

in the middle of the mating season, and previously where it was necessary for a man to restaple the wire on the battens and posts every other day, no further work was necessary.

Since then, the electric fence has been used to fence off the maize crop, to protect new drains, and to make new subdivisions. Further, it has proved a simple matter to fence off hay and ensilage stacks. Where the stack is alongside an existing fence line, 20 minutes' work will effectually protect the stack. If the stack was erected in the centre of a field, the connecting electric wire was carried on poles 8ft. high to the stack. This permits free

movement of grazing stock under the charged wire.

### Electric Gateways

Electric gateways are being used freely. To by-pass the wire overhead, lengths of old piping are used to support the wire. On the electric wire on gateway itself an old claw-tube rubber split down one side and placed on the wire at a convenient position makes an excellent insulator for the hand when opening and closing the gate.

At present field grazing trials are beginning, and further subdivision is necessary. The electric fence allows

trial work of this nature to be carried out at the minimum cost. About one-third of the farm is cut off from the remainder of the property by a road. Because of telephone and power lines, it was not possible to carry the electric fence connecting wire overhead. A suitable culvert was available, and use was made of a cheap but efficient lead-covered cable to make the necessary connections. In all, 145 chains of this fencing has been erected.

Within the next six months, the erection of a further 100 chains is proposed. The cost of such fencing is but 10 per cent. of the cost of the erection of the standard 3in. barbed wire fence used on the farm.

## Subdivision of Hill Country

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RECENTLY I inspected a big area of swedes and chou moellier which has been fenced off with an electric fence for feeding purposes. The fence erected constitutes Waratah standard, one every chain with three plain wires, No. 1 gauge. Care was taken that no stalks would interfere with the fence to cause a short-circuit.

On the enclosed area ewe hoggets were placed, and after a week it was found that only three had got through this fence. It had been the intention of the farmer to erect two plain wires with a middle wire barbed, but as barbed wire was unprocurable, he made the plain wire serve the purpose.

### Hay and Grass Seed Paddocks

Last summer I visited a grass seed area, and found that only half the paddock had been closed for seed, the other half being grazed by ewes and lambs with a high stocking of about 10 ewes per acre. Three wires of No 12 gauge were used for the electric fence. Ordinary batons were driven in at 10 yards apart, and it was found that no ewes or lambs entered the grass seed crop that had been closed for seed purposes.

In another instance a paddock was subdivided similarly. Half the area was closed for hay. It was found at first that the fence had been erected a little on the low side and a few of

the ewes were hurdling over the top of this wire, but after the wire had been raised to a reasonable height these ewes were prevented from jumping over into the hay crop. It was found that this proved effective and economical for subdivision purposes.

### On Hill Country

On the estate of E. W. Nairn, Omakere, a paddock at the back of the station of 240 acres has been subdivided by electric fence. Posts were

put in approximately a chain apart, while in some instances they were closer to counteract ruggedness of the country. Three barbed wires were erected, the first being approximately 6 inches off the ground, the next 9 to 10 inches above the first, and the top wire about 3 feet 6 inches off the ground. The fence, when being erected, was made so that should the electric fence be unsuccessful, a permanent fence could be erected to the posts al-

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