

Biofencing – Man and Animal conflict

March 5, 2021

Biofencing: Biofencing is also known as Live Fencing. Live fences are lines of trees or shrubs planted on farm or field boundaries that provide protection against cattle and wildlife, act as windbreaks, enrich the soil, provide bee forage, provide shade, and control dust.

Why bio-fencing?

- Solar-powered wire fencing is effective only when local villagers maintain them.
- About erection of walls in forest areas, building and repairing them is a costly affair.
- If local farmers agree to be part of the bio-fencing exercise, they can earn by growing lemongrass, a good source of oil.
- Once these plants are in place, the department will string beehives in the next phase to deter elephants.

Pros:

- Cheaper than a brick wall
- Helps maintain soil structure and prevents erosion
- Creates a good microclimate
- Good for the environment

Cons:

- Takes a long time to establish
- Not very strong
- Risk of grazing in initial stages
- Requires more maintenance