

Positive News

Most farmers are happy with the past year. The weather was a bit of a mixed bag, and until November there was no shortage of feed. However, for some - e.g. Central Hawke's Bay farmers - the dry conditions have been a challenge.

Change of Season

During the day, temperatures are still around the mid 20ies; however, autumn is not far away if not to say around the corner. Getting ready for winter is certainly on the "To Do List". This, of course, includes checking the status of the electric fencing system. What does that entail?

General Observations

Whenever you notice that you have a drop in power on the fence, find out why. You know from experience what the voltage on your fence should be during sunny and rainy days. If anything changes, check it out! This method makes sure that the number of faults does not increase. The more faults you have on your electric fence the more difficult it is to find them. Here are a few hints how to do a basic test of your fence.

- **Voltmeter / Fault Finder**

*Make sure that the battery of the voltmeter / **Fence Doctor** is fully charged, i.e. around 9.5 V*

- **Energiser**

*Disconnect both the positive and the negative leads from the energiser and measure the voltage with your voltmeter at the energiser. In case you are using a fault finder e.g. our **Fence Doctor**, only disconnect the positive connection and measure the voltage at the positive port. In both cases your voltage should be around 7 – 9 kV. For smaller solar energisers it will be somewhat lower i.e. between 5.5 and 7 kV.*

- **Grounding System**

*Take your voltmeter, push the earth into the ground and touch the last earth rod with the positive contact of the voltmeter. In wet conditions you should not have any reading on your voltmeter; in dry conditions this may creep up to 200 - 400 V depending on the size of the energiser. If it exceeds this number, you require another earth rod. Do the same check on all your earth rods which, as you know, should be in a straight line and at least 3 meters apart. If you are using the **Fence Doctor** just touch the earth with the top of the fault finder. Make sure that the wire connecting the earth rods is clamped to the rods to avoid corrosion.*

- **Fence**

If the energiser and the grounding system are okay proceed to check the fence. Disconnect the lead-out wire where it is connected to the fence (clamp!!) and measure the voltage at it. If the voltage is adequate, the lead-out wire is okay.

*Walk along the main fencing wire and disconnect/switch off the first fence that runs off the main fence and measure. If you have no change in voltage you can reconnect/switch on the fence again as the fault has to be further down the line. The **Fence Doctor** offers the facility of a red arrow that tells you in which direction you have to look for the fault/s. If you disconnect a fence that runs off the main fence and the voltage on the main fence shoots up, follow this fence line and look for the fault. Pay close attention to insulators and connections; listen for telltale snapping sounds that indicate electrical shorting. Replace defective or broken insulators!*

Vegetation or rust on the fence is the most common cause of voltage loss. Even high-power energisers lose voltage when enough weeds and grass touch the fence. Spraying herbicide under any type of fence is good management. Rust on the fence wires act like insulators and will not transfer the electric shock to the animal. If your fence wire is rusty replace it!

Make sure that every wire connection is either done with crimps or with clamps to avoid corrosion which causes bad contacts.



Fence Doctor
\$ 179.60 inc. GST
\$ 156.20 excl. GST

Cut-Out Switch

To make life easier install our Cut-Out Switch at strategic locations which makes it simpler to find faults and repair them immediately. This cut-out switch can stand high voltage and does not burn out easily. It is constructed in a very sturdy manner and cattle will not be able to switch the fence off. Not only is it the best switch on the market it is also by far the most economical one.



Cut-Out Switch \$ 9.70
inc. GST

Prevention is better than Cure!

- ***Insulators***

*With more intense farming the voltage on the fences has increased. This may lead to arcing especially if the fence posts are wet. To avoid this problem, which may lead to reduced voltage on the fence, **Red Snap'r** offer wood post insulators that keep the wire approx. 5 cm off the post.*



Wood Post Insulator (YRS25N)
Bag of 25 Insulators \$ 9.40 inc. GST
\$ 8.17 excl. GST



The same used on Concrete Posts
Box of 300 Insulators \$ 86.80 inc. GST
\$ 75.48 excl. GST

*Fencing is not a cheap undertaking although an electric fence is more economical than a 7-wire batten fence. You extend the life of your fence by keeping the wire as far as possible away from the actual fence by using the **Red Snap'r Wood Post Extender Insulators**. Your cattle will no longer be able to rub their heads on the posts. This is what it looks like:*



Wood Post Extender Insulator (13 cm)
Bag of 25 Insulators \$ 28.10 inc. GST
\$ 24.43 excl. GST



Another Application of Extension
Box of 125 Insulators \$ 110.40 inc. GST
\$ 96.00 excl. GST

Mains Powered Energisers

*Just over two years ago we introduced two new **Mains Powered Energisers** with an Output Joule rating of 8 and 12 Joules respectively. These two units have been selling well as they seem to be tailor-made for most of the dairy farms and medium sized sheep and beef farms. These two units are equipped with the latest electronics and will keep your animals in the paddocks you want them to be. Both energisers are compact, have a volt and a current (Amp./h) indicator which keeps you informed at all times about the status of your fences and are unbeatable in price. Further details are available from our website.*



LIM80

8 Output Joules = 80 km of Fence

\$ 663.00 inc. GST

\$ 576.50 excl. GST

Cost per Output Joule \$ 72.06 excl. GST



LIM120

12 Output Joules = 120 km of Fence

\$ 761.00 inc. GST

\$ 661.75 excl. GST

Cost per Output Joule \$ 63.42 excl. GST

Smaller Mains Energisers with 1.5, 2.5 and 4.5 Output Joules are also available!

*For convenience, use the on-line shop on our website!
www.redsnapr.co.nz*

Happy Farming!

Your *Red Snap'r* Team

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