

Plans Are Available For Modern Livestock Buildings

By TOM WOOD
N. C. State College

Charlie's cattle needed worming. It looked like a cinch, with two fellows to help. They got them in the barnyard—those ten calves and eight cows. And then the trouble started.

"When you goin' to fix that fence, Charlie?" groused John, puffing after chasing the cows back into the barnyard for the third time.

"You want me to spoil the looks of the place?" Charlie said with a rueful chuckle. "That jumpin'-over spot has been there for years."

In the ancient barn, Charlies and John and Frank shoved the reluctant cattle two or three at a time—depending on size—into a dark stall. John held the cow's head while Charlie pumped the medicine down its throat. It was quite a wrestling match. Frank stayed outside the stall to refill the big worming gun.

They got the job done. But it had taken two hours to round up and worm 18 cattle.

"You need a squeeze chute, Charlie," said Frank wearily as he brushed manure from his pants.

"I know," Charlie said. "I'm 'bout to quit reckonin' I can do without one."

A "squeeze chute" is a simple pen where a cow can be held tightly. It's useful not only for worming, but branding, dehorning and other cattle chores.

"Catch-as-catch-can handling of livestock needs to be banished from the North Carolina farming scene," says Ray Ritchie, Extension agricultural engineer at North Carolina State College.

More and more Tar Heel farmers are getting into the livestock business, or expanding their animal enterprises. Ritchie sees a pressing need for buildings and equipment that will make management of livestock easier and more efficient for the farmer.

"We're seeing some changes for the better," says Ritchie. "But too many farmers are building too cheaply."

The difference between 20-penny and 40-penny nails can

mean loss of a building in a windstorm, for instance. "Sure, we need to keep building cost down, and simple cattle lounging sheds and portable pig parlors and inexpensive central farrowing houses are the thing now," says Ritchie. "Few farmers build barns to last 50 years any more; but they ought to be strong enough for, say, 20 years of life."

Hogs on concrete, dry-lot production of cattle—these are two management systems just beginning to build up to trends in North Carolina. The reason is that farmers are finding out that raising livestock in confinement costs little more than producing them on pasture—and the price of land rises all the time.

"Studies made at State College show that a man can set up to handle 20 sows with an outlay of about \$4,000 for buildings and equipment," says Ritchie.

Ever see the plans your county agent has for the latest and best types of livestock buildings? He's got a book full of sketches and detailed construction plans. It shows how to build equipment for beef and dairy cattle, swine and sheep, poultry, hay and grain. There are also plans for fences and gates, plus a number of miscellaneous items you might need around the farm.

Hundreds of progressive livestock producers in the state have used the free copies of these plans. But, as Ritchie says, thousands more could be boosting their income by building from them.

REVAMPING DELAYED

The Cuban crisis has delayed the Army's revamping of its National Guard and Reserve, it was reported. But it is hoped it will begin by the end of this month.

The Army plans to break up eight guard and reserve infantry divisions and reform them into more streamlined brigades. It also intends to trim about 700 company and detachment-size units considered obsolete or unneeded.



HARVEST TIME—Workers harvest a burley crop. Burley began arriving in Boone last week in preparation for the first sale, scheduled to be held November 27. An increase in the Watauga county allotment is expected to raise income of burley growers by about \$70,000, according to L. E. Tuckwiller, county agricultural agent.

Hospital News

Patients admitted to Watauga Hospital from November 5 to November 12 are as follows:

Lloyd Franklin Greene, Mrs. Minnie Miller, Kilmer Roscoe Hartley, Miss Judy Mildred Pope, Carl S. Teague, Dean Henry Pennell, Miss Joy Christine Hudson, Mrs. Ardith Greene, Miss Joyce Ann Powell, Mrs. Lillie Leona Triplett, Mrs. Billie Holman Cooke, Mrs. Claty Snow Hartley, William Frank Greer, Mrs. Connie Paralee Williams, Mrs. Annie Triplett, Miss Deborah Lee Greene, Mrs. Janetta K. Jones, Mrs. Betty Ruth Ragan, Thomas W. Culbreth, Miss Mickie Turner, Joseph Michael Allen, Master William Isaac Moretz, Mrs. Judy Estella Greene, Miss Maxine Clark, Wm. Paul Klutz, Jr., Miss Mary Linda Greene, Master Rickey Dean Jones, Conley William Church, Steve Reese, Mrs. Ala McGuire, Rose Edna Potter, Miss Mary Lou Greene, Mrs. Greta Odenia Wilson, Grady Farthing.

Mr. and Mrs. Talmadge Watson, girl, Nov. 7.
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mote, Jr., girl, Nov. 7.
Mr. and Mrs. Curley Miller, girl, Nov. 9.
Mr. and Mrs. Arvil Presnell, boy, Nov. 9.
Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Austin, boy, Nov. 9.

Caution Urged In Sowing Tobacco Seed

Greensboro—Several Guilford county tobacco farmers have found they can get into trouble by sowing their seed too early after the beds have been fumigated and the plastic covers removed.

The trouble, according to Assistant Agricultural Agent B. H. Taylor, shows up in a poor stand of plants.

"Experience shows that the cover should not be on more than 48 hours and the seed should not be sown less than 24 hours after removing the cover," Taylor explained.

Irrigation Equipment Profitable Investment

Trenton — Tobacco farmers looking for a profitable place to invest their money might consider irrigation equipment.

This is the conclusion reached by Agricultural Agent J. R. Franck after witnessing the results of irrigation in Jones county for several years.

"Of course, in some years, farmers will never need to set up their irrigation systems," Franck commented. "But in dry years irrigation can increase gross income by up to \$400 per acre."

LOVER'S QUARREL ENDED

Caerau, Wales — A lover's quarrel parted David Thomas and Miss Rachel Jones forty-two years ago. Every week since then Thomas has written Miss Jones trying to patch up the quarrel, although she has refused to speak to him.

Recently the couple, both now 74 years old, were married. Apparently the quarrel ended at his last proposal.

Sales Are Booming On Curb Markets

Would you like to supplement your family income by \$1,000 in 1963? This can be done with good planning. And you can also be at home with your family most of the time.

"One way to do this is to become a regular seller on a Home Demonstration curb market located in various towns across the state," says Miss Iola Pritchard, food conservation specialist for the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service.

"There are 31 markets at present," she says. "Five of these are seasonal and operate only during the summer months when tourist trade is sufficient to support the operation. Total sales run from \$300,000 to \$400,000 per year. This means an average annual supplement per seller of about \$800 to the income—many averaging \$1,500 or more."

Sellers range in age and experience from 4-H Club members to adults who have sold continuously for 35 years. They become sellers for various reasons—sometimes just for additional income, a college education, washing machine, home freezer or some other home improvement. But usually they are working to reach a certain goal.

Miss Pritchard says anyone can sell on the market if they follow certain regulations: They have to plan for and produce quality products in sufficient quantity to satisfy a continuing

market and they must abide by rules and regulations set up by the sellers.

A variety of products can be bought at the market. The majority of sales are from food items. These include fresh fruits and vegetables in season, baked products of many kinds including cakes, pies, and many variations of yeast breads.

Miss Pritchard says you can also purchase candies, mints, doughnuts, as well as pickles, preserves, jellies and canned fruits and vegetables. If it's cured country meat, fresh eggs or potted plants, you can usually find them at the markets. Some sellers have used this outlet to market some of their quality craft articles.

Many new vegetables are introduced on the market for sale, such as cauliflower, eggplant, broccoli and cocktail tomatoes.

Interesting reports were found regarding the demand for certain foods in past years. For example on one market in 1945 the sale of poultry reached a high of \$5,495 while in 1958 the sales amounted to only \$218.

"Sellers are encouraged to maintain high standards for the products they sell," reports Miss Pritchard. "All products are produced by the seller (no buying and reselling) and everything is guaranteed by them. The markets operate solely on a producer to customer basis."

Improper Fertilization Hinders Plant Growth

Whiteville — Band placement of fertilizer has paid off for Columbus county tobacco farmers E. L. White of Whiteville, Rt. 3, and Tate Solse of Clarendon, Rt. 1.

Assistant Agricultural Agent Cameron M. Garris quotes White as saying that he has been getting a 25 per cent better stand since switching to band placement in 1960.

Assistant Agricultural Agent Archie F. Martin says that Solse had been getting considerable damage from fertilizer injury until he purchased band placement equipment in 1961.

His stand has since been uniform and his yields better. Solse is now convinced that high amounts of fertilizer under the plant are detrimental to plant stands and uniform growth.

TOBACCO AFTER TOBACCO IS CALLED POOR RISK

Clinton—Tobacco after tobacco is a poor risk. Sampson Agricultural Agent Worth Gurkin reports that nine out of 10 cases of black shank checked by his office occurred in fields where tobacco had followed tobacco.

The markets are under the immediate supervision of the local home economics agent who works with sellers in an advisory capacity. If anyone is interested in becoming a seller or customer at one of the organized markets or feels a need for a market in the community, they should contact the local home economics agent.

To The Voters Of The 9th District:

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