



Expert commentary

BS 1722-2:2020 — *Fences — Part 2: Specification for strained wire and wire mesh netting fences*

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i to ii, pages 1 to 4, an inside back cover and a back cover.

1 Overview

The revision of this specification for strained wire brings the document in line with modern practices in wire mesh fencing, taking account of changes in livestock husbandry, advancements in fencing techniques, expansion of products and species in the fencing sector, new manufacturing techniques, and quantifiable and improved functionality of foundations.

These changes will impact designated individuals such as designers, grant authorities, local authorities, contractors and suppliers. BS 1722-2:2020 is the foundation for best practice in the UK. It is suggested that users review their own arrangements in light of these revisions.

1.1 Reasons for change

The main changes include:

- fence specification for the main sectors
- improved specification of materials
- foundational improvements in design requirements and understanding of the force a fence will be subjected to.

The previous, 2006 version of this British Standard recognized the principles of strained wire fencing. With the introduction of greater mechanization, increased lengths of fence lines, higher stocking densities and livestock evolution, modern wire mesh fencing is more complex and is put under greater loads. This update recognizes the new techniques that are needed in order to achieve the required standards. It also recognizes the changes in modern materials that are being used to construct such fencing.

There has also been an increase in the use of strained wire over different species of fencing and a divergence in agricultural use in terms of ecology and infrastructure to allow traffic of certain species while containing others.

1.2 Summary

- Rewriting of the most common methods and materials used in modern practice
- Rewritten list of wire patterns and uses
- Updated recommendations on materials and components for all heights of fence
- General notes on the tension that should be achieved on wire

1.3 Also

- Measuring line wire tension
- Specifying a strained wire fence
- Updated use of connection methods
- New testing equipment to verify achievement of recommended tensions on wire
- Addition of expected environmental practices
- Determination of moisture content for timber
- Steel components and protective treatment