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Fencing is an essential component of livestock management, for the demarcation of boundaries, improved appearance and security.

On a farm, as the number of domesticated animals increase, farmers ought to ensure that herds or flocks are well kept and do not disturb neighboring farms.

Fencing as a good practice in livestock management

- In the past cattle, goats and sheep herding was regarded as the best way of controlling livestock, but nowadays paddocking though fencing is used to minimize constant contact with livestock.
- Fencing makes herding much easier as [one camp can be used at a time](#) and this further promotes successful growth of vegetation in the [rangeland](#).
- Animals can be easily rounded, as a farmer knows exactly where the herd was left, unlike having to look for animals that got lost from the herd.
- Effective for disease control, as immediate isolation of sick animals in a herd can be easily done.
- Breeding herds can be isolated from none breeding stock, especially among stud breeders, in order to avoid inbreeding of closely related animals.



Demarcation of boundaries

- Reduces strife between neighbors and families residing in the same area, as one knows the borders of their farm. In simple terms a farmer may chop down trees within a specified area without trespassing on other people's territory.

Improve appearance

- Uniformity of portions of land owned reduces tension among people in an area, which also entails equal grazing or farming land.

Enforce security

- Fencing protects one's property from damage by both humans and animals. The owner and family have access to that area.
- Fencing restricts access to one's territory by domestic animals such as cattle, sheep or goats that can graze on cultivated fields.
- It also ensures the safety of animals, which are less prone [to be stolen](#) and less exposed to wildlife animals.

Types of fencing in livestock farms

Wire fences

- Simple wire that is woven in different sizes is ideal for sheep, goats, pigs and chickens.
- It is cost-effective.
- Barbed wire fences are sometimes used to demarcate paddocks on a farm and may be dangerous to animals, as they can get injured when in contact with it and if inappropriately handled can rip of clothes



The importance of fencing on a farm

and injuries on farm employees as well.

Wood fences

- Traditionally used type of fencing.
- Very cheap and easy to set up but not durable for a longer period of time.
- Can be used with simple wire during setup.

Hedges

- Live fence and is very cheap and appears lovely when neatly cut.
- Arduous to plant in a large area.
- Hedges encourage successive growth of weeds and may attract vermin.

No-fence control technologies

- Commonly referred to as No-fence because a farmer does not need to fence off the paddocks because the animals can be remotely tracked.
- Stealthy being introduced around the world, these systems make use of an application (APP) and a [GPS device](#) usually in the form of a collar or a tag to be placed on the animal. The GPS will locate the animal directly on the farmer's smartphone or computer.
- Despite the cost involved it is quite efficient and a good investment for commercial farmers.

In conclusion, fencing on a farm is vital for the farmers' property and helps keeping the animals in a controlled area. Therefore, any of the above described means of fencing can be used to ensure security.

References



The importance of fencing on a farm

[Farm structures ... - Ch13 External facilities: Vehicle access to farmsteads-Fencing-Types of fences-Fencing accessories](#)

[6 Options For Farm Fences](#)

https://www.jstor.org/stable/212356?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents

[What fencing is best for livestock? December 9th, 2017](#)

[GPS system allows farmers to manage livestock without fences](#)