CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION

MI-170. FENCES

1. SCOPE

The work shall consist of furnishing and installing high tensile, barbed wire or woven wire fences, including gates and fittings, as shown on the drawings.

2. MATERIALS

Materials for fences shall conform to the requirements shown on the drawings. Minimum net retention of chromated copper arsenate (CCA) or alkaline copper quat (ACQ) for wood fence posts shall be 0.40 pounds per cubic foot.

3. SETTING POSTS

Wood posts shall be set in holes and backfilled with tamped earth or shall be driven unless otherwise specified. Steel and fiberglass posts shall be driven unless otherwise specified.

Post holes shall be at least 6 inches larger than the maximum diameter or side dimension of the posts. Earth backfill around posts shall be thoroughly tamped in layers not thicker than 4 inches and shall completely fill the post hole up to the ground surface. Concrete backfill around posts shall be rodded into place in layers not thicker than 12 inches and shall completely fill the post hole up to the ground surface. Backfill, either earth or concrete, shall be crowned up around posts at the ground surface.

No stress shall be applied to posts set in concrete until at least 24 hours after the concrete has set.

4. PULL POST ASSEMBLY

Unless otherwise specified by the NRCS inspector, pull post assemblies shall be installed at the beginning and end of each horizontal curve and at points where upward vertical changes between adjacent reaches of wire exceeds 15% or 8.5 degrees.

5. ATTACHING WIRE FENCING TO POSTS

The fencing shall be stretched and attached to posts as follows:

a. The wire shall be placed on the livestock holding area side of the post or opposite the area being protected, except on curves and corners. The fencing shall be placed on the outside of the post on curves and corners (The tension of the fencing should work against the post rather than the fastener).

b. The fencing shall be fastened to each end post, corner post and pull post by wrapping each horizontal strand around the post and tying it back on itself with not less than three tightly wound wraps, or with a minimum of 2 splice sleeves per horizontal strand.

c. The fencing shall be fastened to steel, fiberglass, or concrete line posts with either two turns of l4 gage galvanized steel or iron wire or the post manufacturer's special wire fasteners.

d. Wire shall be spliced by means of a Western Union splice or by suitable splice sleeves applied with a tool designed for the purpose. The Western Union splice shall have not less than 8 wraps of each end about the other. All wraps shall be tightly wound and closely spaced. Splices made with splice sleeves shall have a tensile strength not less than 80 percent of the strength of the wire.

6. STAYS

Stays shall be used when post spacing exceeds 50 feet. Stays shall be attached to wire fencing in a manner to insure maintenance of the proper spacing of the fence wire strands.