

FENCING IS KEY

Wild deer, including fallow, rusa, red, sambar and chital deer, are an expanding group of pest species in areas of Australia.

Feral deer impacts include grazing competition, crop and fencing damage, and livestock injuries and disease.

In natural landscapes, feral deer are causing significant damage to biodiversity; aiding erosion by eating out ground cover species; and ringbarking native trees.

A well designed, constructed and maintained feral deer exclusion fence can be an effective method of protecting agriculture and conservation from feral deer impacts and other invasive species.

A typical cost-effective deer exclusion fence is above 1500mm to discourage jumping and electrified to deter deer pushing through.

When evaluating the type of exclusion fence required for your property, consider if continued movement of native animals is important.



A Westonfence™ plain wire fence with every second wire electrified has been successfully used by many producers in their endeavours to exclude feral deer.

The main advantages of plain wire electric fencing includes:

- comparatively low cost compared to other fencing methods;
- more easily erected, especially in hilly and heavily vegetated areas where the fence line has to accommodate uneven ground;
- less risk to the entire fence in a flood



Westonfence™ System

SECURING THE PERIMETER

A good exclusion fence suitable for deer and other invasive species that like to jump



Westonfence[™] D10 Exclusion = 10 Wire: 4 x Live + 6 x Earth

One recommendation for feral deer exclusion uses the Westonfence™ Exclusion Post which is 1650 mm in length.

The height of the Westonfence™ Exclusion Post acts as a deterrent and is just high enough to make a deer uncertain about jumping it.

Even though deer can jump high, they won't risk jumping a fence they're uncertain about ... or escape quickly if threatened.

As with all Westonfence™ Droppers ... wires are spaced closer together "down low" at the main point of impact to prevent animals trying to push through the fence.

Every second wire is electrified to create a stong, electrified barrier that'll "zap" any animal trying to push through.

We recommend placing the steel posts at 10m apart with droppers at 3.3m spacings.

Remember, electric fencing is a physical and psychological barrier that relies on feral deer learning that touching the fence is dangerous.



Deer exclusion fence in Bunyip State Park

Prior to the exclusion fence the deer were using the fern gully as a highway to travel from the Bunyip State Park to grass pastures. There was massive trampling of the ferns and mosses and the epiphytic orchids were being knocked from the shrubs. I feel that the fern gully is recovering quite well.

- Alan Forte, Cannibal Creek Landcare Group

Check your electric fence regularly to make sure it is working correctly and spray vegetation along the fence line to ensure the fence is performing to its optimal level.

Regular checks and maintenance are key to ensuring total exclusion from native and invasive species. However, maintenance is minimal with the Westonfence™ system compared to other fencing systems.

The Westonfence™ system is adaptable to suit your specific farming enterprise depending on what you're trying to keep in ... and the invasive species you need to keep out.

For more information, alternative designs or quote, please get in touch.

