

Re: Foxes

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"pammyT" <fenlandfowl@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:1148679999.352542.63480@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

the only reasons people lose birds to foxes is because they do not protect them sufficiently. Foxes can climb fences so you need electric poultry netting. You also need to shut them safely inside strong houses at night.

Most people think a 6 foot fence is sufficient if we shut them up safely at night. Mostly it is but sometimes it's not. Unfortunately it is only discovered after a catastrophe.

I have one particular pen of 3x3 timber framing, 2" weldmesh, 6 feet high with a strong hut. The run floor was paving slabs with the frame on top. It was perfectly safe for years. Until..a fox climbed the mesh, killed all the occupants, ate their heads and necks and p'd off again. The pen is now roofed.

Even so, a few weeks ago a fox managed to kill and eat a banty in a small pen by ripping the wire and somehow killing her and eating her through the slats between a pallet which I had used to make the roofed run and stapled on half inch chicken wire. What are the spaces between pallet slats? 3 inches? It seemed impossible.

My property is not suitable for an electric fence as it's very long and narrow and there are loads of trees and shrubs on the boundary. I do actually have an electric fence unit which I used to use for my goats on my other paddock down the village.

You know my views on foxes. I will leave them alone if they leave me alone. Once a fox starts to break into my poultry runs and houses when the fields behind my house are alive with rabbits, it needs a bit of lead in its ear to cure it.

Tina

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