



Agricultural Engineering Update



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COSTS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIERS FOR HIGH TENSILE WIRE FENCING

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There is increasing interest in the use of high tensile fencing because of its longer life and lower cost than conventional woven wire fence. Originally introduced to this country from Australia and New Zealand, high tensile fence is proving to be quite adaptable for use in intensive grazing management systems.

Figure 1 shows the cost comparison for high tensile fence, both electric and non-electric, to conventional woven wire, barb wire and portable electric fence. For example, the eight-wire high tensile fence cost is about 2/3 that of woven wire and it requires less labor. High tensile fence has an expected life of about 30 years as compared to 20 years for woven wire and the annual maintenance is about 1/3 to 1/2 that of woven wire fence.

Construction of high tensile fence is no more difficult than for woven wire fence. Proper tensioning of the wire is important, with 200-250 pounds of tension desired. This means that well braced corner and end posts are necessary. Line posts may be smaller and may be spaced 25-50' apart, mainly serving to hold up the wire. Wires are run from a spool either one at a time or by using a multi-wire fencer.

More information about high tensile non-electric and electric fence construction is available in a publication called "High Tensile Wire Fencing". You may ask your County Agriculture Agent or write directly to the U.K. Agricultural Engineering Department and ask for NRAES-11, enclosing \$1.00 to cover the cost of the bulletin.

FENCING COST COMPARISON

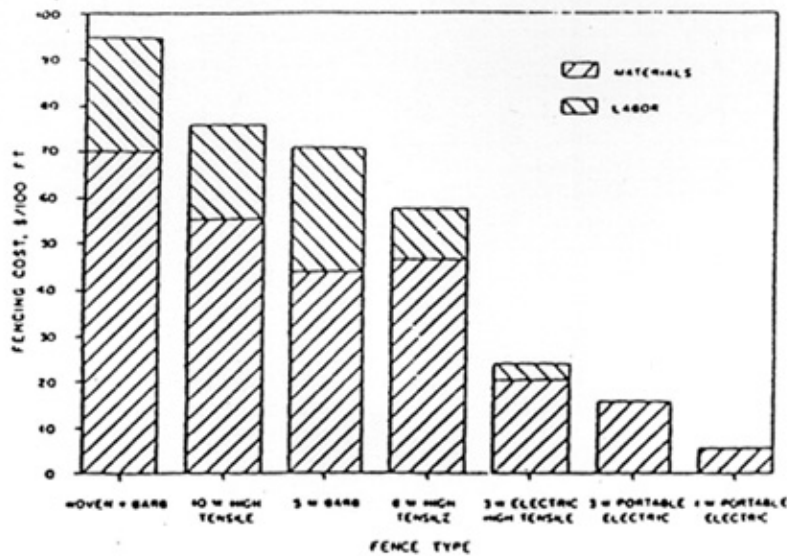


FIGURE 1: Comparison of Fencing Labor and Materials Costs by Fence Type.

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<u>FIRM NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE</u>
The Country Seed Cleaner, Inc. Route 2 Bluegrass Road Danville, KY 40422	Dr. Hudson Glimp or Clifton Rodes 606/236-4800
Kencove Fencing Co. Route 1 Box 111 Blairsville, PA 15717	Charles Kendall 800/245-6902
Lifetime Fence Co. Route 3 New Concord, OH 43762	Dave Dailey 614/826-7379
Premeir Sheep Supplies, Ltd. Route 1 Box 159 Washington, Iowa 52353	Stan Potratz 319/653-3128
Snell Systems, Inc. Breeders Supply 1060 West High Street Lexington, KY 40508	John Spencer 606/266-3964
Waterford Corporation P.O. Box 1513 1449 Riverside Ft. Collins, CO 80522	James C. Stauffer, Jr. 303/482-0911
West Virginia Fence Corp. U.S. Rt. 219 Lindsay, WV 25951	William J. Sears 304/753-4387