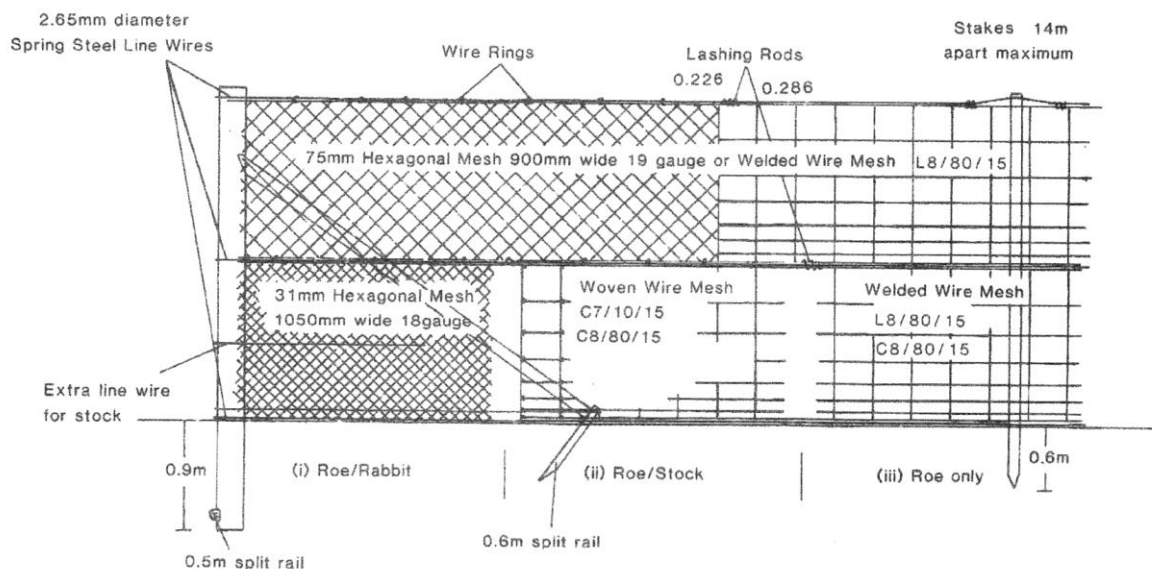


Deer Fencing

DEER FENCE - ROE



Not to scale. For descriptions of recommended netting and possible alternatives see Figure 18 page 18. Netting sizes and patterns.

Figure 5. Deer fence – light specification for roe.

specified for the upper half of the fence is not robust enough to hold against the larger deer species. However, this netting 1.8 m wide has been used effectively in conjunction with untreated woodwork as a temporary fence to protect restock areas. Woven and welded wire mesh netting with 300 mm spacing between the vertical wires is not recommended because roe deer does and kids can pass through the mesh with relative ease.

Deer fence – heavy specification

This basic specification (Figure 6) should be adopted when fencing out fallow, red or sika deer or any combination of these with roe deer, domestic stock or rabbits.

In upland regions the minimum specification as shown must be increased to compensate for the combined effect of severe weather, difficult soil conditions and heavy deer pressure. Straining post spacing is reduced to 250 – 300 m apart to minimise maintenance by confining any damage in the fence to relatively short strain lengths. Straining post length is in-

creased to 3.2 m to give the greater depth in the ground necessary on all but the stoniest, most compacted soils. A maximum stake spacing of 5 m is required, and an increase in stake length to 2.6 m (2.75 m for peat areas). Stakes may need to be further reinforced with struts (Figure 6) on lengths of fence either exposed to extreme pressure from animals and weather or over shallow soils. The number of gates should be kept to a minimum. They must be of strong construction to the height of the fence, hung on reversed hinges and kept closed with a chain and padlock. Stiles should be provided to reduce the use of gates and therefore the risk of them being left open. Special attention must be paid to filling-in ditches and hollows with additional

Table 4. Woodwork sizes – red, sika or fallow deer

Red, sika or fallow deer	Length (m)	Top diameter (cm)
End posts	2.8	12-18
Struts	2.5	10-13
Stakes	2.6	8-10