

Date:
April, 2011

Does It Pay? 3D Wildlife Fencing



“The 3D fence redirected the wildlife around the yard. I feel the fence was definitely cost effective in keeping the wildlife out of the grain bags.”

*Rick Kantz,
Montney, BC*

Objectives

The objectives of this forage fact are to share preliminary information about the costs and benefits of 3 D fencing at the first 4 demonstrations. To refresh our memories, these 4 demos are in cooperation with Rick Kantz, Glenn Hogberg, Bill Wilson and Sandra Burton. More detail can be found in previous Forage Facts (#52 to #55), mailed out to members with the newsletter, or on the forage website (see link below).



The 3 dimensional effect of the wildlife fencing around Bill Wilson's pasture.

Does It Pay? Costs of 3D Wildlife Fencing

3D Fence Construction	Kantz	Hogberg	Burton	Wilson
Type of demo	Grain bag yard	Hay stackyard	Winter feeding	Swath grazing
Size of demo	100' x 120'	155' x 66'	20 ac	160 ac
Cost of posts	\$190	\$140	\$400	\$1000
Hardware costs: wire, insulators, gate handles, corner bracing	\$400	\$300	\$440	\$1000
Use of energizer	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Labour & equipment	\$1400	\$1500	\$2400	\$3500
Total construction cost	\$2190	\$2140	\$3440	\$5700
Cost per ft of 3D fence	\$5.00	\$4.84	\$1.00	\$0.54
Construction cost/ yr (spread over 5 yr)	\$440	\$430	\$690	\$1140

Contacts:

Rick Kantz
(250) 785 1135

Glenn Hogberg
(250) 843 7365

Bill Wilson
(250) 782 2866

Sandra Burton
(250) 789 6885

Julie Robinson
(250) 787 3241

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Assumptions in:**Grain bag calculation:**

\$12/bu for canola
 \$8/bu for wheat
 \$4/bu for feed barley
 250' long grain bags

Stackyard calculation:

\$40/ round bale
 \$4 / round bale trucking
 & unloading

Horse hay calculation:

\$4/ sq bale
 \$0.75/ bale for delivery

*** Note:** Cost here includes only cost of replacing bales not lost opportunity cost of choice of where to winter feed & place manure urine & nutrients or the increased corral cleaning costs.

Does It Pay? Benefits of 3D Wildlife Fencing

Type & Detail of Potential Loss	Kantz	Hogberg	Burton
Type of loss without 3D fence	Grain & grain bags	Cattle feed in hay stackyard	Horse hay bales
Total potential loss	10 bags x 250	150 round bales	200 sq bales
Extent of loss	2.4 bu per ft of bag length	20 - 25 %	20 -30 %
Replacement cost of lost grain (feed barley), lost feed for cattle or horses	\$24,000 per 10 grain bags	\$1200-\$1500	\$160-\$240
Cost of labour, equipment & trucking		\$120-\$150	\$30-\$45
Total benefits of 3D fences per yr	\$24,000	\$1350 - \$1650	\$190-\$285
Compared to total fence cost per yr	\$440	* \$430	* \$690

Assumptions in**Swath grazing calculation:**

300 head of cattle

200 total days winter feeding OR
 150 days swath grazing
 +50 days bale feeding

\$120/ac for inputs to seed & fertilize oats, seeding equipment & land rent

\$0.80/head/day swaths
 \$0.10/head/ day fence

38 lb hay/ head/ day
 \$1.30/head/day bales
 \$0.30/head/day tractor

Type & Detail of Potential Loss**Wilson**

Type of loss without 3D fence	Swath grazing
Total potential loss	300 head x 150 days
Extent of loss	150 days swath grazing
Replacement cost of lost feed or lost opportunity to swath graze oats	\$58,500 (300 hd x \$1.30 x150 days)
Cost of labour, equipment & trucking	\$13,500
Feeding bales for 200 days OR	\$96,000
Swath grazing 150 days + feeding bales 50 days	\$65,500
Total benefits of 3D fences per yr	\$30,500
Total benefits of 3D fence per cow per yr	\$101 per cow
Compared to total fence cost per yr	* \$1140

Compiled by: Sandra Burton in April 2011.

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