

Genetic Mechanisms and Inheritance Patterns of the Suri Phenotype

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This session will discuss ongoing and future research into the genetic mechanisms and inheritance patterns of the suri phenotype in camelids. Most research has pointed to a single gene dominant trait, or to two very tightly linked genes close together on the same chromosome, that are almost always transmitted together. Current and ongoing studies by Merriwether (Binghamton University), Appleton (University of Melbourne), Gutiérrez (Universidad Complutense de Madrid), and Renieri (University of Pisa) will be discussed and any ramifications for suri breeding programs. The outcome of the ongoing and future suri genetics research is that a PCR-based genetic test for suri homozygosity/heterozygosity will likely become available in the future.