

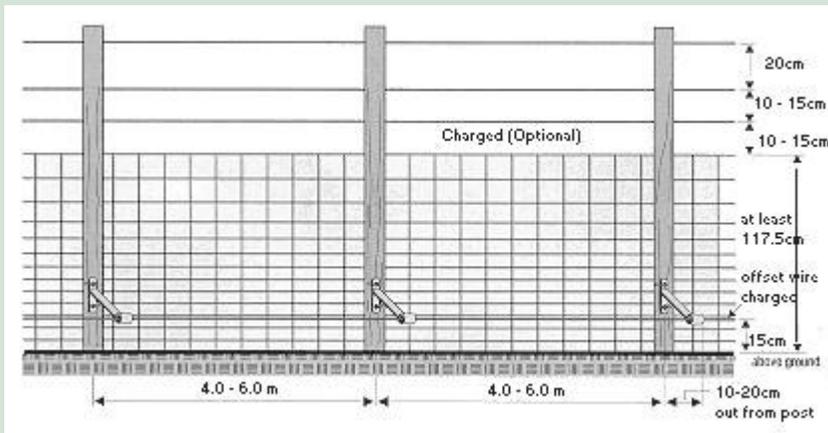
Kneehill County Ag. Advantage Monthly

Combining Agricultural Production with Environmental Stewardship

Coyote Predation Best Management Practices (Non-Lethal)

Recent years have seen a spike in local coyote populations. As such livestock producers may need to resort to additional management practices to protect livestock from coyote predation. Below are a few suggestions for preventative measures that can aid in keeping livestock safe.

- **Change Birthing Sites:** Consider moving pregnant females, especially first year mothers, and newborns into a yard site that is well lit, enclosed and has frequent human traffic. This can restrict coyotes access to vulnerable young and give handlers a chance to spot the predators before they attack.
- **Dispose of Carrion Away from Livestock:** All carcasses should be removed from the area of the livestock to a remote site and incinerated or buried as soon as possible to prevent attracting predators.
- **Install Sensory Deterrents:** sensory deterrents such as motion sensor lights and sound devices can startle predators and keep them wary of area's where they are mounted. For best results change the sensitivity, volume/ brightness and/or location of these devices every 2 to 3 weeks to prevent coyotes from becoming too accustomed to them.
- **Upgrade Existing Fencing:** Install or upgrade fencing to keep livestock in as well as predators out. A mesh fence at least 137cm tall with a mesh apron or barbed wire at ground level (to prevent digging) and barbed wire along the top (to prevent jumping) are minimum recommendations for high risk sites. Electricity can also be utilized in a number of different configurations including mesh or nine wire fencing. When utilizing electric fencing it is pertinent that proper grounding be installed to ensure that predators are effectively controlled.



Electrified mesh wire fence. Photo source: [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex888](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex888)

For additional information or lethal control options contact the Kneehill County Agriculture Services Department (403)443-5541



KEEP ALBERTA RAT FREE

REPORT ALL RAT SIGHTINGS TO 310-RATS

2% Liquid Strychnine Sales

Beginning in April the Kneehill County ASB will be offering 2% liquid strychnine to agricultural producers who have economically significant infestations of richardson ground squirrels.

Sales will take place **Fridays** from 1pm to 3pm at the Kneehill County Agriculture Services Department Shop located at 205-1st Ave SW, Three Hills.

Please call ahead to ensure product availability (403)443-5541

