A BEAR FED BY HUMAN IS A BEAR SENTENCED TO DEATH!

LIFE FOR BEAR

Project - LIFE 13 NAT/RO/001154 FOR BEAR

„Conservation of the Brown Bear (Ursus arctos) population in Romania"

CONCRETE INFORMATION GUIDE ON GOOD PASTORAL PRACTICES

Whenever someone from the sheepfold complained that the bear had come, Boboacă's Nelu from Jieț said: *„Noo, man, no bear came, we came to him!”* Pătru's Uncle Culiță didn't even move and said *„Leave him alone, shout, he will take some and go!”* If it is not locked in the barn, the sheep that the bear takes will leave voluntarily.

Marcu Jura, cioban *www. republica.ro/autor/marcu-jura*

IMPORTANT FOR ANIMAL BREEDERS!

REDUCTION OF DAMAGE TO DOMESTIC ANIMALS

COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGES DONE BY WILD ANIMALS

PRESERVATION OF TRADITIONAL SHEPHERDING ACTIVITIES

The bear often causes direct and indirect conflicts with human's interests. These conflicts often include killing sheep, cows, donkeys, horses, pigs, destroying apiaries, damaging crops and fruit trees, destroying material goods, spreading garbage, fear and dread to urban communities and in some cases injury or death. These conflicts are mostly of an economic nature, which directly influences the rural community which is mainly based on income from domestic animals. In contrast, at present, the benefits associated with the presence of the bear and grazing activity are often economically insignificant for rural communities, but they are still sentimental, moral and traditional.. **Ramon JURJ – LIFE FOR BEAR**

IMPORTANT FOR THE PROJECT!

Prevention, reduction and compensation of damage caused by bears to domestic animals

Ensuring human coexistence with nature

Raising the level of information and awareness of animal breeders about the importance of the bear

Good pastoral practices for domestic animals owners and shepherds

RATIONAL PASTURE

Grazing begins as appropriate when:

- dandelion blooms in spring (traditionally)
- when the height of the grass carpet is 8-15 cm
- green mass production (MV) reaches 3-5t / ha on natural meadows
- the height of the apex (grass growth cone - grass) is 6-10 cm
-or in Romanian culture after **St. George** (April 23)

THE PASTURING SEASON

Duration of grazing season: hill: 130-180 days (May-Oct); mountain: 90-130 days (June - September); subalpine: 60-100 days (June-August).

On mountain pastures there are at most 2-3 cycles of grazing, and on hill pastures 3-5 cycles of grazing.

Stopping grazing is done 3-4 weeks before the beginning of permanent frosts on the ground or in the Romanian culture of **St. Dumitru (October 26).**

It is recommended as grazing capacity 65 kg green mass / day / head / 1 UVM / Large Cattle Unit (Ex: on average 1 adult cattle or 7 sheep, goats / 65 kg grass)

Good pastoral practices for domestic animals owners and shepherds

PASTURE ONLY DURING THE DAY
excluding grazing at night in unfenced areas
PASTURED ONLY ON PASTURE
excluding grazing in the forest

NIGHTING OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS ONLY IN FOLDS

Normal traditional nighting in folds: it is done with sheep, namely: 2-3 nights / 1 adult sheep / sqm on pastures with corresponding grassy carpet and 4-6 nights / 1 adult sheep / sqm on degraded pastures, which in mountainous areas are invaded by spikelets (pig hair). Exceeding the threshold of 6 nights, in all situations leads to severe degradation of the pasture.

Cattle nighting in folds: it is done 2-3 nights or 4-6 nights / 1 cow / 6 sqm, depending on the condition of the grassy carpet.

If these thresholds are exceeded, phosphate fertilizers and sowing with complex mixtures of perennial herbs should be intervened.

USE OF ELECTRIC FENCES

In order to avoid damaging the meadows, but also to create a larger shelter space in case of bear attacks, the night folds for animals will have a minimum of 500 square meters and must be fenced with electrical protection systems (approved electric fences).

USE OF SHEPHERD DOGS

The use for herding of shepherd dogs from the approved local breeds (raven shepherd, mioritic, Carpathian, Romanian bucovina shepherd) because they have very good genetic traits for animal protection, being gentle in human relations and aggressive with predators, ensuring good protection flocks of sheep and cows.

APPLICATION OF THE DAMAGE COMPENSATION SYSTEM

H.G. 1679/2008 – underlies the application of compensation

Obligations of domestic animal owners / breeders to prevent damage that may be caused by specimens of wildlife species, are:

a) to declare and register domestic animals in accordance with the law

b) to ensure the protection of domestic animals grazing or at various jobs;

c) to use for grazing domestic animals only those areas allowed, according to the law, for grazing;

d) to shelter, at night, domestic animals only in fenced and guarded places;

e) to move the domestic animals through the forest to the grazing and watering places, only on the routes established for this purpose, by mutual agreement, with the legal person that manages the fauna of hunting interest from the respective perimeter and with the administrator of the respective forest fund area.

Steps for finding the damage and preparing the file:

(1) The finding of the damage is made **at the written request** of the damaged person, submitted to the town hall on the territory on whose territory the damage occurred.

(2) **The application shall be submitted within 24 hours from the date on which the injured party discovered the damage**

(3) **The convening** of the commission is carried out by the mayor, within 24 hours from the date of registration of the damaged person's request.

(4) **The Commission** shall meet **within 48 hours of the date of the call.**

(5) The deadlines established by hours, provided above, start to run from 00.00 of the next day, and the term that includes or ends on a public holiday or when the service is suspended is extended until the end of the next working day.

Commission for finding damages:

a) a representative of the mayor of the administrative-territorial unit in whose area the damage was notified;

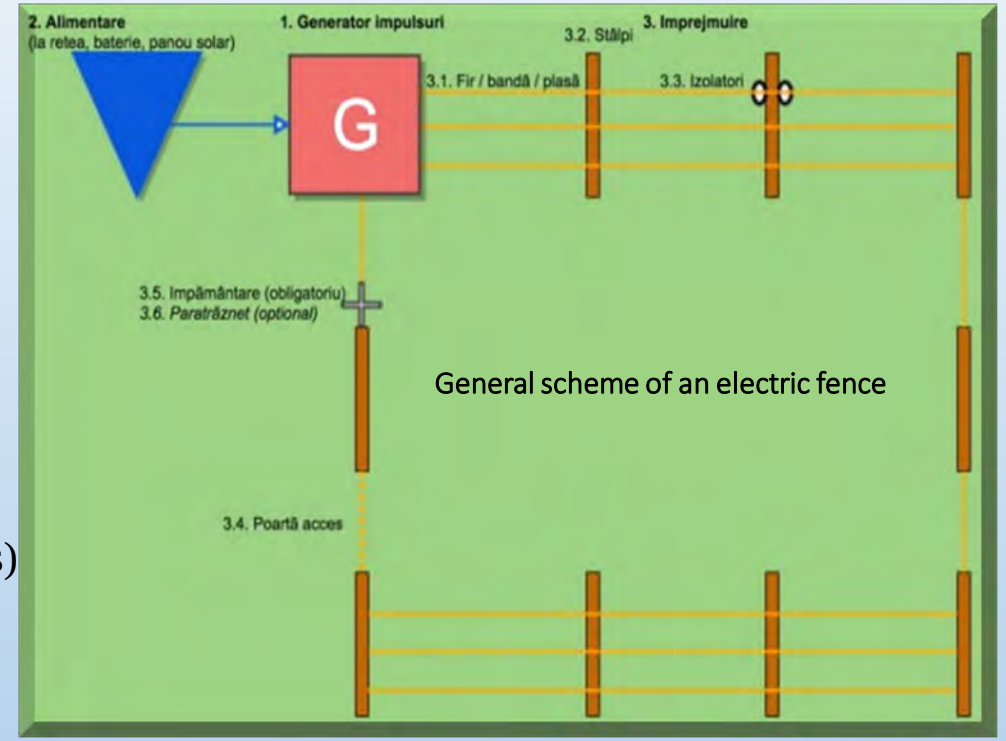
b) a representative of the specialized territorial structure of the Ministry of Environment (Environmental Protection Agency);

c) a representative of the specialized territorial structure of the Ministry of Forests (Forest Guard)

The installation of the electric fence for animals requires a minimal investment as the owner of the land, respectively the farmer, can follow a simple scheme for installing the system.

Electric fence composition:

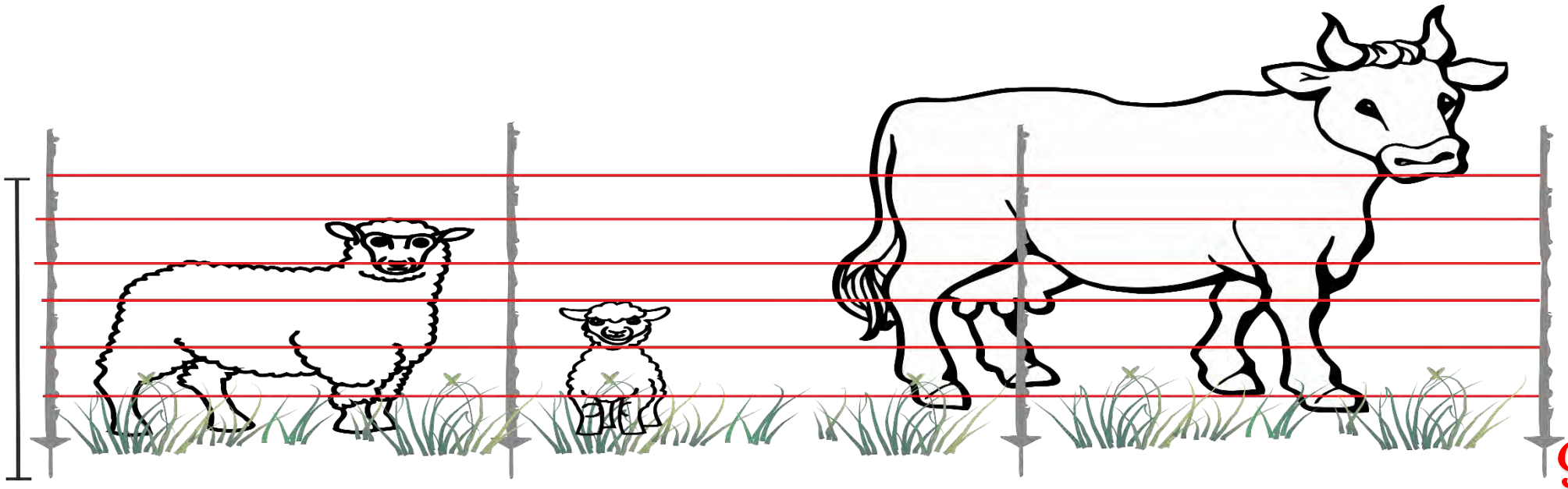
1. pulse generator;
2. power supply (electricity, batteries, solar panels);
3. fencing:
   - 3.1. electric wire / tape / net;
   - 3.2. support pillars (plastic, wood);
   - 3.3. insulators;
   - 3.4. carries access (arched wires with plastic handles)
   - 3.5. earthing;
   - 3.6. lightning rod (optional);



- The length of the electrical protection systems will depend on the need of each sheepfold between 400-1000 meters;
- Low costs (a system with 4-8 wires and solar panel that provides protection on a perimeter of 500m length, costs about 1600 lei / 400 €);
- Maintenance costs are low;
- Provides an active barrier that stops wildlife from entering.

How an electric fence works

- Electrical protection systems, to be effective against bear and wolf must have a number of 5-6 wires arranged as follows: the first 3 threads starting from the bottom, at a distance of 10-15cm between them, and the next 3 threads at 35-40 cm between them. On the other hand, repellents (lithium chloride) will be used to delimit the land occupied by the sheepfold with its annexes. The equipment is monitored weekly to check that the electric fences are operating normally and that any damage has been reported.
- After putting the system into operation, the domestic animals will touch the wires of the fence and will feel an electrical impulse for a few milliseconds, which will quickly transfer to the ground. After this touch, the animal will have a break to leave the problem area. Impulses are not a real danger to animals. Within a few days the domestic animals will get used to the system and will not touch the fence, remaining in the perimeter.
- The electrical wires can serve as a fence for any perimeter, it is not necessary to build another fence and can be moved with the sheepfold;



Installation of an electric fence

1. Choosing the electric fence system (the most advantageous is with a pulse generator with rechargeable battery and solar panel);
2. Transporting the equipment to the sheepfold and choosing the most advantageous place for installation;
3. Several round wooden poles are prepared (diameter 8-12 cm, representing the corners of the fence). They are installed first in the ground, at each change of direction of the fence;
4. The insulators are mounted in the wooden poles by screwing;
5. Mount plastic poles between wooden poles;
6. Install the electric wires through insulators and the special holes on the plastic poles (5-6 wires between the poles and 3-4 gate handlesarcuite);

7. Mow the grass under the fence and next to it, so that the threads in the fence do not come into contact with the grass;
8. A steel earthing bar is installed in a humid place, and if the fence is very strong and long, several such bars are needed;
9. Optionally, lightning rods are installed, with the role of protecting the system in case of electrical discharges during a storm;
10. Starting the pulse generator and testing the entire system using a wire voltage meter (pulses between 5000-10000 V)

ADVICE “from Badea Ion a Toderichi from Mărginimea Sibiului”!

1. The grazing of domestic animals should be done only on pastures, during the day, accompanied by shepherds and dogs!
2. The sheltering of domestic animals at night should be done only in fenced and guarded places!
3. To notify the mayor's office in writing within a maximum of 24 hours from the date of the damage and to request the meeting of the commission, in order to be able to benefit from compensations!
4. To guard the domestic animals with a legal number of trained Romanian shepherd dogs, all wearing yoke!
5. Use electric fences to reduce damage to sheepfolds!
6. To respect the periods for nighting in folds and the grazing cycles in order to benefit from a good pasture in the future as well!
7. To follow the recommendations and laws of hunters and foresters so that they do not have to give fines!

THE BEAR'S HOUSE IS IN NATURE!

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