






	Clipex paddock posts	Electrified sheep netting	Gallagher Smart Fence	Pigtail posts and wire	PVC posts and polywire
					
<b>Comment</b>	New heavy-duty steel post capable of holding two or four rows of wire. Can hold combination of wire with insulator attachments for electrified wire. Sourced from James Geoghegan, agriknives.ie.	Fence shown is Euro Netz fence traded by Cormac Sheep Equipment. Various similar options are available from Gallagher Ireland and Cheetah Electric Fencing through trade or online.	Company has brought out a new stronger model called Gallagher Smart Fence 2, which has a stronger main section upright post, which was previously vulnerable to breaking.	Widely used on cattle farms and may be an option to capitalise on existing materials by purchasing insulators.	Traded in the majority of co-op's or agri-outlets. Come as standard in 10s, but can also be purchased individually.
<b>Advantages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Robust post giving greater stability for mixed livestock grazing systems.</li> <li>- Posts can be pulled up and re-erected.</li> <li>- Long 30-year warranty for posts and 10 years for insulators.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quick setup, with good stability.</li> <li>- Works very good in fencing particularly exposed areas.</li> <li>- Facilitates strip grazing in forage crops.</li> <li>- Two-spike leg.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Posts with two spike legs, reels and wires combined in one unit, allowing for very quick set-up.</li> <li>- Four strands of wire with five height options giving good protection.</li> <li>- One turbo wire at height of greatest risk of breach.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More robust than PVC posts for grazing cattle and sheep.</li> <li>- Two-spike leg giving greater stability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Most choice for varying fencing height with eight options available.</li> <li>- Low-cost fencing post.</li> <li>- Post is fully insulated.</li> </ul>
<b>Disadvantages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Posts are a significant outlay at the outset, but work out lower cost over long lifetime.</li> <li>- Take longer to put up than PVC or pigtail post, but are more targeted at a fence with greater stability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Animals can sometimes become tangled in wire, a high risk in young animals and a mains operated fence.</li> <li>- Need a lot of rolls to cover a large area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High initial cost, but reduced by lower labour requirement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to purchase insulators costing 60c to 65c each, adding on €1.20 to €1.30 to cost.</li> <li>- Takes time to set up wires.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Become brittle with age, leading to poor lifetime.</li> <li>- Break easier than pigtail posts under pressure.</li> <li>- One-spike leg, giving less stability.</li> <li>- Takes time to set up wires.</li> </ul>
<b>Guide price</b>	5ft paddock posts with four strands cost €6.76 incl VAT. Two-strand post costs €6.15 incl VAT. Insulators cost 61c. At 10 posts per 100m and three strands medium-gauge wire costing 10c/m for three rows, fence costs approximately €1.15/m. Cost falls to €1/m if using polywire.	Cormac Sheep equipment - €1.68/m incl VAT. Gallagher Turbonet - €3/m (higher cost due to heavy-duty turbo wires which company says provides more shock). Cheetah electric sheep/poultry netting €2.44/m incl VAT (netting is higher and has smaller square openings).	Costs vary through traders - but approximately €2.50/m to €2.80/m incl VAT.	Cost €2.20 to €2.50 per post incl VAT and €1.20 to €1.30 for two insulators. Taking two rows of medium-grade polywire at 14c and one top strand of standard medium-grade electric wire, fence can be erected for as low as 65c/m to 75c/m.	Generally €2 to €2.25 per post. With 12 posts for 100m (excluding strainers) and three strands of polywire costing 7c/m. Cost for three strands can be as low as 44c to 55c/m. Cost 10c/m to 30c/m more for horse wire.