

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

**FENCE
(Feet)
Code 382**

DEFINITION

A constructed barrier to livestock, wildlife or people.

PURPOSES

This practice may be applied as part of a conservation management system to facilitate the application of conservation practices that treat the soil, water, air, plant animal and human resource concerns. Such practices may involve:

- Grazing paddocks.
- Livestock or wildlife confinement.
- Deferred grazing.
- Protection of water bodies.
- Limiting access.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice may be applied on any area where livestock and/or wildlife control is needed, or where access to people is to be regulated. Fences are not needed where natural barriers will serve the purpose.

CRITERIA

Fencing materials shall be of a high quality and durability, and the construction performed to meet the intended management objectives.

Living fences are encouraged when appropriate, to provide connectivity, diversity or for agro-

forestry practices. Table 1 provides the tree species for living fences.

Fences shall be positioned to facilitate management requirements.

Standard or conventional (barbed or smooth wire), suspension, woven wire, or electric fences shall consist of acceptable fencing designs to control the animal(s) or people of concern and meet the intended life of the practice. See figure Fences – Sketch Drawing for additional information and layout.

Wire

Barbed wire shall be standard galvanized double strand 12½ gauge with a minimum of 3 wires evenly spaced. Use of 15½ gauge double strand is authorized with a minimum of 4 wires evenly spaced.

Height, number, and spacing of wires will be installed to facilitate control and management of the animal(s) and people of concern.

Post

Height, size, spacing and type of posts will be used that best provide the needs for the style of fence required and is best suited for the topography of the landscape. Wooden post should be a minimum of 2½ inches in diameter. Metal posts shall be T or U section. They will have an anchor plate and be studded, embossed, or punched for wire attachment. Metal post will be galvanized, enameled, or painted with weather resistant steel paint.

Conservation practice standards are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact your Natural Resources Conservation Service State Office.

CONSIDERATIONS

Consider installing fences in locations that will facilitate maintenance avoiding irregular terrain and/or water crossings whenever possible.

Consider wildlife movement needs when locating fences.

Consider livestock management, handling, watering and feeding when locating fences.

Boundary fences shall comply with state laws and standards for construction.

Where applicable, clear right-of-ways will be established which would facilitate fence construction and maintenance.

Consider soil erosion potential when planning and constructing a fence on steep slopes.

See Table 1. Tree species suitable for living posts in the Caribbean Area.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Plans and specifications are to be prepared for specific field sites based on the NRCS National and State Fence Standards and appropriate state or local statutes or laws.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Regular inspection of fences should be part of an on-going management program. Inspection of fences after storm events is needed to facilitate the function of the intended use of the fence.

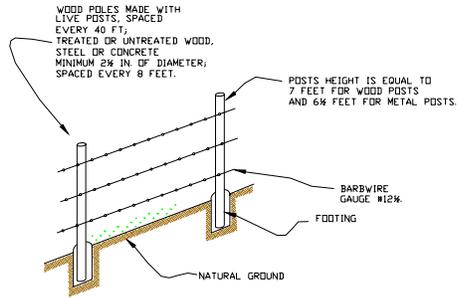
Maintenance and repairs will be performed as needed to facilitate the intended operation of the installed fence.

Table 1. Tree Species Suitable for Living Fence Posts in the Caribbean Area

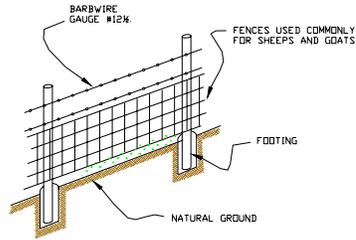
Common Local Name	Technical Name	Humid lowland and upland	Semiarid lowland and upland
Abeyuelo	<i>Colubrina arborescens</i>		
Achiotillo	<i>Alchornea latifolia</i>		
Almacigo	<i>Bursera simaruba</i>	x	x
Bariaco	<i>Keugiodendron ferreum</i>		
Bayahonda	<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>		
Bucaré	<i>Erytrina glauca</i>	x	
Burro prieto	<i>Capparis cynophallophora</i>		
Caña fístula	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	x	
Canelón	<i>Ocotea cuneata</i>		
Capa colorado	<i>Cordia nitida</i>	xx	
Ciruela del país	<i>Spondia purpurea</i>	x	x
Cojoba	<i>Pithecellobium arboreum</i>		
Emajagua	<i>Hibiscus pernambucensis</i>	x	
Emajaguilla	<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	x	
Espino rubial	<i>Zanthophyllum martinicense</i>	x	x
Guaba	<i>Inga vera</i>		
Guacima	<i>Guazuma ulmifolia</i>		
Guama americano	<i>Pithecellobium dulce</i>	x	x
Guara	<i>Cupania americana</i>		
Guaraguao	<i>Guarea trichilioides</i>		
Higuerillo	<i>Vitex divaricata</i>		
Higuero	<i>Crescentia spp.</i>		x
Jaguey blanco	<i>Ficus laevigata</i>	x	x
Jobo (Hogplum)	<i>Sondias mombin</i>	X	x
Laurel geo	<i>Ocotea leucoxydon</i>		
Mabí	<i>Colubrina reclinata</i>		x
Machete (Bucayo)	<i>Erytrina berteriana</i>	x	
Mata ratón (Mother of Cacao)	<i>Gliricidia sepium</i>	x	x
Moca	<i>Andira inermis</i>	x	
Pendula	<i>Citharexylum fruticosum</i>	x	x
Retama	<i>Lonchocarpus latifolius</i>		x
Roble blanco	<i>Tabebuia hetreophylla</i>	x	x
Sauce (Humboldt's Willow)	<i>Salix humboldtiana</i>	x	
Tachuelo	<i>Pictetia aculeata</i>		x
Tinacio	<i>Trichilia hirta</i>		
Ucar	<i>Bucida buceras</i>	x	x

FENCES - SKETCH DRAWING

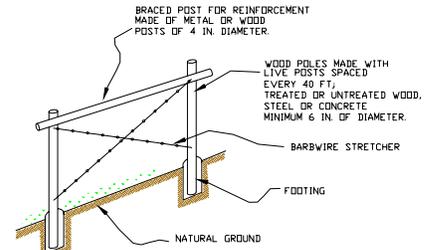
NOT TO SCALE



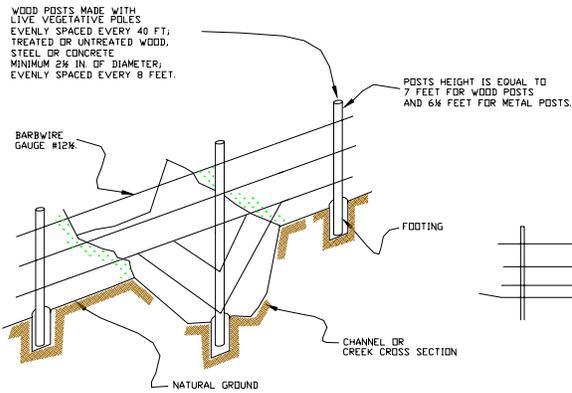
FENCE OF BARBWIRES & POSTS



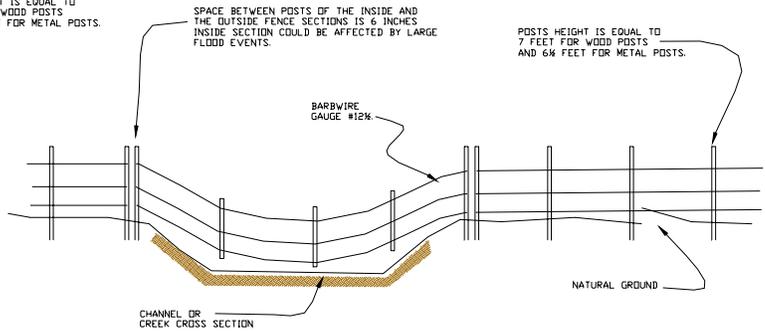
FENCE FOR SHEEPS AND GOATS



REINFORCEMENT FOR FENCE CORNERS AND GATES



FENCE ACROSS NARROW STREAMS, INTERMITTENT OR SHALLOW FLOW



FENCE ACROSS WIDE STREAMS