Camelid Herd Health

Vaccination Programs
All animals in herd should be vaccinated with CD&T once a year. Since you have already vaccinated your herd in summer, keep that same schedule and we will incorporate it into your worming program. Other vaccines will not be necessary. However, if in the future your animals have fence-line or intimate contact with horses, or if you have breeding animals in close contact with cattle on a regular basis, the program should be modified.

Worming Programs
As I mentioned before, rotational worming is the recommended method so worms do not develop a resistance to the wormers. The main point of a worming program is that you worm with ivermectin after the first frost in fall. Also, inclusion of Valbazen into your worming program would be advisable even though you are not in an endemic fluke area.

Other issues
I would like to complement you on the quality of your facilities. With regards to sanitation, camels are usually low-maintenance as they form dung piles which act as a natural composter. However, if your alpacas do not create dung piles and instead spread their feces around, it is a good idea to periodically clean the pens and remove them from the animals’ contact. This will act to decrease exposure to parasites and protect crias from exposure to potential pathogens.

Based on your herd’s properties I would recommend the following program:

January: Worm with Valbazen or Panacur
April: Worm with Ivermectin
July: Worm with Valbazen
      Vaccinate with CD&T
      Use pour-on for fly control
October: Worm with Ivermectin

For pregnant females, if the last CD&T vaccination was done less than six months from her due date, give a booster at one month before her due date. She should also be wormed with Ivermectin at that time.

If a pregnant female has not received a CD&T vaccination within six months of her due date, she should be boosterized with two shots of CD&T. The first should be given six weeks before her due date along with a shot of Ivermectin. The second vaccination is then given three weeks before her due date.