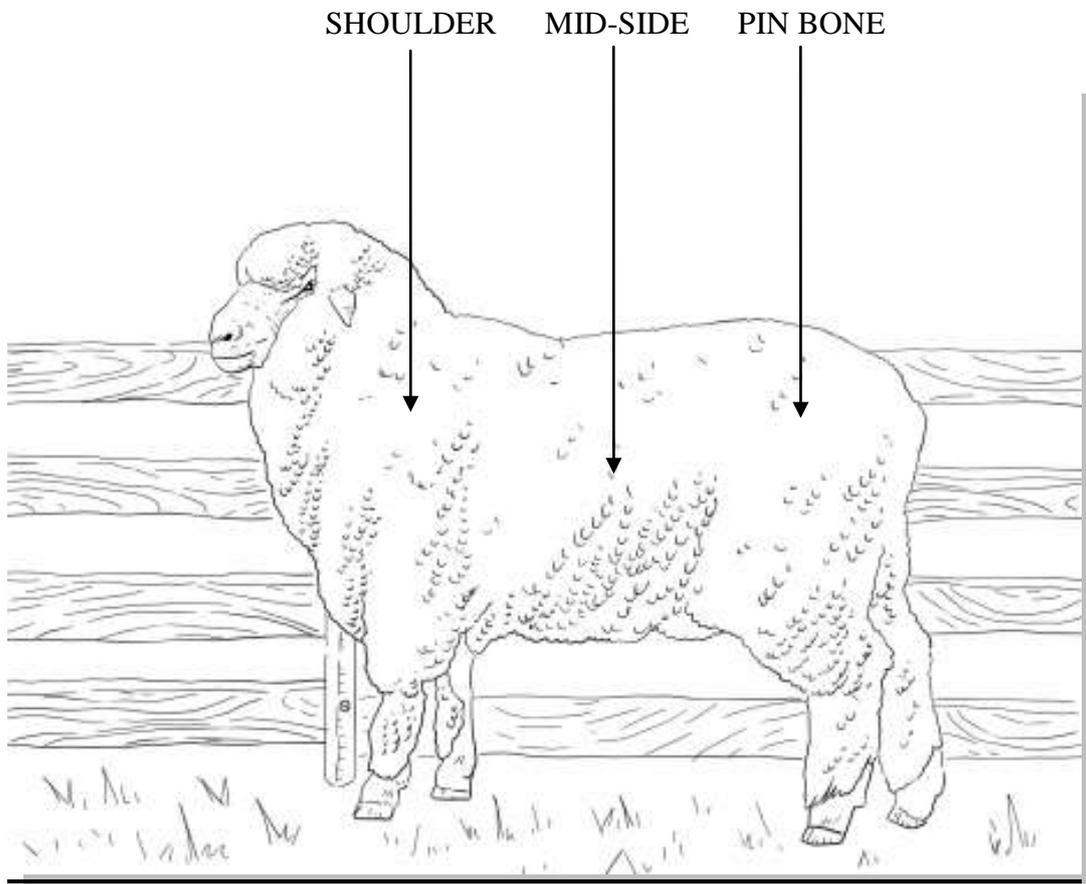


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ANIMAL SAMPLE SITE SELECTION



Consider Alpaca and Goat sample site the same as above :

The Mid side area selection is considered representative for the average Fibre Diameter for a fleece, hence this is the main spot where samples are taken for fibre measurement. It is crucial to take the sample from the same spot on each animal being tested, or careful comparison of results will not be reliable. If a Mid side sample is taken lower, towards the belly then you will generally receive a finer test result while a higher Mid side will usually be stronger. For consistency, please take the sample from the same side on each animal.

Pin bone or Rump is the secondary area for sample site selection. This spot is at the top of the hind pin bone and is considered the strongest area on the fleece, and can also be the most variable. Some clients choose to take samples from here because it is where stronger more variable results will first be detected on an animal. As a rule of thumb, Pin bone test results are generally 3/4 to 1.5 micron stronger than Mid side test results.

Extra Alpaca sample site for fleece variability is the front shoulder where we perform a triple test to show fleece variability along the flank of the Alpaca. This is 3 independent tests and is the way to describe the amount of variability in micron and SD and the average for each.

OFDA100 :- sample size should be 10 grams (ie about a coffee cup full) or 15 grams if Length & Strength test is also required.

OFDA2000 :- sample size should be a couple of staples that must be representative of the fleece. If a couple of staples are cut on a skin wrinkle (sheep), then as more blood flow at the wrinkle, then the sample may be stronger Fibre Diameter than surrounding fibres, hence it is not representative. The OFDA2000 uses less fibre to get a measurement, so it crucial to obtain the right sample. Animal fibre variability over a fleece can be from 2 to 6 microns; so be careful when taking the sample. Again all samples must be taken from the same sample site for direct comparison.

OTHER TEST SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS

Fibre medullation test sample size is 10 grams, as sample must be prepared with the minicore.

Resistance to Compression test sample size is 10 grams as washing and combing with the Shirley Analyzer is required for sample preparation, before measuring.

Feltball test sample size is also 10 grams as washing and carding required before felting test performed.

All samples must be labelled clearly on the card or envelope supplied. Bag any samples that you want tested separately, and let us know Group ID if needed. Indicate if you also want overall sample results combined as well. We have many display options available if required. Sample bags should be sealed to keep sample as shorn from the animal. We condition all samples before measuring them.