

HOW TO BUILD A SWEET POTATO STORAGE HOUSE

A 20x40-foot House, 9 Feet at Eaves, Will Hold 2,500 to 3,000 Bushels—How to Build One

THE Progressive Farmer has been earnestly urging farmers to build sweet potato storage houses. In order to have these storage houses ready on time, plans should be made very early now, and the work done after crops are laid by.

In a recent bulletin the Georgia College of Agriculture presents a plan for a storage house 20x40 feet and 9 feet at the eaves, holding 2,500 to 3,000 bushels. As the College says in this bulletin:

"It is very desirable to keep sweet potatoes throughout the winter and late into the early spring and summer months. This is obvious. The most practical way to do this is by the use of a storage house in which the temperature can be controlled by ventilation. The plans given are for the construction of such a house. It is called commonly a "dry kiln" house on account of the practice of drying out the potatoes by use of stoves when they are first carried into the house.

How to Build a Storage House

"**B**UILD of wood, as it is drier than brick, stone or concrete. It is easier to operate in regulating temperature.

per, and on the outside a layer of weatherboarding. On inside put two layers of ship lap and between them a layer of building paper. Allow the inside wall to cover both studding and rafters, thus running to top of house. In south Georgia the weatherboarding will be sufficient for outside wall. The sides should be well tied together to prevent spreading. Use 2x4 every four feet over bin partitions for this purpose.

"Leave space between the walls open for it keeps house drier. The air space is as good an insulator as sawdust and keeps out moisture if plans given are followed.

"Thorough ventilation is necessary. Put a window every ten feet. In house 20x40 feet put ventilator 8 inches square in each corner and on each side of stove. Also two ventilators are placed in top of building.

"Doors should be tight-fitting and similar to an ice door. Windows should be of the same kind and open outward. Make doors and windows so that they can be well padded. Ventilator in roof should extend above ceiling to carry out warm air. All ventilators should be provided with tight-fitting covers. Provide cover for ventilators on top of house to keep out rain.

"The bins shown here are 4 feet wide by 7½ feet long. Sides and bottoms made of 1x4 slats. They are placed 6 inches from inner wall and 4 inches above floor. This facilitates

Legume, Forage and Pasture Crops—What to Do This Week and Next

GET some crop growing on all the stubble land without delay. There are a dozen crops, all good, that may be used. Select the one that best fits your particular needs and put it in now. Don't tolerate any loafing acres on your farm.

Corn, the South's great cereal and our best wheat substitute, may yet be planted, though it should be put in as soon as possible. If it can be had, seed of the Mexican June variety is to be preferred for late planting, but if this cannot be had we would use seed of the ordinary variety best suited to local conditions.

The late corn should be put on the best available land, and unless drainage conditions are very bad we would prefer to plant it well below a level—down in a fairly deep water-furrow. This method of planting will make germination more certain in case of dry weather at planting time, will make cultivation easier and will probably help the growing crop to withstand drouth better.

On every well regulated farm the hog crop is one of the most important grown, and now is the time to make all arrangements for growing it cheaply and hence profitably. This is best done by seeing to it that the hogs are always bountifully supplied with grazing crops.

plant with corn. If the seed are available, the Late Speckled will be the best variety to use, as it will make a larger vine growth than the earlier maturing kinds.

Though the job should have been attended to earlier, there is still time to start a Bermuda pasture. Break the land well, lay off rows about three feet apart, drop pieces of Bermuda turf every two or three feet, and then harrow the land smooth.

Use the mower on the pasture to keep the weeds down and prevent their making seed. It should also be used on all lespedeza hay land if the weeds threaten.

OUR FARM NOTEBOOK

BUY some more War Savings Stamps!

Grapes should now be sprayed with Bordeaux mixture to prevent rot.

Mound up the earth around peach and plum trees to control the peach tree borer.

War Savings Stamps will make good premiums for use at your community fair this fall.

Tractors should be used to break up the stubble land and the horses used for lighter work.

An application of 200 pounds of acid phosphate per acre under peas will usually pay handsomely.

Why not fix up a bathing place for the hogs? They seek the mud because it is damp and cool, not because it is filthy.

Especially care should be taken to keep the cream separator clean this hot weather. Clean it thoroughly after each skimming.

Once again: farmers who have power plowing outfits should cooperate with less fortunate neighbors in getting every acre of stubble land planted in some crop.

When you discarded your walking plow and bought a riding one, did you make provision so that your wife could throw away her washboard and begin using a modern washing machine?

Where farmers have more bags than they need, it will be a patriotic act to sell the extra ones. Dealers pay from 6 to 15 cents each for them, depending on the size and condition of the sacks.

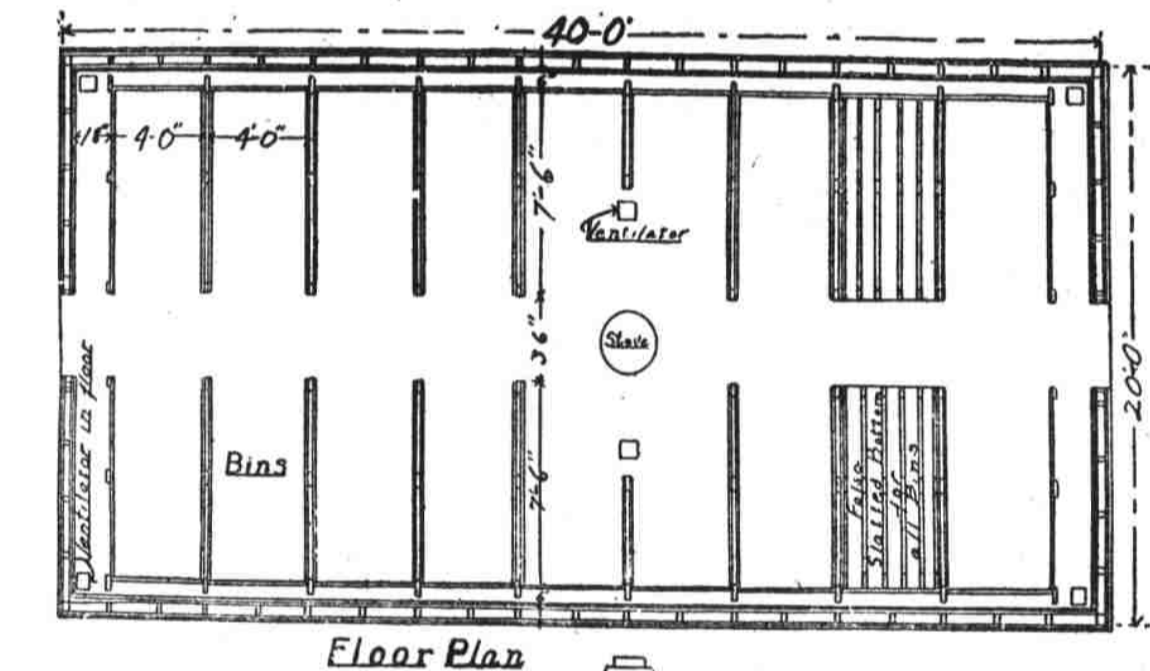
A screen door that doesn't fit is about as bad as no screen door at all—for the flies will discover the least little crack. It pays, therefore, to take a little extra time and fit screens well.

Now is a good time to make war on rats and mice—while the corn is low in the crib and the grain about all out of the bins. It's also a good time to see about making such buildings and bins permanently rat-proof.

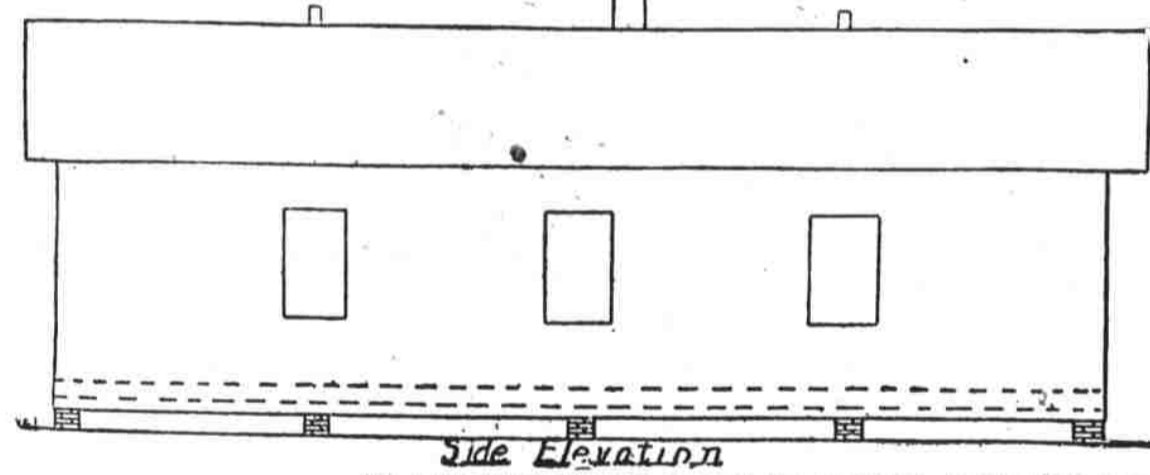
No horse should be allowed to stand idle. Farmers or city business men with idle horses should hire them to some farmer who can use them to advantage. More work can be done, sometimes as much as 25 per cent more, by putting three horses to a two-horse implement.

On account of large shipments of foodstuffs abroad, there is a shortage of burlap bags. Farmers should therefore save such bags and not buy new ones unless it is absolutely necessary. The life of fertilizer bags may be greatly lengthened by washing out the chemicals as soon as the fertilizer is used.

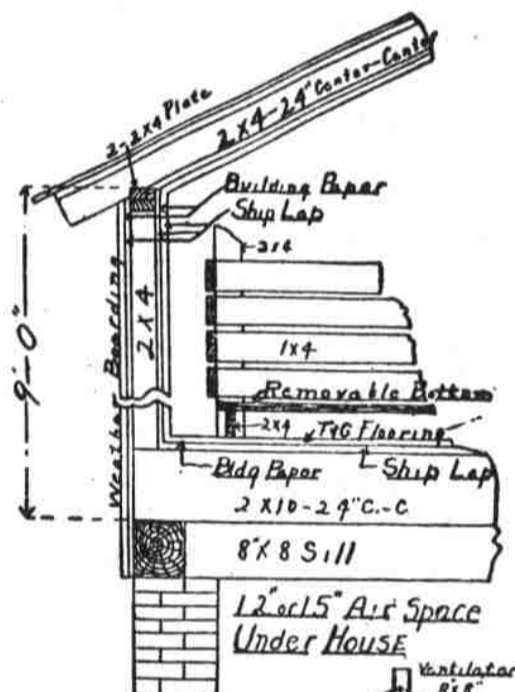
When a new implement is ordered, one should be sure all the parts are delivered by the railroad company. Often an implement is ordered ahead of time and then stored away to be set up later, when needed. A farmer we know went to set up a riding cultivator the other day, after it had been on the farm for sometime, and he found that didn't have much more than half of it.



Floor Plan



Side Elevation



CROSS SECTION

PLANS OF POTATO STORAGE HOUSE HOLDING 2,500 TO 3,000 BUSHELS

Never use a "dug out," as it is very expensive and cannot be kept dry. The house should be placed 12 to 15 inches above ground, so that the air will circulate freely beneath it.

"A 20x40-foot house, 9 feet high at the eaves will hold 2,500 to 3,000 bushels. These potatoes can be placed in the house in bins or in some other manner. A plan that has proved very successful near Thomasville, Ga., has been to use bushel boxes for storing the potatoes. These boxes can be taken directly to the field at harvesting, filled, carried to the house and piled in blocks of 500 bushels. Then there is no reason to rehandle the potatoes until they are ready for market or the market is ready for them.

"A house 20x40 feet is built as follows: Build three rows of pillars, two under sides and one under center of house. Let these pillars be at least 12 inches above the ground. Use a 6x8 or 8x8 sill on top of pillars. On top of sill place 2x8 or 2x10 sleepers 24 inches apart. On the sleepers a floor of ship lap or matched boards is laid, then a layer of building paper and on that matched flooring. The walls are built by placing 2x4 studding 24 inches apart. On the outside put a layer of ship lap, on it a layer of building pa-

circulation round and under bins. Some store the potatoes in house in crates thus eliminating the bins. But when stored in crates the potatoes must have the same ventilation as when stored in bins.

"In the middle of house a stove is placed. A fire is started when the workmen start storing potatoes and house kept at temperature of 80 to 100 degrees until potatoes are cured. This is about ten days. Let hot moisture-laden air out through ventilators. After curing period is over gradually lower the temperature to 55 degrees during the remainder of storing period."

Bill of Material

FOLLOWING is bill of material for above described storage house:

	B. M. Ft.
Weather boarding	1440
16 sills—8x8—10	854
42 sleepers—2x10—10	700
66 studding—2x4—10	374
16 studding—4x4—10	214
44 rafters—2x4—12	352
10 ceiling joists—2x4—20	135
16 plates—2x4—16	262
Ship lap	4880
Tongue and grooved flooring	1000
30 bin posts—2x4—16	320
12 floor supports—2x4—16	128
Slats for sides of bins—1x4	3500
4500 feet building paper; 10 squares galvanized roofing; 1 stove; 100 brick; 8 pairs hinges; 200 pounds nails.	

Save your papers and get a binder.