PLOT D-FENCE

FOOD PLOT SYSTEM

The Power to Plant, Protect, Produce & Provide
Food Plot Over-Browse Damage:
Many summer annual legume food plot plants like lablab, soybeans and ebony pea are dicotelydons meaning the first two leaves to emerge at germination is where the rest of the plant comes from. With high deer density and low volume of plot acreage deer will immediately begin browsing the plants as they emerge and damage or destroy the crop. Once the plants mature in 4 – 6 weeks they can stand up to heavy browse. “Deterrents” like sent tapes and electric fencing are often ineffective. A physical barrier is the only sure way to control over browse. To allow animals in the food plot the barrier must be “reversible” meaning removed or opened.

The Plot D-Fence System™:
The Plot D-Fence System is based on a similar system developed to grow food plots on ranches in the extremely dry and harsh conditions of south Texas. Growing food plots in that arid region is almost impossible without browse protection. To allow the crops to mature before they are consumed metal “reversible” high fence is installed around the plots. The bottom 36” remains independent from the main fence. Once the crop is mature and ready for browse the bottom is lifted allowing deer under to forage on the highly nutritious crops all summer. Because metal fencing is very expensive and out of the reach of many deer managers I developed the Plot D-Fence System™ in 2005 and have been researching and further developing the system since then.

The Materials: The PDFS uses the strongest 7.5 ft tall polypropylene fencing material on the market which is unbreakable by hand, UV tolerant with a life span of 10+ years. It is very flexible so it can be lifted and folded up from the bottom to allow deer in the plot and rolled back up for storage. It is very light weight and easy to handle. One person can carry a 330 ft. roll. The PDFS does not come with posts however it will only be fully effective if 10ft. metal round galvanized posts (roughly $8.00/post) or 10ft. T-posts (roughly $9.50/post) are used and spaced every 18ft. With a gentle curve at corners no framing or special corner posts are needed. The PDFS comes with heavy duty metal ground stakes, black plastic zip ties, and flagging ribbon.

The System:
1. Stretch and attach the fence with the zip ties provided (3 - 4 per post is adequate) making sure the open edge of fence goes at the bottom and the closed edge at the top
2. Drive in ground stakes (3-4 between posts) with the hook facing outward and attach to the fence at the bend in the bottom lip running 4”-6” along the ground
3. Tie blue and white flagging ribbon 4ft. from the ground (4-5 between posts) with none tied at top
4. End your last panel at a post where you can get into the plot with equipment
5. Spray around the bottom of the fence with glyphosate to keep weeds out of the fence
6. Monitor for crop maturity (4-6 weeks for most summer annual dicotelydons) or crop recovery
7. Unhook the fence from the ground stakes, cut the bottom zip ties, lift the bottom to the top and re-attach with zip ties
Features of the Plot D-Fence System:

1. If properly erected deer will not get into the food plot until it is rolled up
2. The PDFS will not prevent feral wild hogs from entering the plots if a large number of hogs are present
3. The PDFS is a very low visibility material and does not compromise the aesthetics of a property
4. Because it is low visibility the flagging streamers are attached so that deer can clearly see the fence
5. The fence system may be compromised with poor installation and sometimes deer may “paw” at the bottom of the fence and eventually find a way in if the fence is not monitored
6. Only check these plots in mid day when deer that may have entered have had time to find their way out
7. Check the fence as often as possible for deer entry, limb fall damage, or rodent chewing
8. This system works for any plot being damaged by excessive browse

Cost of the PDFS: The PDFS costs $1.00/linear foot for the fence material, zip ties and ground stakes. You must order a minimum of the 1.4 acre package which includes 990 ft. of fence - enough to enclose one and four tenths square acres (1 square acre is 210 ft. x 210 ft.). The fence comes in 330 ft. rolls.

How to Price the PDFS: Pace around your plot or plots and multiply your steps by 2.8 which is an average persons pace length in feet. You should use a measuring wheel to be more accurate. Divide the total feet in length by 225 (1 roll of fence). If the total distance is not equal to an even number of 225 ft. rolls you will have to order enough to go over the total distance. Excess fence can be used for repairs and making drop gate panels between T-posts.
PDFS was the only system of 4 to protect crop during 2009 research and testing at QDMA Headquarters in Athens, GA.
PLOT D FENCING SYSTEM INCLUDES:

- Cable ties
- Flagging
- Ground stakes

CABLE TIES

FLAGGING

GROUND STAKES
PLOT D IS THE PREFERRED FOOD PLOT FENCING SYSTEM FOR QDMA’S OWN FOOD PLOTS
Can you tell where Plot D was installed in this soybean field??
Just raise the bottom half of Plot D to allow deer to enter the area and browse
Other fencing products may be cheaper initially but they end up here.

These systems require constant setup and take down.

Plot D is installed once and is Easily managed.