

Dear cat lover,

Here are some ideas and pics (see further down) to help you keep your ferals as well as your family animal companions well fed, safe and happy. Our thanks to Annatjie van Niekerk and Chariené Potgieter, who provided a number of the tips and pics.

For feral cats, try to remain as inconspicuous as possible, since there will always be people who don't like cats, and who may complain and cause problems for them. We recommend that you place any dishes, tubs, crates or igloos as unobtrusively as possible, and use only neutral colours that blend in with the surroundings, e.g. dark green, grey or black. In some situations, you may not be able to use bowls or igloos at all, but only perhaps one or two inconspicuous water dishes.

If you can't get to a colony every day, you may want to set up a feeding station that is serviced only every few days or once a week. We recommend the following:

- 1) Use metal feeders (3 kg or 5 kg) under cover. Sometimes the feeders can also be raised off the ground if necessary. One often needs to sprinkle baby powder quite thickly around the feeders to keep ants out, and feeders can also be attached to posts or pillars by means of chains to prevent them from being stolen.
- 2) Use large plastic bowls, which you could place under big oval plastic laundry tubs to keep the rain out (cut holes on both sides to let the cats in), or place feeders or bowls in square plastic crates with lids and cut a hole in the side to let the cats in. Then you can simply lift the lid when you need to refill the feeder or bowl.

You will also find interesting info on Google – simply search for "feral cat feeding stations" or something similar.

Wishing you happy cat-loving!

***The NCat team***



Device against rain and birds  
(cats quickly learn to use it)



Overturnd tubs protect food against rain  
and birds (Some cats nervous of entering if there  
is only one opening.)



Custom-made wire-mesh screen with entrance tunnel to keep birds out



Close-up of entrance tunnel



Custom-made wire-mesh screen with maze entrance to keep birds out



Close-up of entrance



Anti-ant bowl to be used with water or baby powder



Feral feeder can be chained to a tree/pole. Sprinkle baby powder around it against ants.



Sleeping pod (provided by Engela James) in Pretoria: [cligela@lantic.net](mailto:cligela@lantic.net)). Fill with straw or dry hay, and add Happy Cat and a clove of garlic to protect against mites.



Water 'feeder'



Feeding station



Inside of feeding station



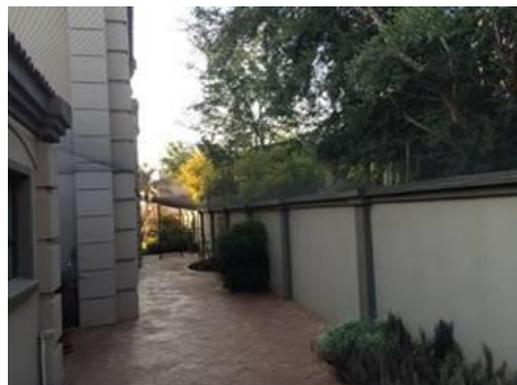
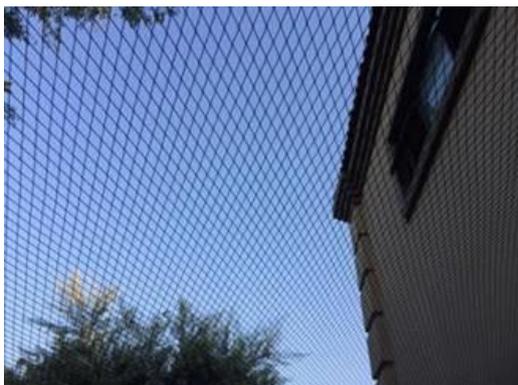
Cats love a wall shelf.



Plastic bottles wrapped around trees prevent cats from climbing them.



Non-electrified fencing bent inwards, wires closely spaced, keep cats inside property. (You could use a greater inward angle to make it more difficult for cats to negotiate.)



Unobtrusive netting to keep cats on premises. Available from Bird Control in Somerset West (R100 per metre, 4 m wide, stretches to 6 m): 021 3001623.

Also see the following link for another device to keep your cats safely on your premises: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-8x22Ce55I&feature=endscreen&NR=1>.

We believe it is Australian, but a local entrepreneur could probably easily copy it. 😊