



Fence Height Extension Product Selection Guide

The Problem !

If you have animals getting over a fence and you need to stop them, then you either build a new taller fence or raise the height of the existing one.

The fence may have sunk into the ground due to silt build up or post subsidence, or it simply wasn't high enough in the first place. Either way, in an agricultural setting, large numbers of animals other than stock on your property are either going to mean a loss of pasture and reduced stocking rates, or your livestock become a food source for predators such as wild dogs so, both outcomes will have an reduce your bottom line.

If you can slow down or greatly reduce the movement of animals getting onto your land or your stock getting out, it can have a big impact on profitability. The quicker you deal with the problem, the sooner a solution will provide a return on your investment.

The standard solutions

Up till now, most land owners raise their fence by either putting in taller posts, using bolt on brackets, or welding on an extension of some description.

Putting in taller posts is expensive and bolt on brackets mean having to remove the wire from the posts then tying it back on, which is time consuming. Welding is not always possible because the poor quality steel found in many newly manufactured pickets is often not weldable. There is also the obvious fire risk of welding over dry grass and the problem of getting a welder to the posts.

Some will say, pull out the fence and start from scratch. But you are not going to be keen on doing that if you have spent thousands of dollars on a not so old fence.

What can be done?

To easily raise the height of the fence you have, Wireman produce a range of post extension products that are quick and easy to install. All these products are strong and can be attached to an existing fence without removing the wire, they get the job done fast, in a highly cost effective way, and all are fully Australian made.

PICKE^X

STAR PICKET EXTENSIONS

PickeX Product Range

1. STARLET
2. ELECTRA
3. FOAL
4. POLE STAR 300
5. POLE STAR 600
7. POLE STAR 900
8. POLE STAR MAX
9. POLE STAR PS45
10. POLE STAR PSTY

PICKE^X STARLET's are made from 1.2mm thick high tensile steel. 750mm in length, they raise the fence height 600mm or 2 foot in height. They weigh 0.76 kg, or just under a pound.

Made to fit standard STAR pickets, STARLET's are designed as a one piece solution. They have a tab at the base that can be bent over to stop them sliding down the picket and holes in the base allow you to attach them to wooden intermediate posts using screws. The lower most hole can be used as a tie down point to stop them being lifted off pickets at low points in the fence when tension is put on the wire.



PICKE^X ELECTRA's are made from UV and heat resistant PVC. They are 750mm long and raise the fence 600mm or 2 foot in height. With a weight of just 350 grams they are light and easy to carry.



PICKE^X FOAL's are made from UV and heat resistant PVC. They are 450mm long and raise the fence height 300mm or 1 foot and weigh 200 grams.

Each PICKE^X FOAL can be supplied with a form fitting end cap.

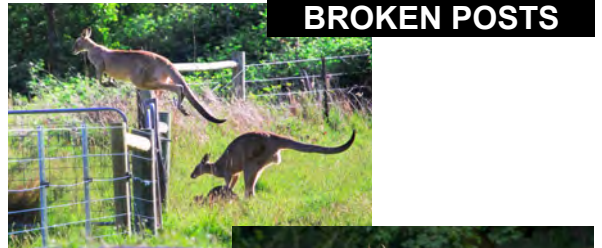


Wireman DOES NOT RECOMMEND that you use PVC products unless you have a specific reason for doing so. Although they are light and relatively strong, they are not nearly as durable as galvanized steel and can become brittle in cold weather.

PICKEX POLESTAR's are made in 300, 600 and 900mm lengths. Best described as a post extension sleeve, they can be used in a variety of ways or in conjunction with a standard STAR picket or part STAR picket, to raise the height of the fence to virtually any height you may need. Made from 1.5mm thick high tensile galvanised steel they are a strong and robust item. They fit both the STAR pickets used in Australia and all Tee posts commonly sold in the USA. With the addition of a POLESTAR MAX, they can be used to extend BEEFY or MAXY posts.

The real beauty of the POLESTAR system is versatility. They can be used as a stand alone item or in conjunction with the PS45 brackets to create the right barrier for your situation.

In high traffic areas, if an animal hits the fence at speed and a POLESTAR is broken, it can simply be removed and replaced with ease, without the need to undo any wires. They also allow you to raise the fence height to over 3 metres or 10 foot (using another picket or post). Which may be important on steep sloping ground as the actual height the animal has to jump may be lower on the side of a hill or gully.



OVERHANGING FENCES



The PS45 bracket, gives you the ability to have either a left or right facing overhang on the fence of variable length. With the addition of a PSTY bracket, an overhang can be created in both directions to make either T or Y configurations of variable width.



CATS and DOGS

An overhang at the top of a fence can be highly beneficial as it makes it a lot harder for climbing animals such as cats to scale the fence. And if an animal trying to jump the fence gets caught up, there is a much greater likelihood it will free itself unharmed and not get tangled up in the lower wires.



Fixing and Fastening

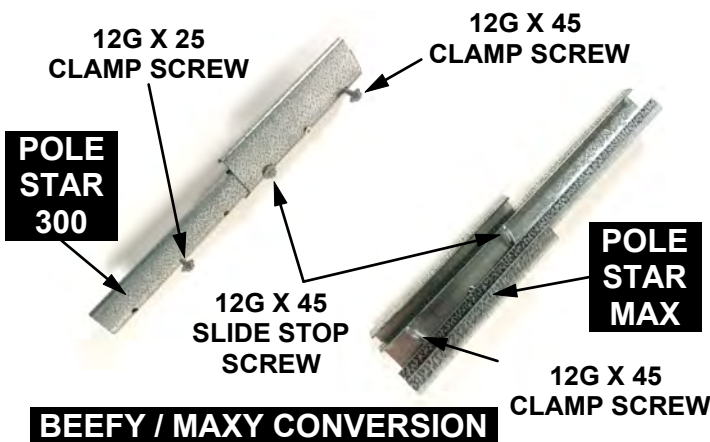
All the PICKEX POLESTAR range are used in conjunction with commonly available 12 gauge 1" inch (25mm), self drilling TEK screws. They can be used to clamp the POLESTAR to a post, stop them sliding down the post or create a point to attach wire. 2" inch (45 or 50mm) long screws are used to stop a POLESTAR MAX sliding down the post or clamp to a post.



All the PICKEX range of products can be fastened to steel or timber posts using the screw holes provided.



This is important as there is always at least one point on the fence, such as a gate, where you may need to improvise a solution to keep a continuous barrier.



POLESTAR Sleeves can be used alone with short STAR Pickets or pre cut parts of recycled Pickets. If you want to create an electric fence with a hot wire up high, then we suggest you use Davo's Fencing clips with insulators.

Tensioning Posts and End Assemblies

If you are trying to stop animals simply jumping the fence, then pairs of two wires close together are better than one wire by itself as the animals can see the pair better, especially when moving at speed.

The key point is that you do not need to have a lot of tension on the wire up high as there is not going to be any stock pressure high on the fence. You simply need to add a strong riser to the end assembly to secure the wire and apply light tension. The main aim is to provide a visual deterrent.

To easily create a high strainer post - get long heavy duty (HD) BEEFY OR MAXY STAR pickets for each end post, then fix POLESTAR MAX Brackets at the top and bottom of each corner post with a single timber or steel fixing screw. Slide a HD picket down through both brackets then insert a self drilling steel screw through both THE MAX bracket and the HD Picket to stop it sliding down (See steps below).

Fix MAX bracket to top of post with single screw



Fix MAX bracket to bottom of post with single screw



Slide HD picket through top MAX bracket



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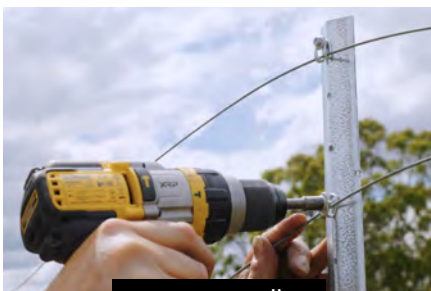
Slide HD picket through bottom MAX bracket

5



Insert screw through MAX bracket and HD Picket

Use screw clips



or tie wire



Tension wires & Tie off



We advise people to consider putting up the fence up in stages and leaving the high traffic areas till last, so the animals have time to learn where the fence is. Remember, a 60 to 70 kilo animal hitting a fence at speed is going to damage most agricultural fencing.

Differing Picket and Post sizes

You may have differing types of posts on your property, and there are many varieties of posts on the market so, it would be virtually impossible to have a perfect fit for all of them. If you want a really tight fit or you are having trouble getting a POLESTAR to slide over the particular posts that you have, a great feature of the POLESTAR shape is that it can easily be adjusted to suit the post size.



If the POLESTAR or POLESTAR MAX won't fit over the post, simply take a hammer and (placing it with the cut edges on a hard flat surface) strike along the spine of the POLESTAR, to widen it out. You may have to do this more than once until it fits.



ON the other hand, if you find they are a bit loose, place one edge of the POLESTAR on a hard surface and strike the hammer along the opposite edge of the POLESTAR to squash it down until it is a neat fit.

These are just some of the ways PICKEX and POLESTAR can be used. If you have any questions or problems, please get in touch and let us know your thoughts by giving us a call on 02 9955 2264 or sending us an email to sales@wireman.com.au