

# ALPACAS

Alpacas were first (1) \_\_\_\_\_ by the Inca people in the mountains of South America, more than six thousand years ago. These animals (2) \_\_\_\_\_ clothes, food and fuel for their owners. The softest wool was (3) \_\_\_\_\_ worn by the leaders of Incan society though.

When Spanish explorers (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in the fifteenth century, sheep were introduced and these gradually (5) \_\_\_\_\_ alpacas in the region. It wasn't (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century that both farmers and fashion designers began to recognize the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of alpacas again. They are easy to look (8) \_\_\_\_\_ since they eat grass and are used to low temperatures. Their wool, which comes in a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of natural colors from white to dark brown, is lighter and warmer than sheep's wool and (10) \_\_\_\_\_ strong.

It is not surprising (11) \_\_\_\_\_ that alpacas are becoming a familiar sight in the fields of North America, Australia and the UK.

