

Wildlife Woven Wire Exclusion Fence

Date: September 2012

“ We need to have enough feed for our large cow herd in the winter. Our woven wire wildlife fence is the only way we can protect our bales and wrapped silage.”
~Doug Summers, Hudson Hope

Introduction

Woven wire fencing is commonly seen throughout the Peace Region. The primary use for this type of fencing is to protect stored feed. Due to the increasing number of ungulates over the past 30 years, farmers and ranchers in the Peace Region do not have the opportunity to lower their feeding costs by utilizing different winter feeding strategies. Swath grazing and bale grazing are two of these strategies that cannot be implemented due to the uncertain level of wildlife damage an operation may experience. Many producers know

they would incur severe economic losses if they attempted these.

Stackyards, if maintained properly, are the surest way a farmer or rancher can reduce damage to their feed. Woven wire exclusion fencing has become very popular for stackyards because it provides a physical barrier that can withstand a higher level of pressure. However, it is expensive and is therefore limited to smaller areas like stackyards. Fencing of hundreds of acres with this type of fencing is not feasible in the Peace Region.

Fencing FACTSHEET



Order No. 307.252-1
September 2001
Pages: 7/4

ELK EXCLUSION USING WOVEN WIRE FENCING

This factsheet outlines the use of woven wire to exclude elk in high pressure areas such as feed storage yards. Two designs are outlined with options and cost estimates. Refer to [Factsheet 307.252-2](#) for electric fencing to exclude elk.

Fencing Factsheet No. 307.252-1 (above) from B.C. Ministry Agricultural Fencing Handbook was used as a reference in the creation of this forage fact.

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BC Fencing Handbook
www..agf.gov.bc.ca/resgmt

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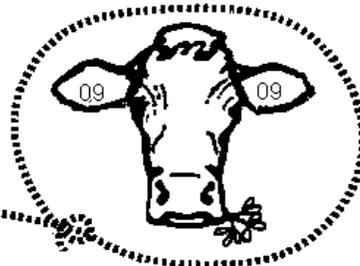
For more Forage Facts visit:

www.peaceforage.bc.ca



Woven wire stackyard picture compliments of Freddy and Liz Schneider

Peace River Forage Association
of British Columbia



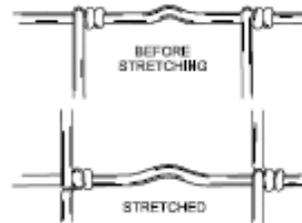
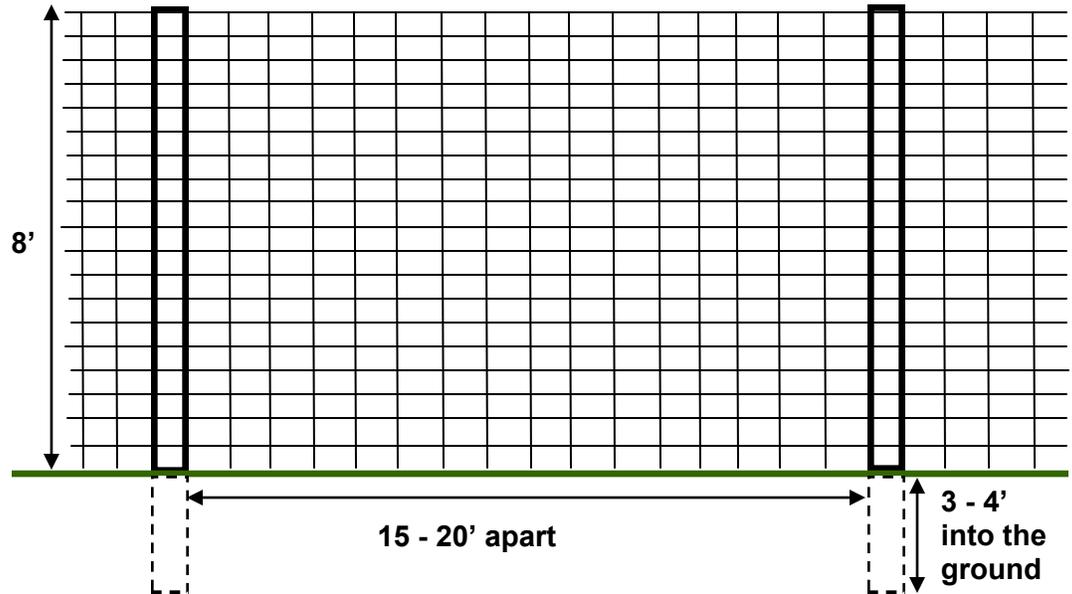
Fencing For Thought

- * Pressure treated posts do not decay as easily and therefore extend the lifetime of the fence.
- * The wire should be flush with the ground so there are no gaps for animals to climb under.
- * When stacking feed inside, do not stack too close to the fence so that wildlife can reach through and eat.
- * When plowing snow, be sure not to pile it next to the fence. If wildlife climb up on the snow piles and can get their head over the top then they will attempt to jump the fence.
- * 4 to 5" means the posts are 4 to 5 inches in diameter.

Design #1 - 8 ft woven wire

Line posts: 4 to 5" by 12' long
 Brace posts: 5 to 6" by 12' long

Wire: 20/96/12 knotted joint



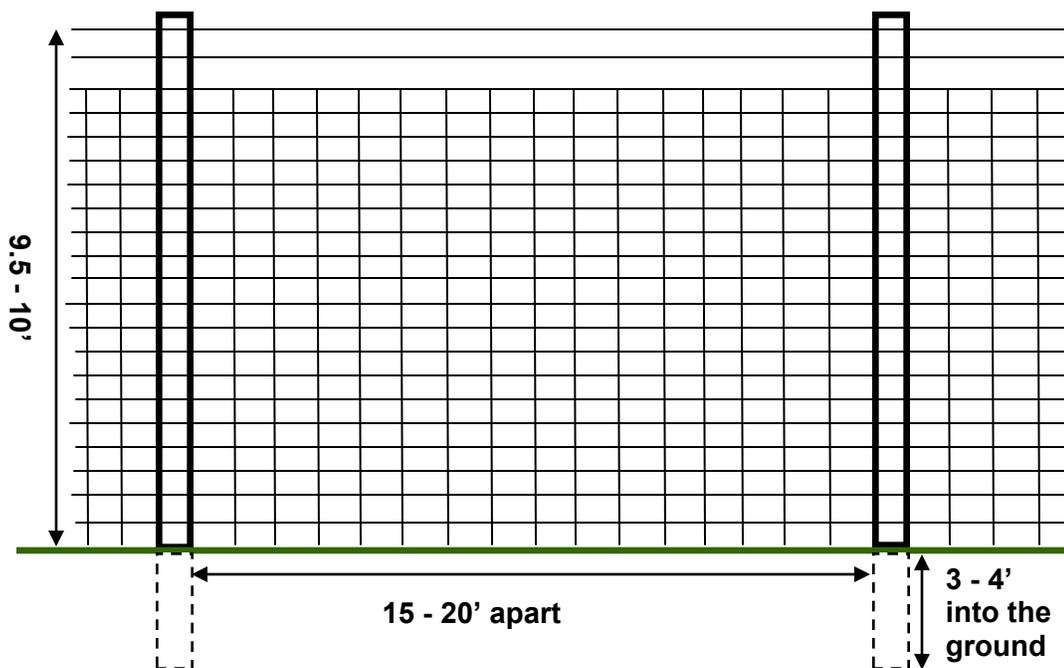
Fencing For Thought

- * Tighten woven wire enough to remove 1/3 to 1/2 of the tension curve (see picture to left).
- * Extra strands of smooth high tensile above woven wire will help deter ungulates from jumping over.
- * Tighten high tensile wires to 200lbs of pressure each.
- * Place wire on ungulate side of the fence (to withstand pressure).
- * When putting in staples, do not pound them tight to the post. Allow room for the wire to move.
- * Pound staples in on an angle (not straight up and down) so that the posts do not split.
- * Extensions on top of posts can be used to increase fence height.

Design #2 - 9.5-10 ft woven wire

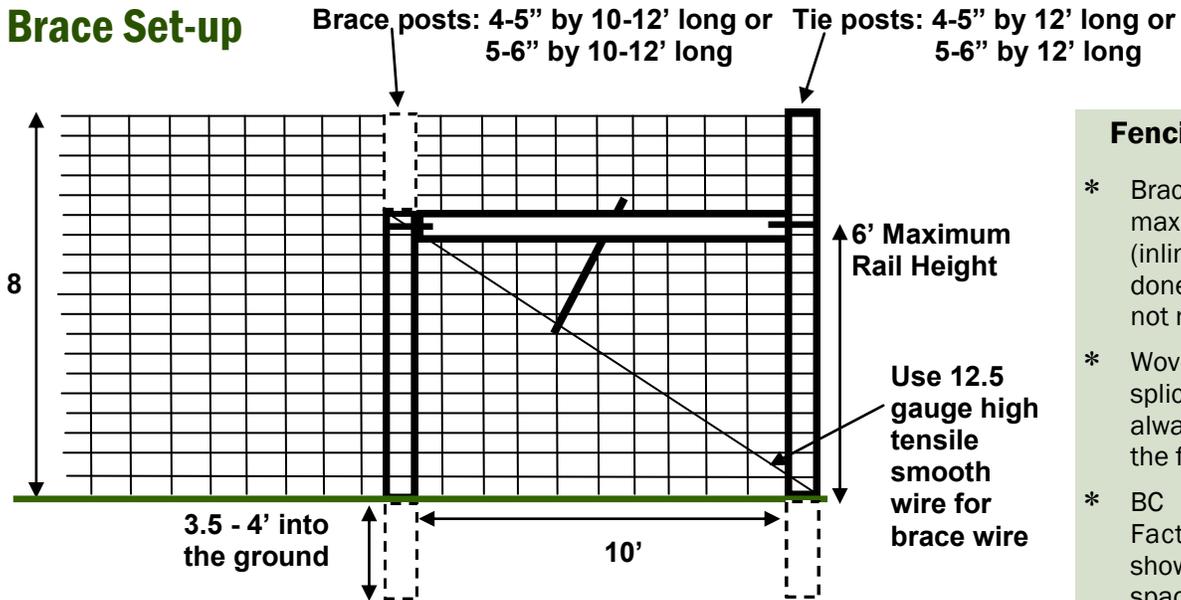
Line posts: 4 to 5" by 12' long
 Brace posts: 5 to 6" by 12' long

Woven wire: 20/96/12 knotted joint
 Wires above: High tensile smooth wire
 2 wires: Space strands 9/9" apart
 3 wires: Space strands 8/8" apart



- * Extensions on top of posts can be used to increase fence height.

Brace Set-up



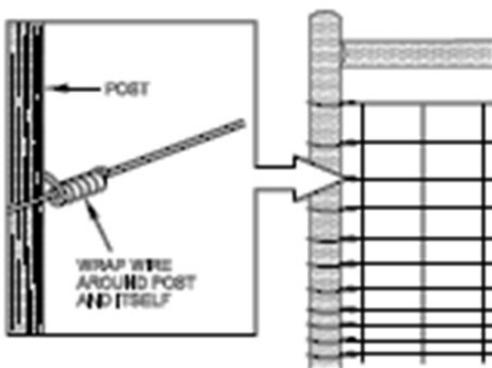
Fencing For Thought

- * Brace posts should be a maximum of 660' apart (inline bracing can be done if a corner brace is not needed).
- * Woven wire is difficult to splice and these will always be weak parts of the fence.
- * BC Agriculture Fencing Factsheet 307.100-1 shows the differences in spacing of knotted joint or hinge joint woven wire.

Splicing Woven Wire Together, Gates & Tying Off Wire

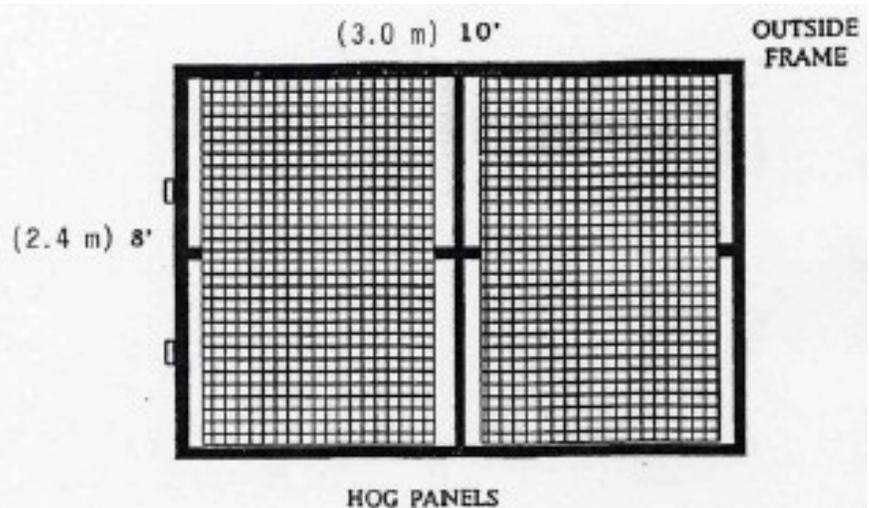


Wrap-splice: Give yourself 4-6" of wire past the end stay. Lay the end wires together and wrap the ends together with pliers



Tying off wire at a brace. Make sure to wrap wire around itself.

Two pictures above are borrowed from Fencing Factsheets 307.252-1



Gates are important to stackyard enclosures as they are frequently opened and closed. These can be built using metal square tubing 1.5" in diameter. The outside frame should be about 10' wide by 8' high. Be sure to add braces horizontally, vertically or diagonally to support the frame.

Then use woven wire and wrap it around the metal tubing. Two gates are needed per entrance as it needs to be wide enough to drive equipment through (20'). Stronger braces may be needed to hold these gates as they are heavy and will sag over time. Hinges can be made with leftover tubing and welded to the gates.

Another option would be to purchase large heavy duty panel gates from a local retail store and wrap woven wire around those. The above picture and information is from "How to Build a Deer or Elk-Proof Fence" by the Saskatchewan Environment Resource Stewardship Branch (see PRFA website).

B.C. Agriculture Fencing Factsheets

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Resource Management Branch

www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt

Linking to our

Publications and Conceptual Plans

http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/publist/Farm_Structures.htm#fencing

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