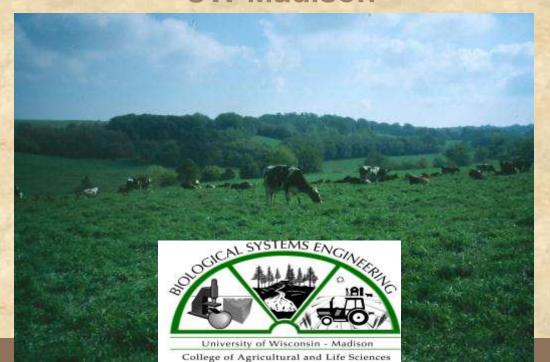
Facility Recommendations in Tropical Climates

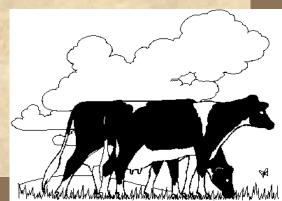
"Modernizing Dairy Farms in Costa Rica"

David W. Kammel

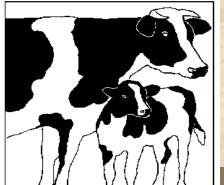
Biological Systems Engineering
UW Madison











Land Base and Dairy Industry

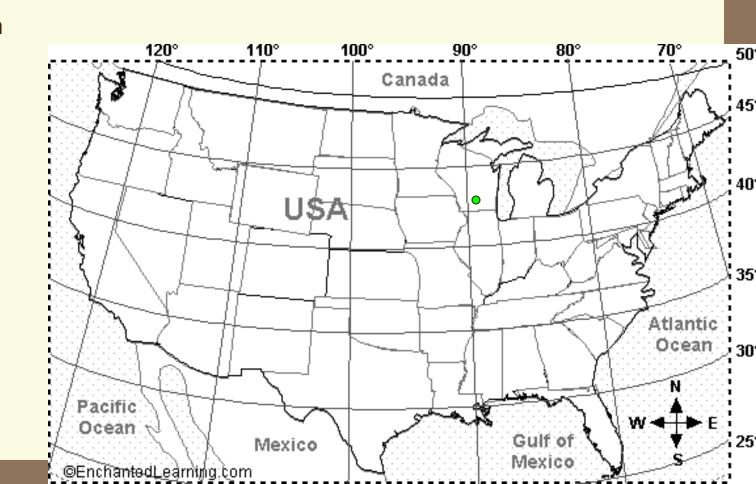
Wisconsin Land Base 169,637 square km

Dairy Herds **10,860 2014**

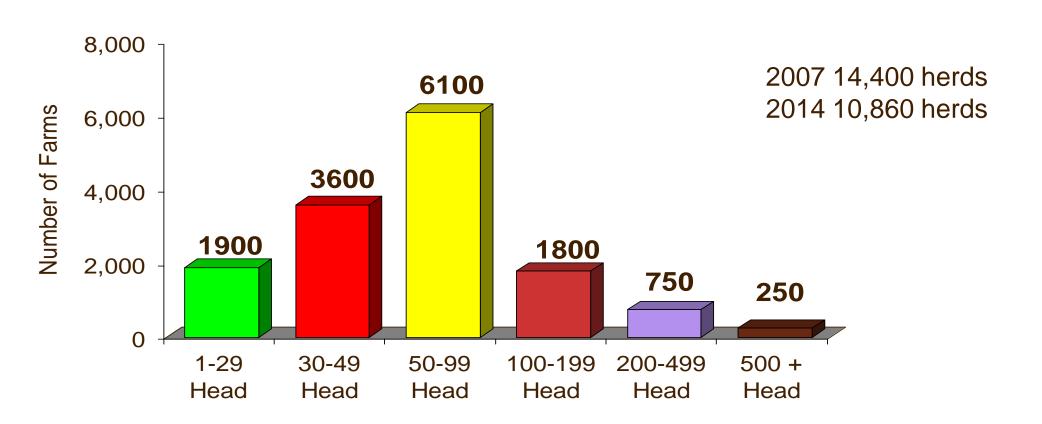
Dairy Cows **1,271,000**

Average herd size 117 cows

Milk production 9860 kg/year/cow



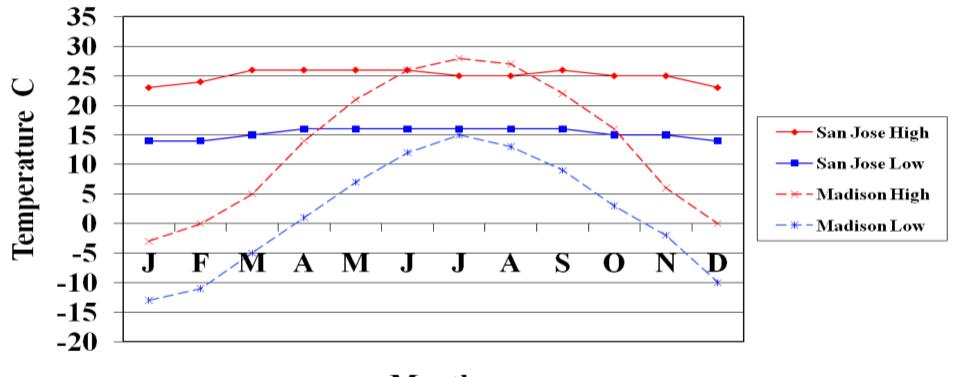
Wisconsin Dairy Farms by Herd Size, 2007*



Source: USDA/NASS, Farms, Land in Farms, and Livestock Operations Summary.

^{*}Preliminary estimate.

Temperatures in San Jose, Costa Rica and Madison, WI USA



Month

Weatherbase.com Intellicast.com



Facility Design Goals:

- Allow the implementation of the management plan to express the cow's genetic potential
- Provide:
 - ✓ Cow Comfort
 - Clean dry environment for cows
 - Adequate fresh air, feed, and water
- Be:
 - ✓ Labor efficient
 - ✓ Safe for both workers and cows
 - ✓ Environmentally friendly
- Produce:
 - ✓ Quality Food
 - ✓ Profitable Dairy Business
- Consider flow of cows, feed, manure, and people

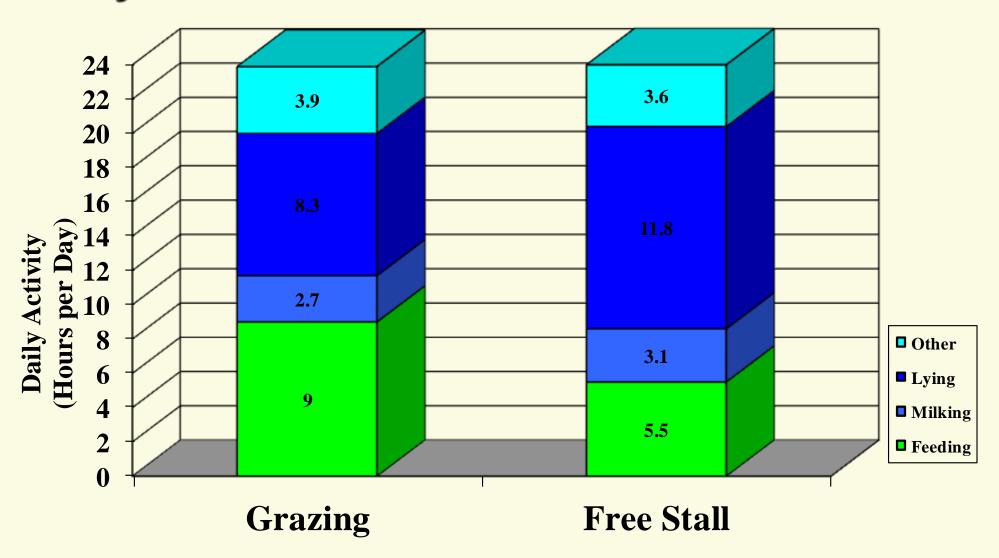
Dairy modernization is investing in facilities that:

- ✓ Improve cow comfort
- ✓ Increase dry matter intake (DMI)
- ✓ Improve labor efficiency
- ✓ Improve operator health and safety
- ✓ Increase profit
- ✓ Improve quality of life

Cow Comfort

- Housing system design which:
 - Protects the cow from severe environmental conditions
 - Provides adequate space for resting, eating, drinking, and walking
 - Limits the likelihood of injury and/or disease
 - Considers all the cows in the herd (especially the subordinate cows)

Dairy Cow Daily Time Budget Grazing versus Free Stall Confinement System



Dairy Animal Management Plan "Needs of the cow"

- The cow is number one priority
 - ✓ Provide an environment that can express the genetic potential of the cow
- Provide adequate space for all management groups
- Provide optimal cow comfort
 - ✓ Provide fresh air by ventilation
 - ✓ Adequate space for resting, eating and drinking
 - ✓ Clean & dry resting space
 - ✓ Adequate space to move to feed and water
 - ✓ Minimize social and environmental stress
 - ✓ Safe from injury
 - ✓ Manage weather extremes
 - ✓ Cow cooling in warm season
 - ✓ Shelter in the wet season

Dairy Animal Management Plan "Needs of the owner and workers"

- Effectively utilize a farm's resources
 - ✓ Land
 - ✓ Capital
 - ✓ Labor
 - ✓ Genetic potential of herd
- Safe & labor efficient
 - ✓ Milking
 - **✓** Feeding
 - ✓ Manure Handling
 - ✓ Cow movement
- Environmentally sustainable

Farmstead Planning in Steps

- Identify Limitations & prioritize investments
- Determine a budget based on:
 - ✓ Number of cows
 - ✓ Financial situation
 - ✓ Risk tolerance
- Develop farmstead master plan
 - ✓ Identify planning zones for milking, housing, feeding, feed storage, and manure storage
 - ✓ Consider future growth (beyond the first step)
- Phased construction (investment)
 - ✓ Consider current needs and long term goals
 - **✓** Reuse existing facilities if possible
 - ✓ Build new facilities as needed

Farmstead Master Plan

- A master plan is a set of drawings and documents that describers the site plan with:
 - ✓ Physical boundaries
 - ✓ Natural boundaries
 - ✓ Existing facilities
 - **✓ Planned/ proposed improvements**
- Defines the benefits/limits of the site







Limitations

Possible Facility Improvements

Wet weather

Feed storage area

Shelter feeding area

Shelter resting area

Hot Weather

- Shade milking area
- Shade feeding area
- Shade resting area
- Sprinklers
- Velocity fans

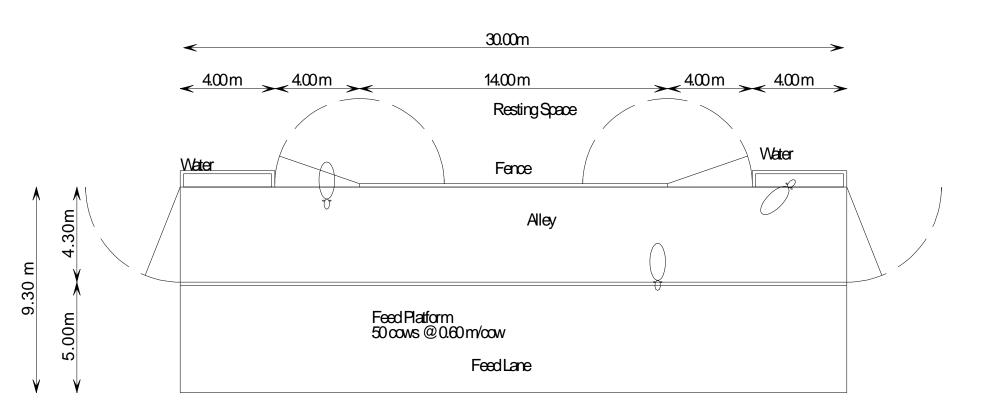
Facility Investments

- ✓ Improved feeding area
- ✓ Shade/shelter the feeding area (with capacity to expand)
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- ✓ Shade /shelter holding area and parlor
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Feeding Platform



Feed Lane Alley Water



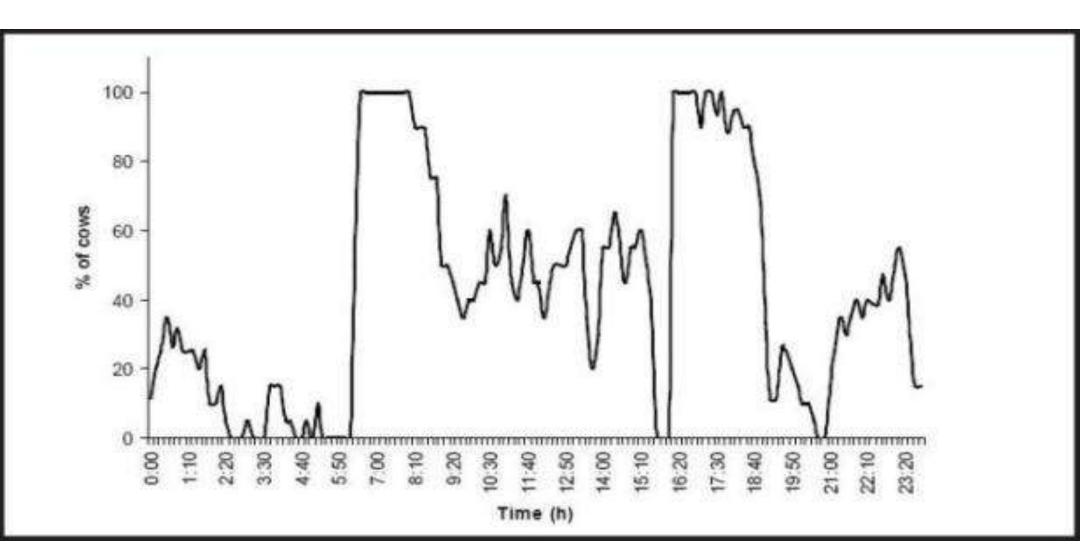




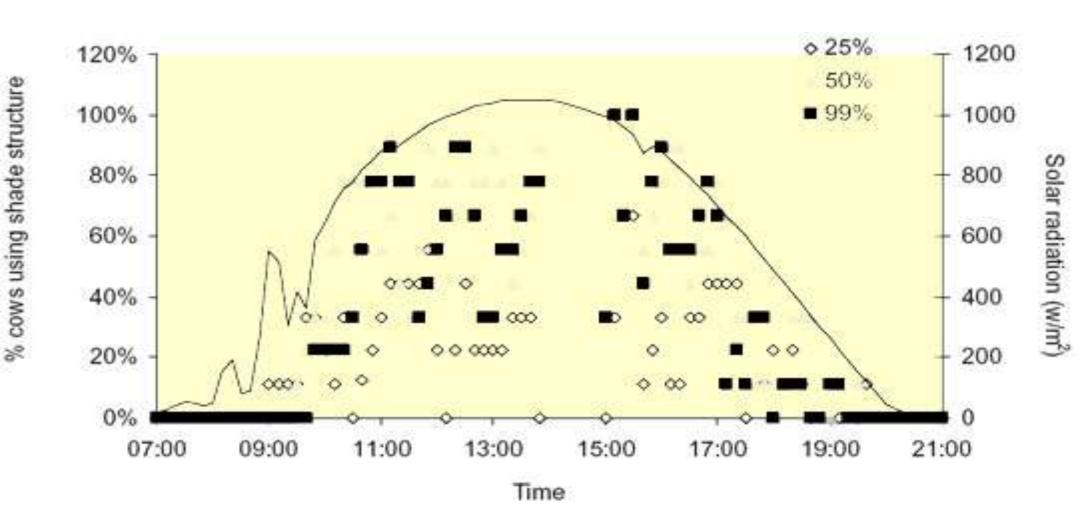
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Hourly grazing of cows



Percentage of cows using shade



Tucker, C.A., A.R. Rogers, K.E. Schutz

Shade Design

- ✓ Shade Area
 - Cows 4.0 -5.0 s.m.
 - 200 kg calf 2.0 s.m.
 - 400 kg heifer 3.0 s.m.
- ✓ Minimum of 50% sun blockage
- √ 4.3 m height minimum
- ✓ North South
 - Allows drying under shade
- ✓ East West
 - Less Sun penetration

- ✓ Natural Shade
 - Controlled access to allow drying
- ✓ Permanent Shade
 - Controlled access to allow drying
 - Improved area (concrete)
- ✓ Portable/movable shade
 - Allows drying
- Separate water locations, salt/mineral feeders, feed locations

North South versus East West Shade

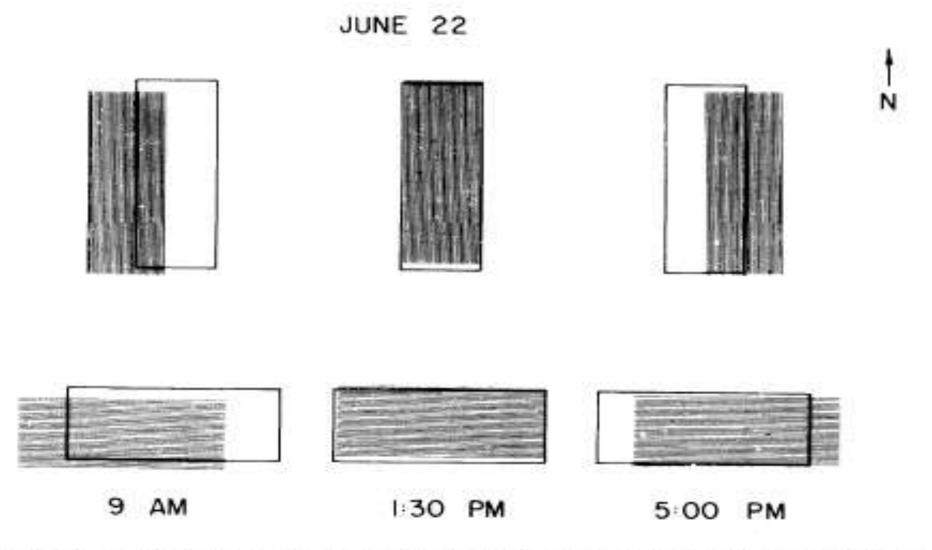


Fig. 2—Shading patterns of the described shade structure at 28 N.

Latitude on June 22.

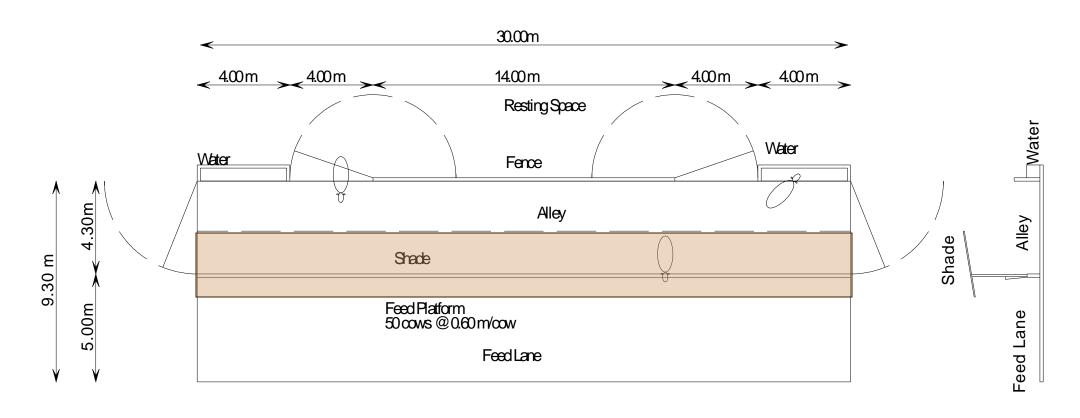
Buffington Collier 1983

ĸ.





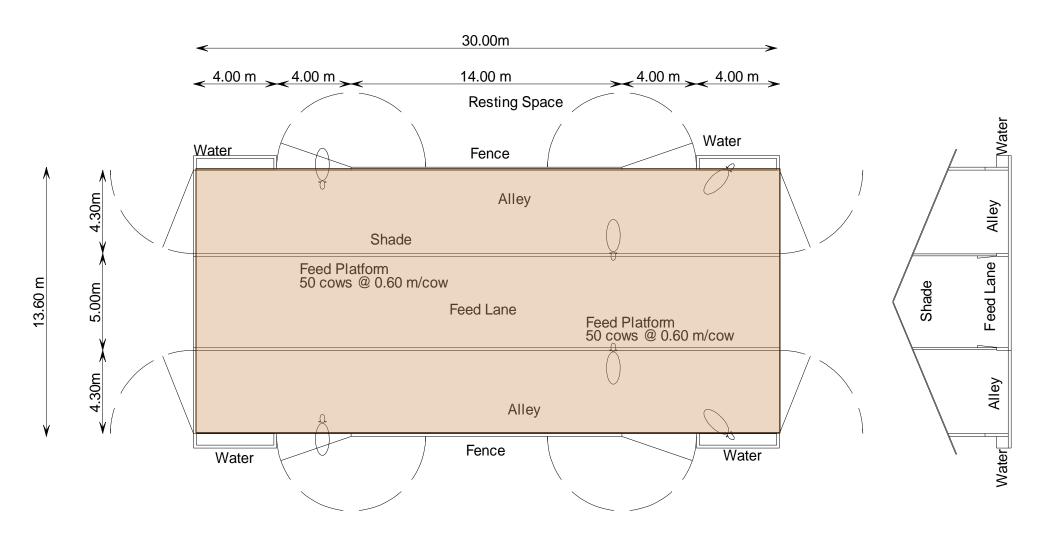
Shade over feeding platform







Shaded Feeding Platform Drive Through Feeding



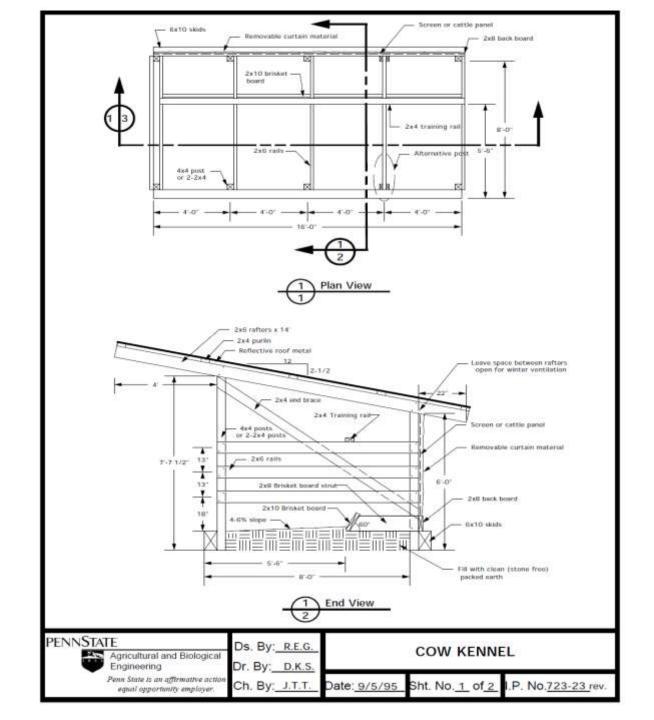




Facility Investments

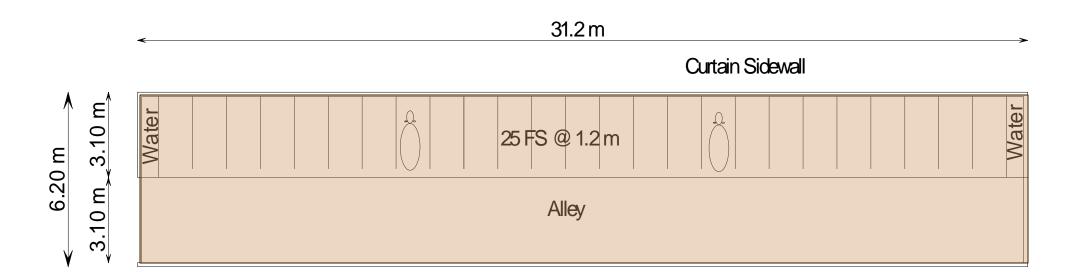
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Cow Kennel





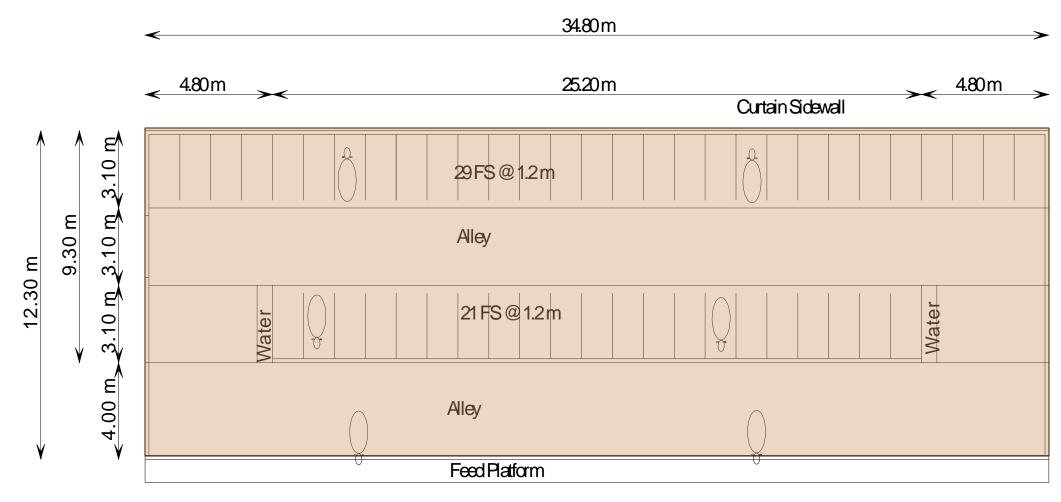
Single row FS with feed platform





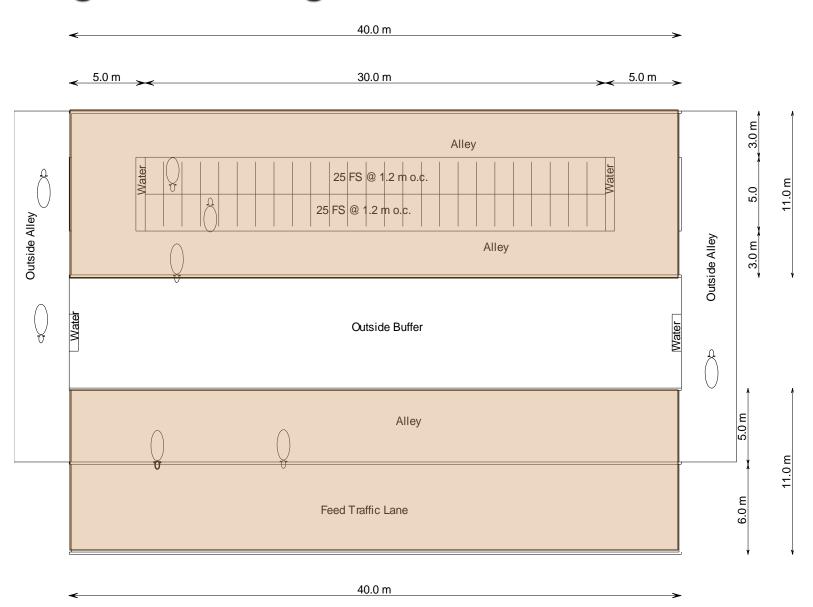


Cow Kennels with drive by feeding



Cow kennels with drive by feeding http://www.farmplus.co.uk/galleries/gal_cowkennels.html

Housing and Feeding Shelters







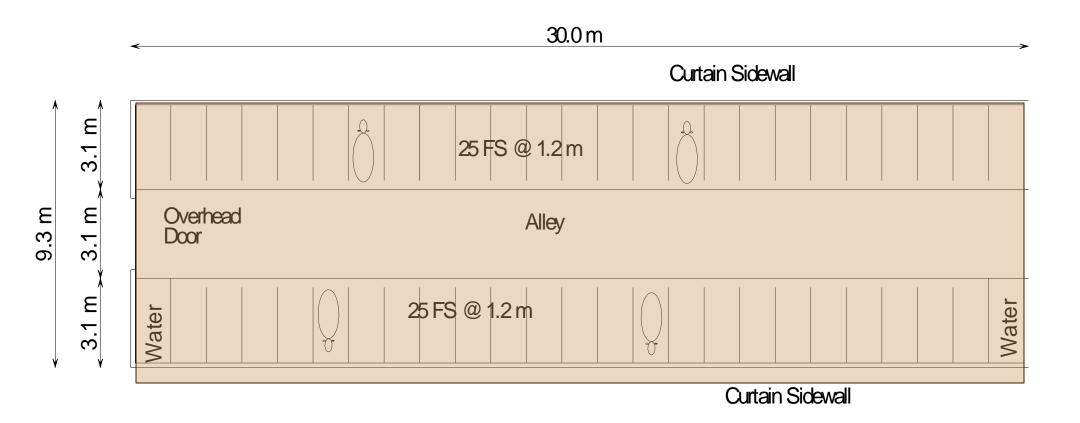








2 row Freestall Shelter







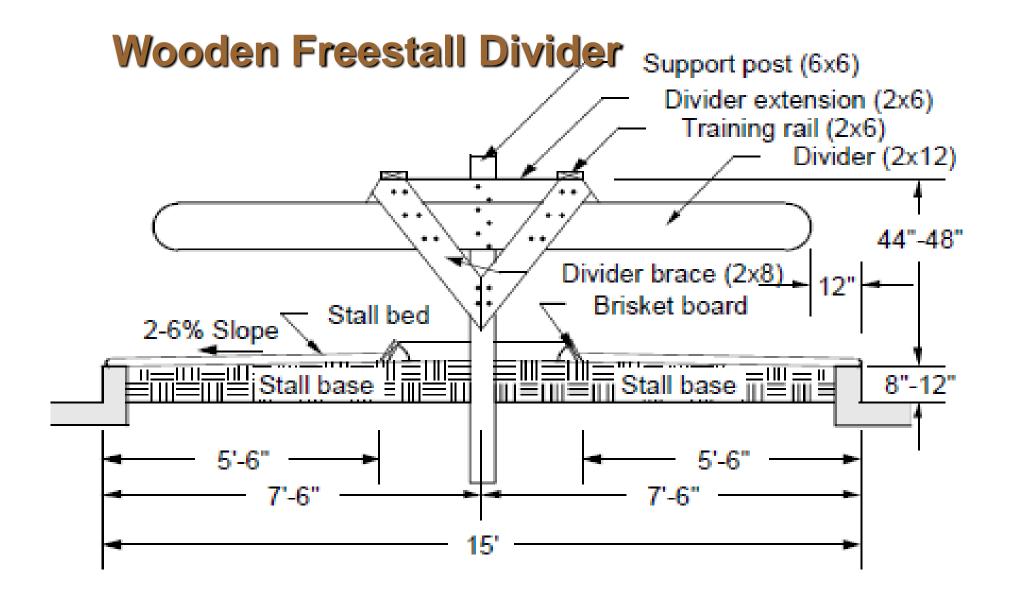
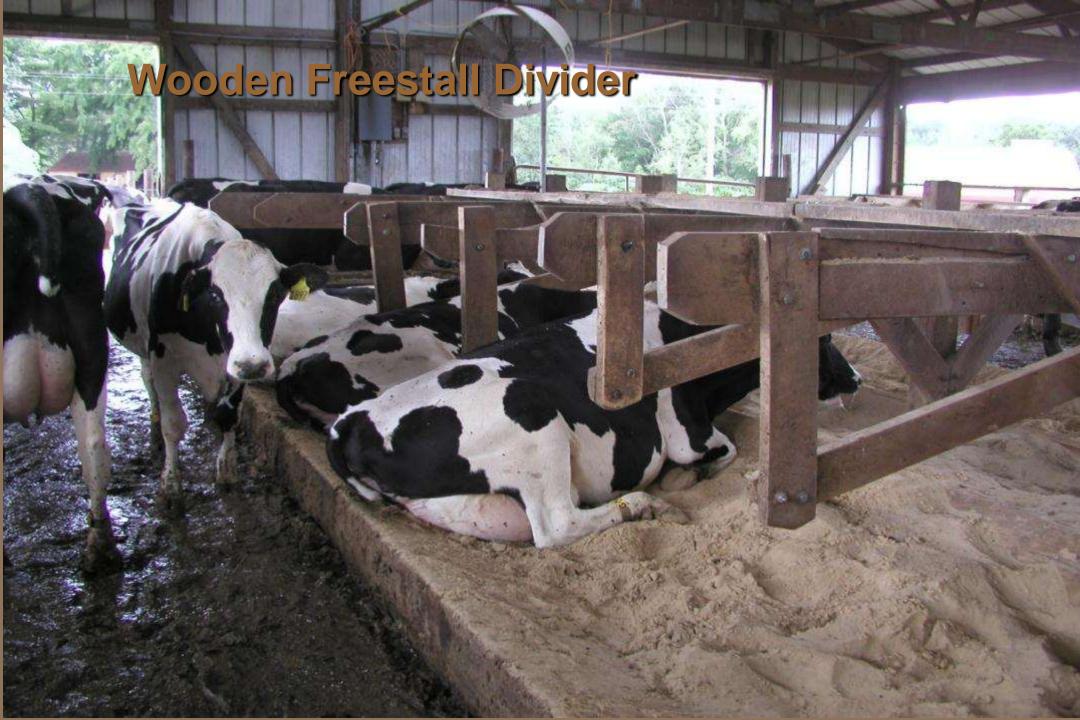


Figure 4. Wooden freestall divider.



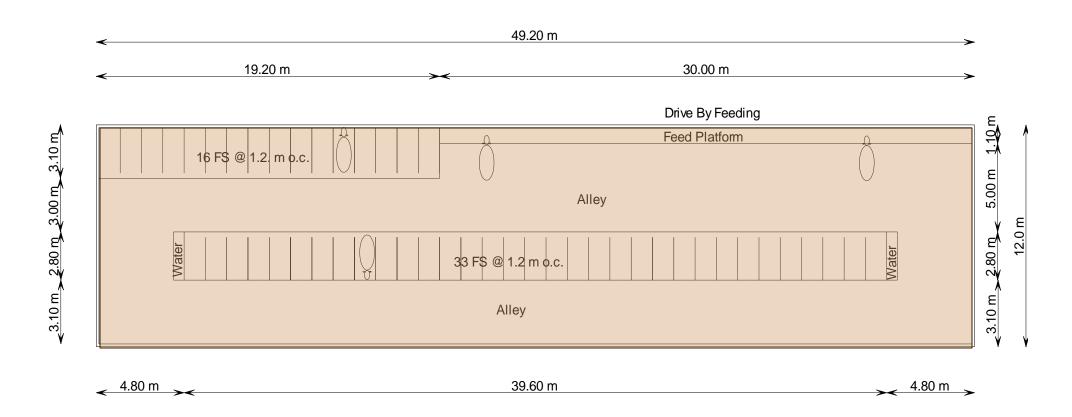






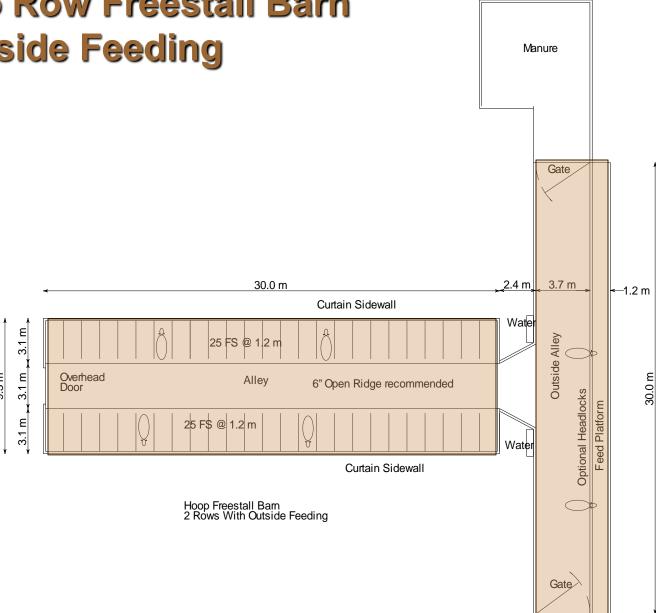


2 row Freestall Barn with Inside Feeding





Two Row Freestall Barn Outside Feeding



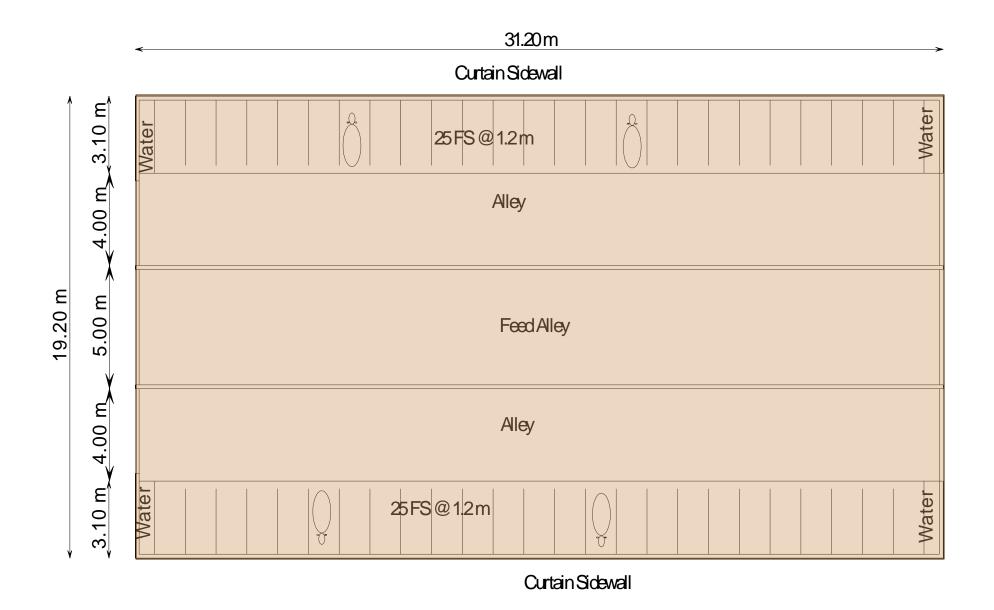


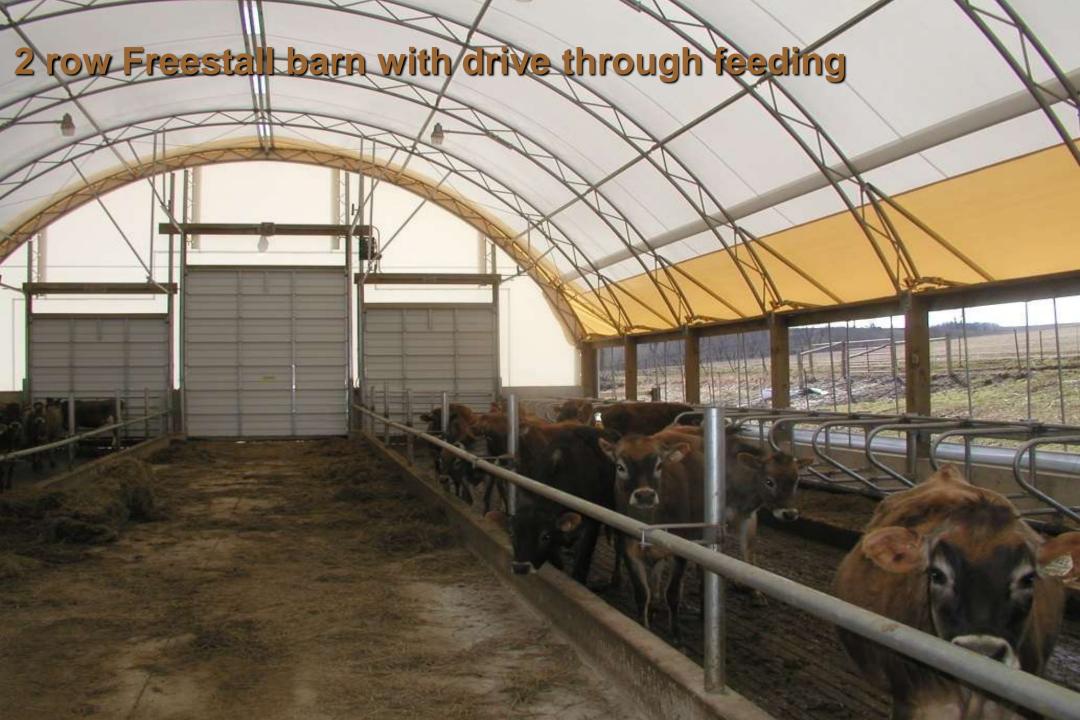




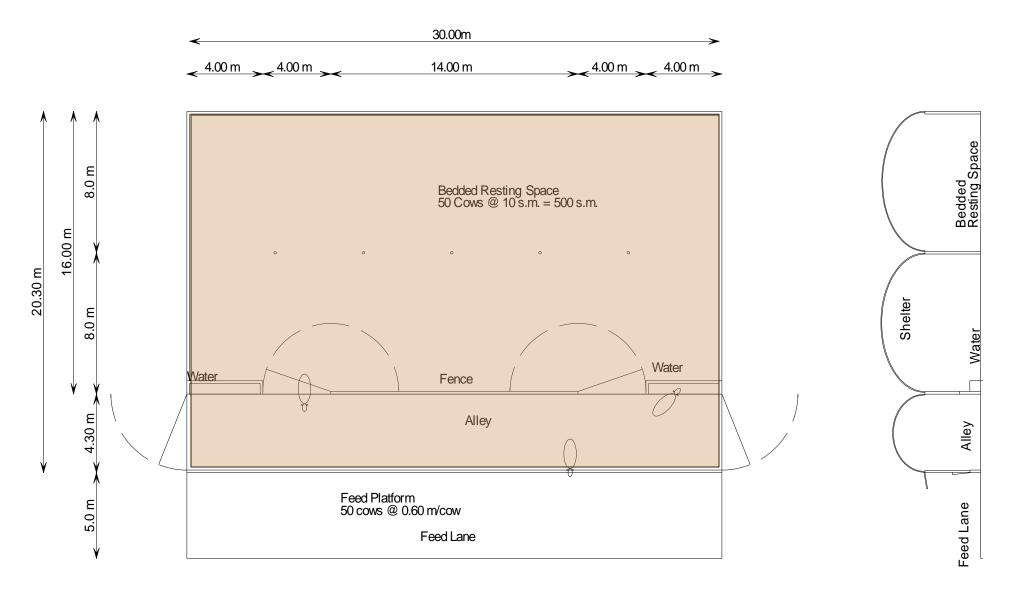


2 row Freestall barn with drive through feeding





Bedded Pen Shelter with drive by feeding







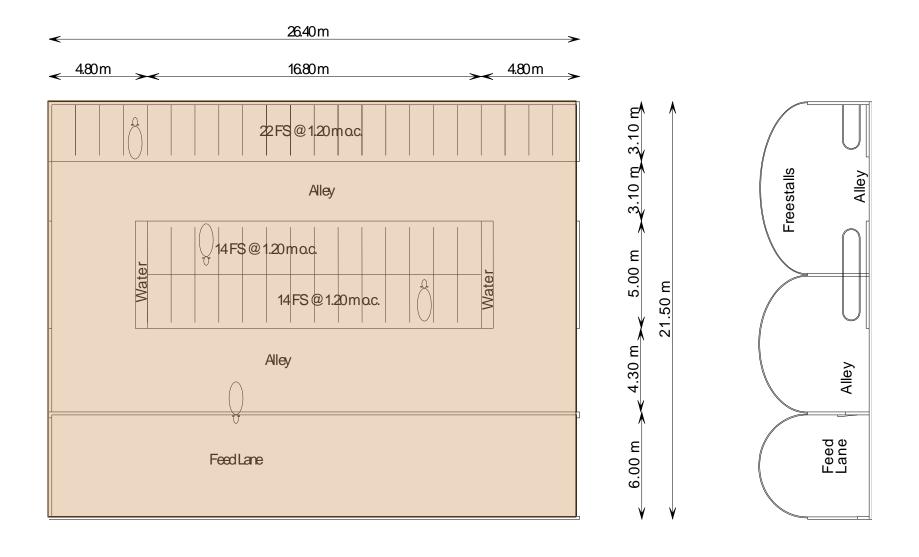




Bedded Pen Shelter with drive by feeding



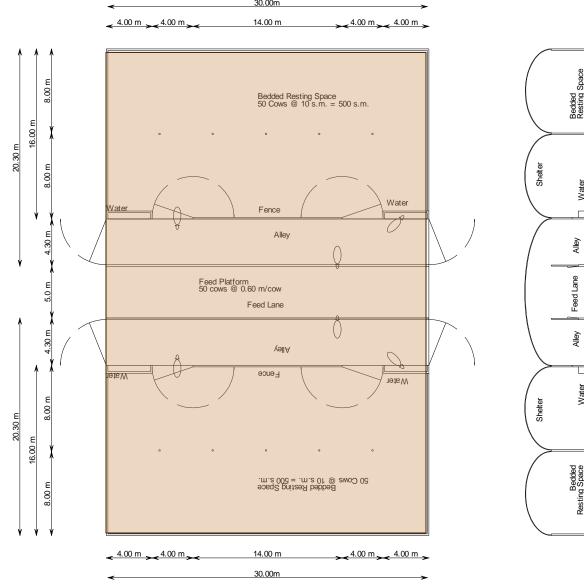
3 row Freestall barn with drive by feeding

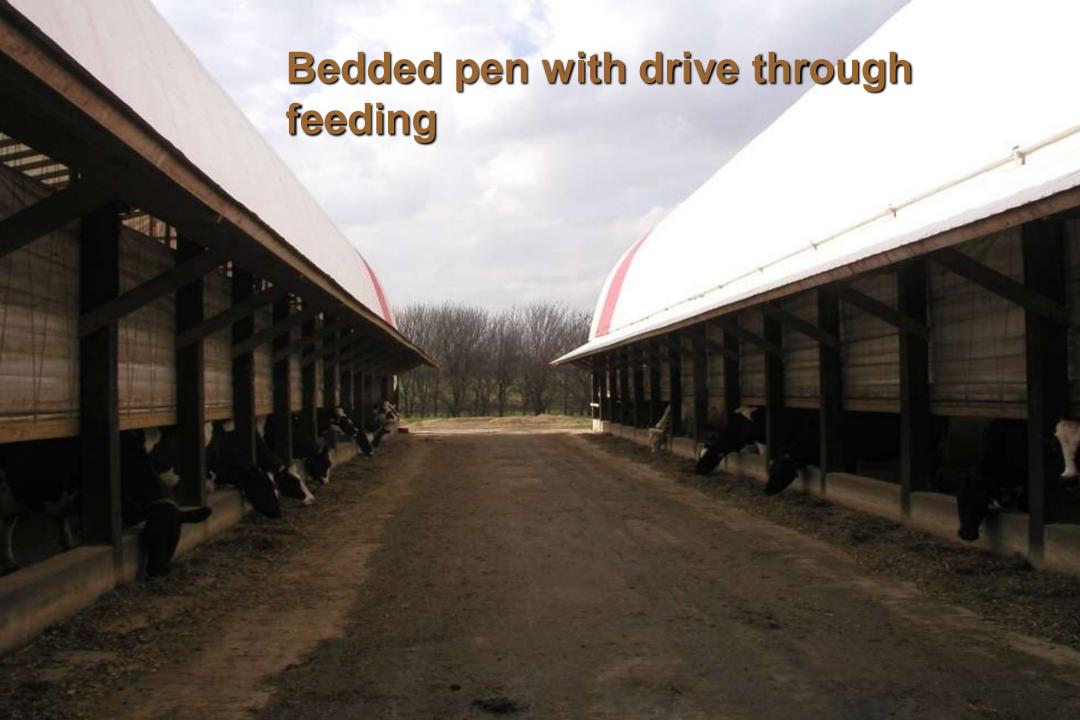






Bedded pen with drive through feeding





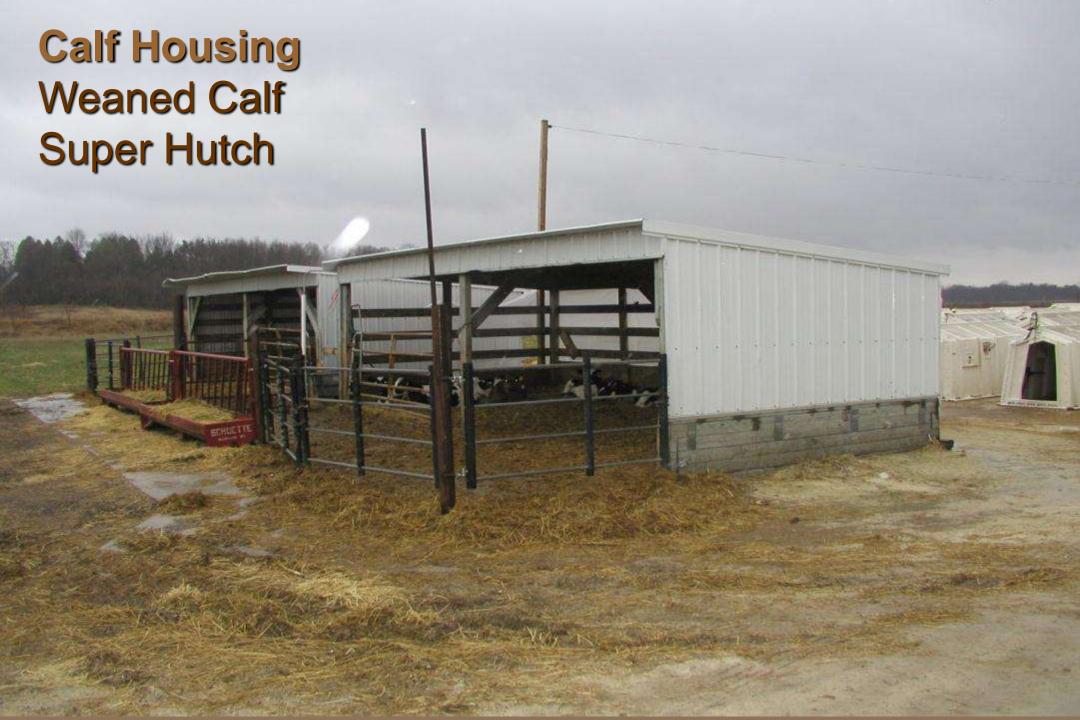






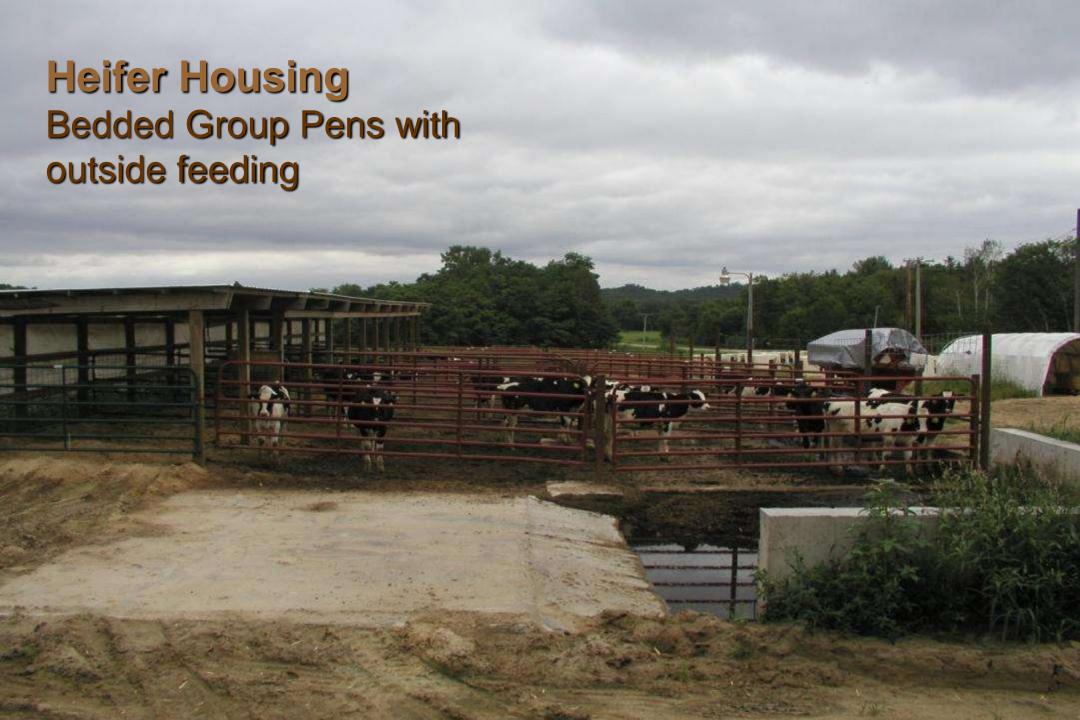
























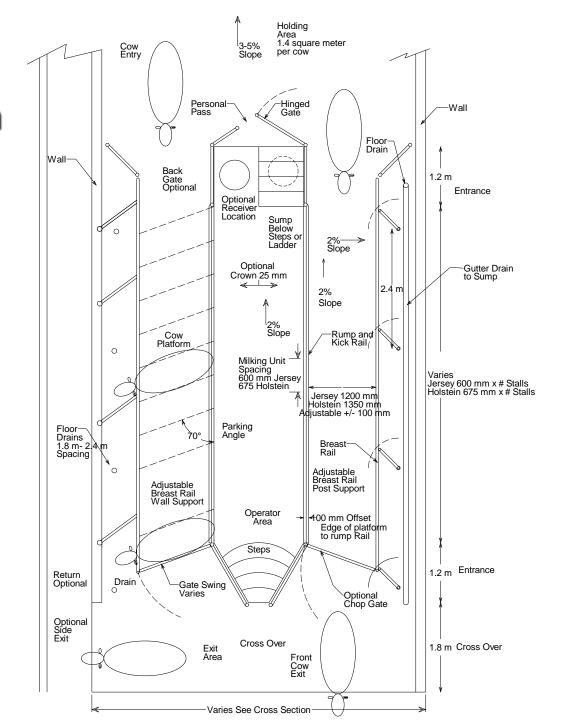


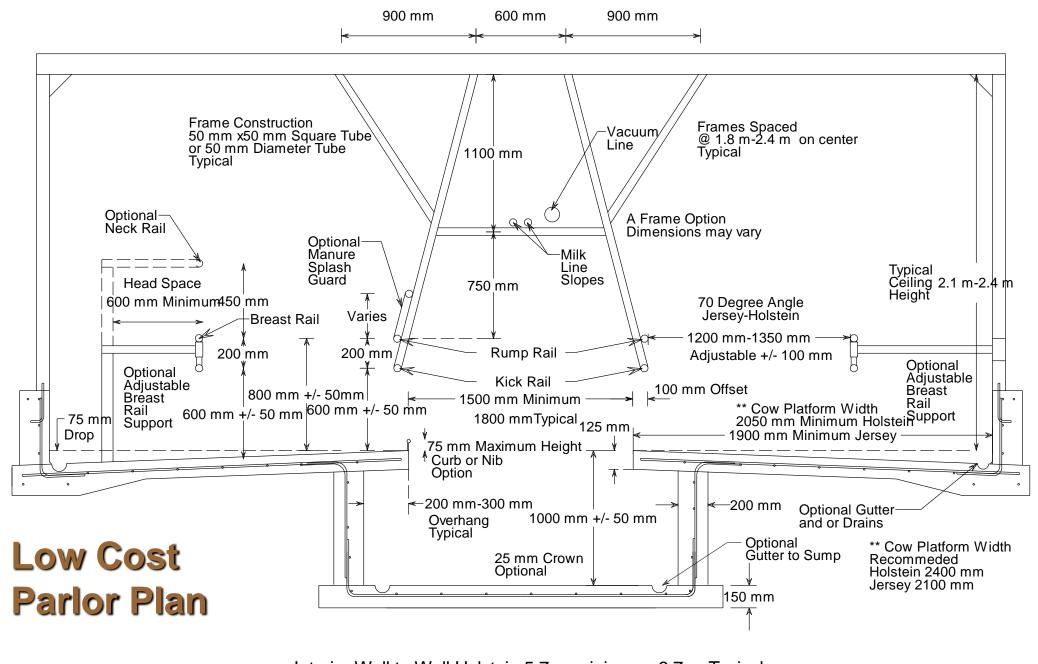
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 - ✓ Velocity Fans
- √ Feed storage
- ✓ Manure storage



Low Cost Parlor Plan





Interior Wall to Wall Holstein 5.7 m minimum, 6.7 m Typical Interior Wall to Wall Jersey 5.4 m minimum, 6.1 m Typical —











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