

Simple Wire Tightening System Announced

Editor's Note: Have some fence that needs tightening? Been dreading the job? An Iowa firm says it has a simple tool that will take most of the sweat out of the job. The firm reports:

A wire tightener that takes the slack out of fence in minutes without unstapling and restretching is now on the market nationally. Called "Reel-Tite," it is manufactured by Kermco Products of Monroe, Iowa.

Reel-Tite can be used on new, old or rusty barbed wire; on woven fence wire, electric fence, clothes line, small cables and guy wires. And one person can do in minutes what it used to take a fence crew many hours to do.

A supply of Reel-Tites — metal discs about the size of your hand — and a cranking handle are the only tools you need. It works like this:

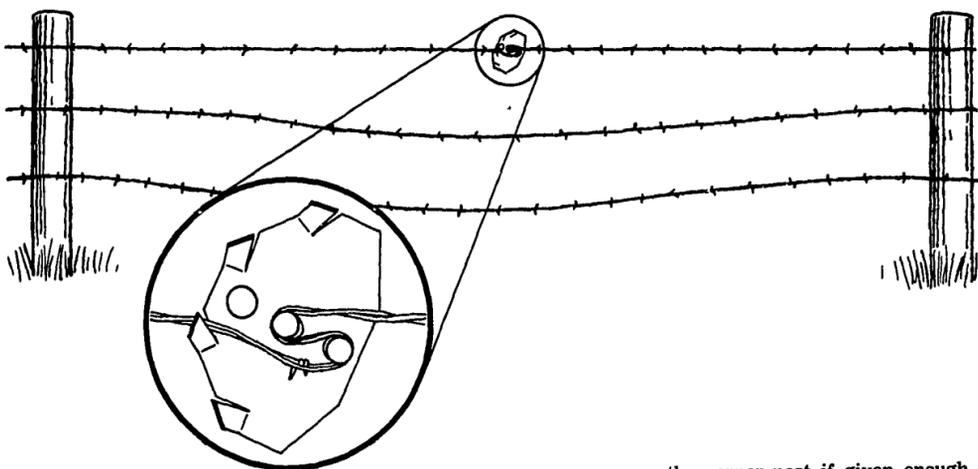
You place the Reel-Tite on the wire in the middle of the span you wish to tighten. You attach the handle to the disc and turn clockwise until the wire has reached the desired tension. Then one of the notches on the rim of the disc engages the wire, holding the wire tight and keeping the Reel-Tite securely on the fence.

The handle is removed and the Reel-Tite stays on the fence.

Because the discs, which are inexpensive, are left on the fence, any subsequent slack in the wire can be reeled up by simply re-engaging the handle and cranking up any new slack in the wire.

The Reel-Tite will take up slight slack in the wire for up to 80 rods. When there is a great deal of slack or rough terrain, more discs may be needed.

With a few Reel-Tites in your



pocket and the removable handle, you can be an effective fence rider. Where you find a sagging wire as you check your fence, you apply a Reel-Tite, turn the crank and have a tight fence again. The handle is 24 inches long with a 6-inch grip.

If a wire has been broken by livestock or by a piece of machinery accidentally hitting it, a simple repair can be made by splicing a piece of wire at the break. Then attach a Reel-Tite and tighten it.

As anyone who repairs fence knows, if a new tight wire is broken, the slack will travel to

the corner post if given enough time. By the same principle, if one of the Reel-Tite discs is placed in the middle of a slack span, it will stretch the wire all the way to the corner post if given enough time.

For more information on this handy, simple fence tool, write Kermco Products, Monroe, Iowa 50170, or call (515) 259-2987.

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