

Minimum Containment Standards for Alberta Wild Boar Farms

CONTAINMENT STANDARDS

Fence construction:

There will be two acceptable minimum containment standards. Wild boar producers have a choice of either building a fence that is partially buried into the ground (Standard 1) or using a double fence system (Standard 2). Both of these fencing systems require an electric fencing component.

Standard 1 Buried fence with an electric wire.		Standard 2 Double fencing system with an electric wire.	
Fence height above surface*	Minimum 1.5 metres	Outer fence height above surface*	Minimum 1.5 metres
Fence depth below surface	Minimum depth of 45 cm	Inner fence height above surface*	Minimum 1.5 metres
Fence material:	Hinge lock mesh fencing made from 12.5 gauge or heavier high tensile wire with spacing adequate to prevent escapes.	Fence material:	Hinge lock mesh fencing made from 12.5 gauge or heavier high tensile wire with spacing adequate to prevent escapes.
Fence posts:	Maximum spacing between posts is 3 metres.	Fence posts:	Maximum spacing between posts is 3 metres.
		Distance between fences	A minimum of 1.2 metres and a maximum of 5.0 metres
Electric wire:**	Made of minimum 14 gauge high tensile or stranded wire and must be 10 cm to 30 cm in distance from the inside of the fence and 10 to 30 cm above the ground.	Electric wire:**	Made of minimum 14 gauge high tensile or stranded wire and must be 10 cm to 30 cm in distance from the inside of the fence and 10 to 30 cm above the ground.
Electric output:	Minimum of 4000 volts must pass through at all points along the entire perimeter of the electric fence.	Electric output:	Minimum of 4000 volts must pass through at all points along the entire perimeter of the electric fence.

* Fence height must be such that a minimum of 1.5 metres are above the ground surface or above any other surface including snow drifts.

**If two electric wires are used then it is suggested that the wires be placed at 20 cm and 40 cm above the surface and that separate fence chargers be used for each wire.

Maintenance:

It is expected that at all producers will maintain their fences in good condition at all times. This will include, but not limited to, maintaining proper tension on the fencing material, ensure that vegetation is trimmed below the electric wires, and replacing the fence posts as required.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE CONTAINMENT STANDARDS**Existing fences:**

The following exception to Containment Standards is available for those producers with existing fencing systems:

- The bottom of the existing fence must be anchored to the surface with stakes spaced no more than 1.5 metres apart and the stakes must be a minimum of one metre into the ground sloped at a 45° angle to the outside of the enclosure. This will be considered as equivalent containment to buried or double fencing.
- All other fencing requirements regarding height, fencing material, electric wire and fencer output must be met.

Repair or replacement of fences:

Repairs, replacement, or modifications to existing fences may require an upgrade to the existing Containment Standards. Producers will be encouraged to consult with inspectors.

All existing wild boar fencing systems will be required to conform to the Containment Standards no later than December 31, 2018. This will give producers five years in which to upgrade their existing fences to meet the existing containment standards. It is estimated that buried fences could have a life span of four to seven years depending on the type of soil and moisture conditions. A double fence could last longer with fencing material lasting up to 15 years.