This pamphlet has been written to assist those persons wanting to erect a secure fence.

How can you erect a good fence?

Fences should be – straight, upright, have sturdy posts, be high enough and droppers must be effective.
Fences for large stock require stronger fences than that used for small stock. A fence’s strength is determined primarily by the strength of the wire and thereafter by the number of wires stretched per fence height and the spacing of droppers, fence posts and training posts. It is possible and sometimes desirable to use thicker wires for the boundary fence than those used for the internal camp fences.

Have you chosen the right fence?

- **Field fence**
- **Diamond mesh**
- **Chicken fence**
- **Single or double barbed wire**
METAL COATING THICKNESS, AGGRESSIVENESS OF THE ATMOSPHERE AND HOT VELD FIRE DAMAGE AFFECT THE LIFE SPAN OF METAL-COATED FENCE WIRES

HOW TO SPECIFY

When purchasing fencing wires, always make sure that the wires comply with specification SANS 675:1993 “Zinc Coated Fence Wires (Smooth and Barbed)”. This specification requires that a heavy zinc coating of 30µm minimum be applied. Only wires carrying the SABS mark of approval have been manufactured and tested to comply with all the requirements of SANS 675:1993 “Zinc Coated Fence Wire (Smooth and Barbed)”.

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The steel post can cause zinc coatings of wires touching it to sacrificially try to protect the steel post from corroding and eventually leaves the wire, which it is supposed to protect bare in the contact area. Once a large enough bare area occurs on a metal-coated steel wire, rusting along the wire accelerates, causing premature failure of the fence.

For good housekeeping purposes keep the height of the grass low near to the fence. This will minimise the corrosion damage and fire damage.