

## **Training Goats To Electric Fence**

Training goats to electric fencing should be done in a CONTROLLED AREA. With the first “shock” a majority of goats will run THROUGH the fence, and have been known to “keep on running”. Many goats will need to “hit the fence” and be “shocked” twice, and some need three lessons. After that, most goats will “test” the fence with their whiskers, at least occasionally, and some on a daily basis. A few won’t care about a weak shock if there is grain or something else they want on the other side.

When introducing goats to electric fence for the first time, two people make it easier, as goats often get caught in the woven netting. One person can disconnect the battery, and the other can free the goat, saving both the goat and the fence.

There are several ways to “bait” a goat into touching the fence for training purposes. Wrapping strips of aluminum foil baited with peanut butter is one way. Tying a bottle cap (drilled with a small hole) that is filled with peanut butter is another way. Probably the best way is to tempt the goats with grain right along the fence line, WHILE UNDER SUPPERVISION.

Some have such heavy coats that they won’t feel a shock at all, unless they touch a wire with a nose or ear.

If a goat is consistently putting its head through the fence (some small bottle babies will do this) dampening its neck, especially just before feeding time will allow for greater conductivity and a more effective lesson.