

KEKA

Gary Markegard
June 12, 1984

FENCING TOUR

This is Gary Markegard, University of California Farm Advisor, with a report on a fencing tour this Thursday.

Fencing for livestock really hasn't changed much in the past 15 years. The traditional pasture fences have consisted of either strands of barbed wire or a combination of barbed wire and woven wire. There are some wooden fences, but the majority of pasture fences are made from wire.

In the last five years a new type of smooth wire fence has started to be used on our beef and dairy farms. The smooth wire being used is different than normal types of smooth wire. The new wire is 12½ gauge, high tensile wire that is triple-galvanized to prevent rusting. The post spacing for this new wire is much further apart than traditional fences, so fencing costs are less. If an animal runs into the new fence, it will stretch and go back into place. There are no barbs on the smooth wire, so there is little chance of an animal getting cut as they try to get through the fence. The new fence can be electrified to help keep animals in the pasture.

If you're interested in seeing this new, smooth wire permanent fence, we are having a fencing tour this Thursday. The tour is divided into a morning and afternoon session, so a person can see most of the types of fences on either the morning tour or the afternoon tour. The morning tour starts from the parking lot at Angelina Inn, Fernbridge, at 9:30 a.m. We will look at smooth wire fences on Fred Fearrien's ranch, McBride's Willow Brook ranch, and Senestraro's Sea Mist Dairy near Eureka. In the afternoon we will look at smooth wire fences on Harold Hunt's ranch near Arcata starting at 2:00 p.m. We will also visit Marshall Christiansen Dairy, and Rich Hunt's ranch.

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There is no charge for the tour, so if you are interested in seeing the new type of fencing, plan to join us on Thursday.

This has been Gary Markegard, Humboldt County Farm Advisor, with a report on a fencing tour.