

New Products at Hillcreek Fiber Studio:

Loom in a Tube, \$85 Convenient portable metal tapestry loom in a cardboard tube carrying container. The loom is great for small tapestries and beadweaving. Features adjustable height extenders for tightening warp. Two books compliment the loom, \$24.95 each: **Weaving with Knitting Yarn, Weaving with Beads & Yarns Together.**

Harrisville Reed Rack, \$89 Conveniently organizes and holds up to six reeds for floor or rigid heddle looms

FoxFibre colororganic cotton fiber for spinning. We've carried this before but have just restocked all current four colors: white, brown, green, and breeder's mix. We offer each color in 4, 8, and 16 ounce packages, as well as sample packs of all four colors in two sizes, 8 ounces and 16 ounces.

Merchandise Sales:

Alum overstock, 3 to 9 pounds 25% off, 10 or more pounds 40% off

All VHS format videos 50% off

All magazines 2006 or before, 50% off, 2007 & 2008 25% off, including Spin Off, Handwoven, Shuttle Spindle and Dyepot, and Wild Fibers

Estate Yarns: wool, cotton and linen on cones, call for availability — lots

Alpaca fibers 50% off. Lots of colors.

Treadle Trackers 25% off \$19/\$14.25

Natural Dye Aids, what do all those ingredients do?

When customers see all the ingredients listed in our dye brochure we often get the question, "What are all these ingredients for?" so I thought a little explaining might be in order.

Albegal SET: Used with synthetic dyes to help set and level the color on fibers

Alum (Potassium Alum Sulfate): common mineral salt used to hold colors onto protein fibers

Aluminum Acetate: preferred mordant to hold colors onto cellulose fibers

Calcium Carbonate (Chalk): used to help redden madder root, among other uses

Calcium Hydroxide (Lime): used with zinc for indigo vat dyeing on cotton and silk, usually when doing shibori & ikat

Chrome (Potassium Dichromate): mineral salt which dramatically alters colors (i.e., brazilwood red to purple)

Citric Acid Crystals: substitute for Acetic acid 56%, brightens and preserves colors, esp. reds from pH sensitive dyes

Copper Sulfate: mineral salt used to alter color (i.e. certain yellows to green)

Cream of Tartar: by-product of wine making, levels dye take up, counteracts alum and tin astringency on protein fibers

Ferrous Sulfate (iron): mineral salt used to dramatically darken/alter color (i.e. orange to rich brown, red to burgundy)

Gum Tragacanth: thickener to mix with natural dyes for painting

Orvus Paste (Sodium laurel sulfate): pH neutral wash for both protein and cellulose fibers, pure, no additives

Oxalic Acid: lowers pH

Retayne: removes excess dye from cellulose fibers to avoid bleeding of colors, improves wet fastness

Scour: thoroughly cleans and prepares cellulose fibers to more readily accept and hold dye

Sodium Carbonate (Soda Ash): raises pH, used in indigo vat; also used with alum to mordant cellulose fibers

Sodium Hydroxide (lye): strong alkali, raises pH, used with thiox in indigo vat for protein fibers

Sodium Sulfate (Glauber Salts): used to level dye bath

Stannous Chloride (tin): mineral salt which brightens/alters and retains color (i.e. lavender from logwood & elderberries, bright scarlet from cochineal, and screaming yellow from quercitron.)

Thiourea dioxide (Thiox or Spectralite): removes oxygen from indigo dye bath, also using for stripping color

Synthrapol: surfactant (makes water wetter), prepares fibers for dyeing, removes excess dye from protein fibers.

Tannic Acid: used with cotton and other cellulose fibers to help set dyes

Tara Powder: used with cotton or silk to help set dyes, milder than tannic acid

Tartaric Acid: similar to cream of tartar but stronger

Urea granules: used in printing and painting to promote retention of moisture and solubility of the dyes

Zinc: used with lime to balance indigo for shibori and other resist techniques with indigo

Mothproof: natural, permanent, non-toxic, concentrated powder, mothPROOF (not just a repellent), which chemically binds sulfur in protein molecule so moths are not attracted. NOT an insecticide. Can be used in acid dye bath or as separate application.

Check web site, www.hillcreekfiberstudio.com, ask for dye brochure, or call 1-800-874-9328 for more clarification or to order