

RI NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD FENCE (382)

Table 1. Fence Selection Criteria

Fence design and construction must meet the minimum requirements for controlling specific animal types.

Animal type to control	Fence type	Purpose of Fence					Spacing Inches above ground level <small>ww fences start 2-3 " above the ground</small>	Line posts & Stay (maximum spacing)		
		Perimeter (boundary) prohibited areas	Access lanes & stream crossings	Interior subdivision	Stream exclusion	Perimeter with Predator Control		post w/o stay	post with stay	Stay spacing
		Minimum Criteria					Inches	Feet		
Cattle	Non-Electric 3-wire high tensile smooth	NO	Meets	Meets	Meets	NO	12 to 42 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Cattle	Non-Electric 4-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	NO	12 to 42 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Cattle	Non-Electric 5-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	NO	12 to 42 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Cattle	Non-Electric 6-wire high tensile smooth	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	6 to 44 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Cattle	Non-Electric 8-wire high tensile smooth	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	6 to 44 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Cattle	Electric 1-wire high tensile smooth	NO	NO	Meets	NO	NO	32	50	na	na
Cattle	Electric 2-wire high tensile smooth	NO	Meets	Meets	NO	NO	20, 32	50	100	25
Cattle	Electric 3-wire high tensile smooth	NO	Meets	Meets	Meets	NO	18, 30, 42	50	100	25
Cattle	Electric 4-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	NO	12 to 42 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Cattle	Electric 5-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	12 to 44 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Cattle	Electric 1-wire Polywire - temporary	NO	NO	Meets	NO	NO	32	25	na	25
Cattle	Electric 2-wire Polywire - temporary	NO	Meets	Meets	NO	NO	20, 32	25	na	25
Cattle	Electric 2-wire Polywire - semi - permanent	NO	Meets	Meets	NO	NO	20, 32	50	100	25
Goats & sheep	Non-Electric 5-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	NO	Meets	Meets	NO	6 to 32 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Goats & sheep	Non-Electric 6-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	6 to 36 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Goats & sheep	Non-Electric 7-wire high tensile smooth	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	6 to 42 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Goats & sheep	Electric 3-wire high tensile smooth	NO	NO	Meets	Meets	NO	8, 18, 30	50	100	25
Goats & sheep	Electric 4-wire high tensile smooth	NO	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	NO	6 to 36 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Goats & sheep	Electric 5-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	6 to 38 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Goats & sheep	Woven wire plus one or more top wire	Meets	Meets/NO	Meets	Meets	Meets	32 min, 6" max between top wires	16.5	na	na
Goats & sheep	Temporary electric netting	NO	NO	Meets	NO	NO	32 min, netting - 9" horizontal x 12"	na	na	12.5
Hogs	Electric 2-wire high tensile smooth	NO	NO	Meets	NO	NO	8, 16	20	30	15
Hogs	Electric 3-wire high tensile smooth	NO	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	NO	8, 16, 24	20	30	15
Hogs	Woven wire 32" w/ 1 HT wire	Meets	Meets/NO	Meets	Meets	Meets	32 + barb or HT at 38	16.5	na	na
Hogs	Woven wire 32" w/ 1 Ht electric inside	Meets	Meets/NO	Meets	Meets	Meets	32 + 1 electric wire 8 off ground, 8 inside of fence.	16.5	na	na

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		Perimeter (boundary) prohibited areas	Access lanes & stream crossings	Interior subdivision	Stream exclusion	Perimeter with Predator Control		post w/o stay	post with stay	Stay spacing
		Minimum Criteria					Inches	Feet		
Horses	Electric 2-wire high tensile smooth	NO	Meets	Meets	Meets	NO	28, 38	50	100	25
Horses	Electric 3-wire high tensile smooth	NO	Meets	Meets	Meets	NO	28, 38, 48	50	100	25
Horses	Electric 4-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	NO	18 to 54 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Horses	Electric 5-wire high tensile smooth	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	NO	18 to 54 evenly spaced	50	100	25
Horses	Electric 1-wire Polywire or Polytape (temp)	NO	NO	Meets	NO	NO	34	na	na	25
Horses	Electric 2-wire Polywire or Polytape (temp)	NO	Meets	Meets	Meets	NO	28, 48	na	na	25
Horses	Woven wire w/1 wire HT on top	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	48 + HT at 54	16.5	na	na
Horses	Wood or Composition boards (6" wide)	Meets	Meets	Meets	Meets	NO	4 boards with 5", 6", 8" and 10" spacing	8	na	na
Wildlife	Woven wire 96" tall w/2 strands of smooth HT	Meets	NO	NO	NO	Meets	6" w/smooth wire at 9' and 10'	12	na	na
Buffalo	Electric 4-wire high tensile smooth	NO	NO	Meets	Meets	NO	16 to 42 evenly spaced	30	90	15
Buffalo	Electric 5-wire high tensile smooth	NO	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	NO	16 to 48 evenly spaced	30	90	15
Buffalo	Electric 6-wire high tensile smooth	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	12 to 52 evenly spaced	30	90	15
Chickens/turkey	Woven wire 2"x4" 1 wire HT above	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	72	16.5	na	na
Emu and ostrich	Woven wire 6"x6" 1 wire HT above	Meets	Exceeds	Exceeds	Exceeds	Meets	72	16.5	na	na
People	Chain link	Meets	Preferred option				60 with 1 HT above	8	na	na
People	Electric 5-wire	Meets					12 to 60 evenly spaced	50	100	25
People	Woven wire 47 inch plus 1 or 2 HT wires	Meets					47 min. HT at 6" spacing to 48.	16.5	na	na

Alternative fencing and bracing systems may be approved by the Resource Conservationist, i.e. *common sense fence, horseguard or equivalent.*