



Fencing

Conservation Practice Job Sheet

(Code 382)

Ohio - Natural Resources Conservation Service

June 2008

For:	Farm #:
Field(s):	Tract #:
Conservation Plan Developed by:	Date:

Definition

A permanent constructed barrier to animals or people.

Purposes (check all that apply)

- exclude livestock from areas that should be protected from grazing
- control livestock where permanent fencing is installed as a component of a rotational grazing system
- confine livestock on an area
- control domestic livestock while permitting wildlife movement
- regulate access to areas by people, to prevent trespassing, or for purposes of safety

Condition where practice applies:

This practice applies to sites or areas 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 service the purpose. This standard applies to permanent fencing with a minimum functional design life of 20 years. This standard does not include portable fencing described in the prescribed grazing standard.

Criteria:

- Fencing shall consist of acceptable fencing designs to control the animal(s) or people of concern and will
- meet the intended life of the practice.
- Property line fence shall comply with State laws and standards for construction.
- Fencing materials shall be of a high quality and durability, and the construction performed to meet the intended management objectives.
- Fences shall be positioned to facilitate management requirements.
- Material used shall be new and have a 20 year life expectancy.

Considerations

- Consider installing fences in locations that will facilitate maintenance, avoiding irregular terrain such as gullies and/or water crossings. Fence should be installed at least eight feet from wooded areas.
- Consider wildlife movement needs when locating fences.
- Consider livestock management, handling, watering, and feeding when locating fences.
- Where applicable, clear right-of-ways will be established which facilitate fence construction and maintenance.
- Consider soil erosion potential when planning and constructing a fence on steep slopes.
- Consider raising lower wire of fences located in the floodplain.

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Safety:

Underground utilities are a hazard on most Ohio farms. The Ohio Revised Code Sections 3781.25 to 3781.32 outline individual responsibilities for contacting the owners of the underground utilities prior to any proposed excavation. You and your contractor need to call the two organizations listed below at least 48 hours, but not more than 10 days, prior to starting excavation. This requirement applies even if you expect to drive your posts into the ground rather than dig them into the ground.

Please Call Both Underground Protection Services Prior to Excavation:

Ohio Underground Utility Protection Service

1-800-362-2764

Reference Number _____ Date _____

Oil & Gas Producers Underground Protection Service

1-800-925-0988

Reference Number _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:

- The fence should have a minimum life-span of twenty years with minimal maintenance. Routine inspections of the fence should be part of an on-going management system.
- Inspection of the fence after storm events is needed to facilitate the proper function of the fence. Overhanging trees and limbs should be trimmed or removed as needed. Fallen trees and limbs should be removed immediately.
- Maintain proper tension on all wires. Repair or replace any broken wire, in-line strainers or other tensioning devices.
- Maintain proper spacing on fence wires. Refer to original plan for appropriate spacing.
- Clear brush from all fence lines regularly. Vegetative control may be accomplished by mowing techniques or by using herbicides applied per the manufacturer's label.
- Electric fences will be checked regularly to determine the voltage on the fence. If the voltage is not sufficient, determine the cause and correct the problem. During extended dry periods, the ground rods may need water applied to the soil around them.
- Flood gates must be maintained and kept clear of debris. During extended flooding periods, switch electrified gates off.
- Safety during construction is an ever present concern. Wire that is over-stretched may break and recoil. Hand and eye protection should be worn during all fence construction and repair.

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Sketch of Planned Fence Installation



FIELD NUMBER	TYPE OF FENCE	PLANNED FOOTAGE	AS-BUILT FOOTAGE	AS-BUILT DONE BY & DATE

Note: The producer shall verify the footages shown above and contact their NRCS representative if there are errors or discrepancies prior to starting construction.

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