



A recipient of our free chook wire prepares to get to work on his quoll-proof chook pen.



Another recipient of our free chook wire poses in front of her new quoll-proof chook pen. Like anybody who produces a quoll-proof chook pen using our guidelines, her chooks are now safe not only from quolls, but also from goannas, birds of prey, pythons and dogs.

Summary of quoll-proofing chook pens

Wire-netting was given away to six landholders who volunteered for the project. Many more people contacted us about the project but we only had funds to do six pens. Landholders were selected on the basis of first in first served, so long as they lived in areas within or adjacent to habitat of the spotted-tailed quoll.

In all, 660m² of wire netting was given away during this project.

Each recipient received between 13 and 20m of 13mm square (mouse mesh), and between 33 and 64m of 13mm square hex (budgie) mesh. Recipients were advised to use the budgie mesh to completely enclose their chook pen, including 30cm into the ground. The square mesh, also buried to 30cm, was then used in a single run around the bottom of the chook pen. This resulted in a double-layer of wire in the “danger-zone” from ground level to about 60cm.

This design protects chooks from quolls, pythons, dingoes, goannas and birds of prey, however one of our respondents complained that it didn’t keep his neighbours pit bull out!

See the “protecting poultry and quolls” brochure for more information.