

Fencing Suitable for Dorpers , White Dorpers and Crossbred Lambs.

By Trisha Esson

Prepare Your property

Upgrade **all** inadequate fences, yards and facilities **before** introducing your Dorpers or White Dorpers onto the property. This will prevent the development of bad habits in your lambs (getting out!!) and save **you** a lot of stress.

Fencing

The boundary fence must be secure. Boundary prefabricated fencing (ringlock or hingejoint) is best.

Plain wire fences can be upgraded by either tying prefabricated fencing onto the existing fence or by adding offset electric wires.

N.B. Pay special attention to the bottom of the fence because this is where lambs will try to escape first; under the fence!

Of the prefabricated fencing, Hingejoint is probably best choice, as it will return to shape after an animal has been caught in it, or just pushed it out of shape by having its head through the fence to graze (the grass is always greener on the other side!). Ringlock once pushed out of shape stays out of shape.

From experience I have found that a fence designed to keep Cashmere Goats in will also adequately restrain Dorpers and White Dorpers. Such fences are not built like Fort Knox, but will ensure animals stay where you want them to stay. I would therefore suggest that Dorper and White Dorper breeders study the Goat Fencing Ag Note put out by the NSW DPI (http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/178502/goat-fencing.pdf) as it has some very useful fencing tips relevant to all lamb producers.

Goat Fencing Ag Note