

Keeping out kangaroos

Grant District Council in regional South Australia faced the problem of eastern grey kangaroos grazing on Mount Gambier Airport. While the kangaroos did not venture onto the runway, they could hop over the fence in an isolated corner, and graze near the runway, as the security fence did not completely surround the airport.

About four years ago, to address the issue, the airport decided to trial a simply-erected and cost-effective extension to the fence, in the form of white poly droppers and white horse-sighter wire to deter the kangaroos from jumping.



Photo: the white poly droppers and sighter wire in place

The fence extension consists of the following:

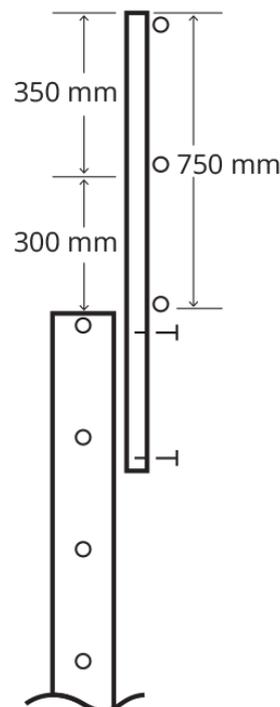
- 1250mm white poly droppers and clips
- Gallagher BAYCO plastic horse sighter wire (4mm)
- Galvanised steel fence star pickets
- Small 'D' shackles.
- Electric fence sprung gate hooks.
- Long self-drilling wood (Tek) screws

All components are available from any rural supplier, such as CRT (Combined Rural Traders), Elders, Landmark etc.

Project	Kangaroo fence
Location	Mount Gambier Airport
Information sheet issued	IS 1 December 2019
Budget	Under \$1000.00
Wildlife	Kangaroos and wallabies

How-to

Attach the droppers as shown in the diagram below, and photos (on the outside not airport side), use galvanised star pickets on corners and ends using long wood Tek screws for both.



Clip the sighter wire on and tension using the spacing shown (on the outside not airport side). When turning a corner, use small 'D' shackles so plastic wire is not pulled around the sharp corner in the star picket and risk cutting over time.

Use electric fence sprung gate hooks so it's easy to access gates by unclipping them and driving through.



Photos: the electric fence sprung gate hooks allow easy access



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If the kangaroos are inclined to push under the fence, install low electric wire as shown in photo.



Initially, the airport trialled a small section where the 'roos would normally hop over. This was successful for about 12 months, until the 'roos worked out that they could hop over one of the areas which had not been done.

Over the past two years, the airport has worked on more of the fence, and completed the full length about six months ago. The fence extension has been an incredibly successful and cost-effective way of deterring kangaroos from entering the airport precinct, completed for under one thousand dollars.

For more information contact:

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