



© Kris Borczik Benner

Sew Ingenious!

As you may know, Pennsylvania can be home to some of the worst weather in the United States, and spring can surprise you with winter-like conditions.

In 2018, Kris Borczik Benner of Lucky Us Farm in Pennsylvania described herself as “inexperienced and uneducated about how to manage the herd in freezing temperatures.” After all, she started keeping alpacas just the year before.

At this point, there were “so many simple management strategies that I was not aware of,” Borczik Benner says.

Nature didn’t care that she was just learning the ropes.

“We got a cold snap the day after shearing (mid-April) and the girls were freezing,” Borczik Benner says.

Despite her inexperience, she didn’t waste time worrying and got to work.

She sewed her entire herd jackets “out of a Laura Ashley bed comforter.”

“By the grace of God, we all survived (just barely). I’m still learning, but I am facing [winter 2019] a bit older and wiser. I can’t help but shake my head and chuckle looking at these pictures. And somehow they survived, in spite of me.”