

A handle on Suri.

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Livestock genomics research has become imperative for future industry development and improvement. A group of Australian Suri breeders led the initial charge that resulted in the formation of Alpaca Genomics Australia and the inception of this research project. At that time, the ultimate goal of the project was to create a test for the Suri trait. We have moved from a world without any alpaca specific genetic tools to a world with a radiation hybrid library and where a 10X public sequence is imminent. Our early genetic mapping with traditional microsatellite markers has provided information on the genetic location of Suri while the newer technologies of genome wide SNP genotyping and whole genome sequencing of 6 animals have provided further focus on Suri and also expanded our work exponentially into other areas of research. Discussion will briefly include other alpaca related genetic discoveries made in our laboratory and information on the effect of inbreeding on alpacas in Australia.