

Utilization Cage Installation

Materials:

Sledge hammer (3-5 lbs.)
4 ft. U-posts
3 ft. tall Welded Wire
3 ft. tall Chicken Wire (half the length of welded wire: i.e. 3x50ft WW and 3x25ft CW)
16-gauge wire
Wire cutters
Shovel
Pliers
Tape measure
Numbered aluminum tag

Preparation:

1. Cut welded wire into lengths of 3.5 meters (11.5 feet).
2. Cut chicken wire to the same length, and then cut it in half lengthwise to create two pieces with height 18 inches.
3. Lay out the welded wire and place the chicken wire on top with the bottom edges lined up. Using the 16-gauge wire and pliers create wire twist-ties to fasten the two wire sheets together. Use as many twist-ties as necessary.
4. Once the two wire sheets are attached, they can be rolled up together and easily transported.

Site Selection:

1. Select the four even numbered transects (2,4,6,10) where only one silt fence is installed. The other transects have two silt fences installed at either end.
2. Go to the end of the transect where there is no silt fence.
3. Once at the transect end go downslope approximately 5 m.
4. Locate the utilization cage in a light littered or mulched area. The approximate definition of "lightly" littered would be in the range of 50-70% cover. It shouldn't be located in a mulch pile or in an area of a thick surface of litter or mulch. But it also should not be located on bare ground.

Installation:

1. Locate center of site to be enclosed.
2. From center measure out 56 centimeters in multiple directions and mark the ground with shovel.
3. Dig a circular trench to the outside of the marks (56 cm should be the inner radius of the trench).
4. Hammer in first U-post just to the inside the trench. Be sure to have the hooks of the U-post facing outward.
5. Place welded wire/chicken wire combo in the trench with both ends at the U-post to complete the circle.

6. Attach the welded wire/chicken wire combo to the U-post by slipping the horizontal wires into corresponding hooks on the U-post. Squeeze the hooks shut with the pliers to secure. Make sure both ends get attached to this first post.
7. Hammer in two more U-posts evenly spaced around the inner circumference of the cage.
8. Attach the wire combo in the same way to these posts.
9. Refill trench with removed soil.
10. Wire twist-tie the aluminum identification tag to one of the U-posts.