

To let the fence down, a person usually needs a stretcher to gain some slack while he lifts the top loop from the stub post. Thereafter the going is easy. As the loops are lifted off the top of the stays, the fence falls gently—still under tension and all wires held in place.

The job of erecting the fence is nearly as fast and easy. First raise a few rods of fence near the brace to reduce side pressure. Use a stretcher to place the wire loop over the stub post then erect the remainder of the fence a rod at a time. Broken wires may be repaired as encountered.

Where the terrain is fairly uniform, sections of lay-down fence may be as long as a quarter mile. Shorter sections must be used where the topography is rough and broken or where the fence turns abruptly.

A lay-down fence does have the following limitations and disadvantages:

1. It provides no protection against stray livestock or trespass after it is lowered.
2. It requires attention both in spring and fall.
3. Wires rust more quickly where in contact with the ground for several months.
4. Initial cost of construction is somewhat higher than for a standard fence.

Chief argument in favor of a lay-down fence is the substantial saving in maintenance cost. Where damage from snow is severe, the cost of converting a standard fence to a lay-down fence may be recovered in 2 or 3 years. It is especially recommended for snow country where a fence is needed only during the summer and where the terrain is relatively uniform. It might be feasible for division fences and drift fences where the cost of building and maintaining other types of fence is prohibitive. It's worth considering.

EFFECT OF AERIAL 2,4,5-T SPRAYS ON FORAGE PRODUCTION IN WEST-CENTRAL ARKANSAS

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In May 1957, several hardwood tracts in the Ozark mountains near Paris, Arkansas, were aerially sprayed with 2,4,5-T in order to convert them to range. A fixed-wing aircraft applied to each acre 2 pounds of iso-octyl ester of 2,4,5-T mixed with one gallon of diesel oil and 3.5 gallons of water. The mixture was intended to rid the tracts of trees like post oak (*Quercus stellata*), blackjack oak (*Q. marilandica*), and hickories (*Carya* spp.).

Production of grass, forbs, and browse under five feet in height was measured in September 1957 and 1958 on adjacent sprayed and unsprayed areas. Major grasses were little bluestem (*Andropogon scoparius*), broomsedge (*A. virginicus*), panicums (*Panicum* spp.), and poverty oatgrass (*Danthonia spicata*). The most

At the end of the 1957 growing season, air-dry grass production per acre was 564 pounds on the sprayed area and 433 pounds on the unsprayed area. During 1958, grass yields increased to 873 pounds per acre on the sprayed area but declined to 321 pounds on the unsprayed.

The increase in grass yield reflected lessened competition by overstory trees for light and moisture. Because cattle are mainly grass eaters, the immediate outcome of spraying was favorable to this class of livestock. It is not yet known whether the potential grazing returns would justify the cost of treatment and maintenance.

The yield of forbs was sharply reduced the first year. It increased greatly the second year, but the new growth consisted largely of horseweed, fireweed, and other undesirable species. Therefore the increased yield of forbs did little to enhance grazing values for either cattle or deer, but probably had value in reducing runoff during this period of land conversion.

The large decrease in browse plants in 1957 was caused mainly

Per-acre yields of air-dry forage on sprayed and unsprayed areas were:

	Sprayed areas		Unsprayed areas	
	1957	1958	1957	1958
Grass	564	873	433	321
Forbs	102	716	275	119
Browse	101	279	375	277
Total	767	1,868	1,083	717

important forbs were asters (*Aster* spp.), various legumes, horseweed (*Erigeron canadensis*), fireweed (*Erechtites* spp.), and pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*). Various species of oak, hickory, blueberry (*Vaccinium* spp.), grape (*Vitis* spp.), and sumac (*Rhus* spp.) composed the bulk of woody growth.

by defoliation and killing of the oaks—species of low browsing value. In 1958, browse yields increased to 279 pounds per acre—an amount equal in weight to that on unsprayed areas. The sprayed areas, however, produced more browse plants of the species preferred by deer, such as blueberry and grape.