

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF VANSCOY

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INFORMATION ONLY

Agricultural fences play a crucial role in:

Livestock Management: Well-designed fences are essential for controlling the movement of livestock, preventing grazing in restricted areas, and minimizing the risk of animal-related accidents.

Please see the below for information from *The Stray Animals Act & Regulations* defining a lawful fence and the minimum requirements for a lawful fence.

The Stray Animals Act

Interpretation

2(g) “lawful fence” means, subject to section 29, a fence constructed and maintained in the manner prescribed in the regulations (*The Stray Animals Regulations, 1999*)

Lawful fence

29(1) Notwithstanding clause 2(g), any fence enclosing property shall be deemed to be a lawful fence if it is established that an animal broke through or passed over or under any part thereof that is a lawful fence, although any other part or parts thereof may not be lawful.

(2) The onus of establishing that a fence is lawful under subsection (1) shall be on the proprietor.

The Stray Animals Regulations, 1999

Lawful fences

18(1) In this section, “**Table 2**” means Table 2 in Part I of the Appendix.

(2) Subject to section 29 of the Act, subsection (3) and sections 19 and 20 of these regulations, a fence must meet the minimum requirements for a lawful fence as set out in subsection (3) and Table 2.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2):

(a) the minimum requirements for a lawful fence are to be determined based on the class of animals for which the lawful fence is to be used; and

(b) the minimum requirements for a lawful fence for a class of animals mentioned in Column 2 of Table 2 are the requirements set out in Column 3 for that class of animals.

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TABLE 2
[Section 18]

Lawful Fences

<i>Column 1</i> Item Number	<i>Column 2</i> Class of Animals	<i>Column 3</i> Minimum Requirements for Lawful Fence
1	cattle	either: (a) three or more barbed or high tensile wire strands secured to substantial posts that are not more than 20 metres apart, the wire being fastened to droppers not more than five metres apart, and the strands of wire being 35 to 40 centimetres apart, with the lowest strand being 35 to 40 centimetres from the ground; or (b) three or more barbed or high tensile wire strands secured to substantial posts that are not more than 7.5 metres apart, the strands of wire being 30 to 35 centimetres apart, with the lowest strand being not more than 30 to 35 centimetres from the ground;
2	bison	five or more barbed or high tensile wire strands secured to substantial posts that are not more than 7.5 metres apart, the strands of wire being 30 to 35 centimetres apart, with the lowest strand being not more than 30 to 35 centimetres from the ground;
3	llama and alpaca	four or more barbed or high tensile wire strands secured to substantial posts that are not more than 7.5 metres apart, the strands of wire being 30 to 35 centimetres apart, with the lowest strand being not more than 30 to 35 centimetres from the ground;
4	goats	woven wire not less than 1.5 metres high, secured to posts not more than five metres apart;
5	horses	either: (a) two strands of barbed wire, one strand at chest height of a mature horse and the other strand at half distance between the top strand and the ground; or (b) a single strand of electric wire at a height equal to the top of a horse's front leg;
6	domestic sheep	one of the following: (a) woven wire not less than 1.1 metres high; (b) four strands of electric wire, evenly spaced not less than 1.1 metres high with the lowest strand being not more than 10 centimetres from the ground; (c) woven wire and one strand of electric wire or high tensile wire not less than 1.1 metres high;

<i>Column 1 Item Number</i>	<i>Column 2 Class of Animals</i>	<i>Column 3 Minimum Requirements for Lawful Fence</i>
7	swine other than wild boar and their hybrids	either: (a) woven wire that is at least 1.2 metres high, buried in the ground 45 centimetres down, with the wire being secured to posts not more than five metres apart; or (b) three strands of electric wire with the lowest strand being between 10 to 15 centimetres from the ground and the top strand being not less than 60 centimetres high and secured to posts not more than five metres apart;
8	swine that is wild boar, including hybrids	one of the following: (a) woven wire that is: (i) at least 1.2 metres high; (ii) buried in the ground 45 centimetres down, with the wire being secured to posts not more than five metres apart; and (iii) supplemented by electric wire that is 10 to 15 centimetres from the ground and secured to posts not more than five metres apart; (b) woven wire that is: (i) at least 1.2 metres high; (ii) flush with the ground, with the wire anchored to the ground every 1.8 metres, and with the wire being secured to posts not more than five metres apart; and (iii) supplemented by electric wire that is 10 to 15 centimetres from the ground and secured to posts not more than five metres apart; (c) woven wire that is: (i) at least 1.2 metres high; (ii) double fenced, with a distance between fences that is not less than 1.2 metres and not more than five metres, with the wire for each fence being secured to posts not more than five metres apart; and (iii) supplemented by electric wire that is 10 to 15 centimetres from the ground and secured to posts on the inside fence not more than five metres apart;
9	emu	woven wire 1.5 metres high, secured to posts not more than five metres apart, and anchored at the top and bottom with a tension wire;
10	ostrich	woven wire 1.8 metres high, secured to posts not more than five metres apart, and anchored at the top and bottom with a tension wire;

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<i>Column 1 Item Number</i>	<i>Column 2 Class of Animals</i>	<i>Column 3 Minimum Requirements for Lawful Fence</i>
11	rhea	woven wire 1.5 metres high, secured to posts not more than five metres apart, and anchored at the top and bottom with a tension wire;
12	the species and interspecies hybrids of mule deer and white-tailed deer	an enclosure at least 2.44 metres high;
13	bighorn, American thinhorn or mouflon sheep	an enclosure of 2.1 metres high;
14	domestic game farm animals other than those mentioned in items 12 and 13	an enclosure at least 2.1 metres high;
15	fur animals	an enclosure in accordance with <i>The Fur Farming Regulations</i> ;