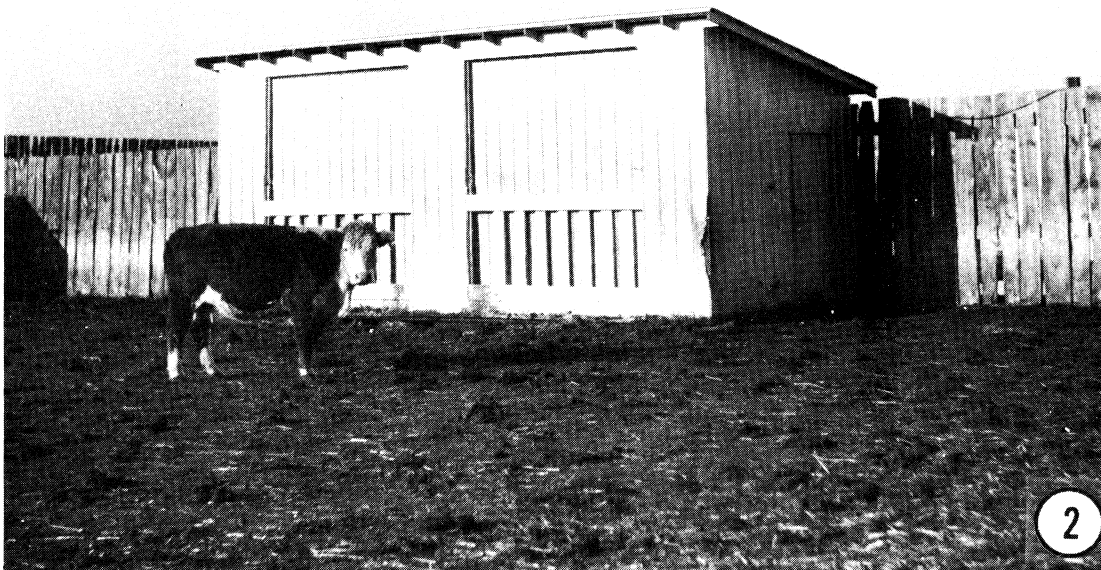
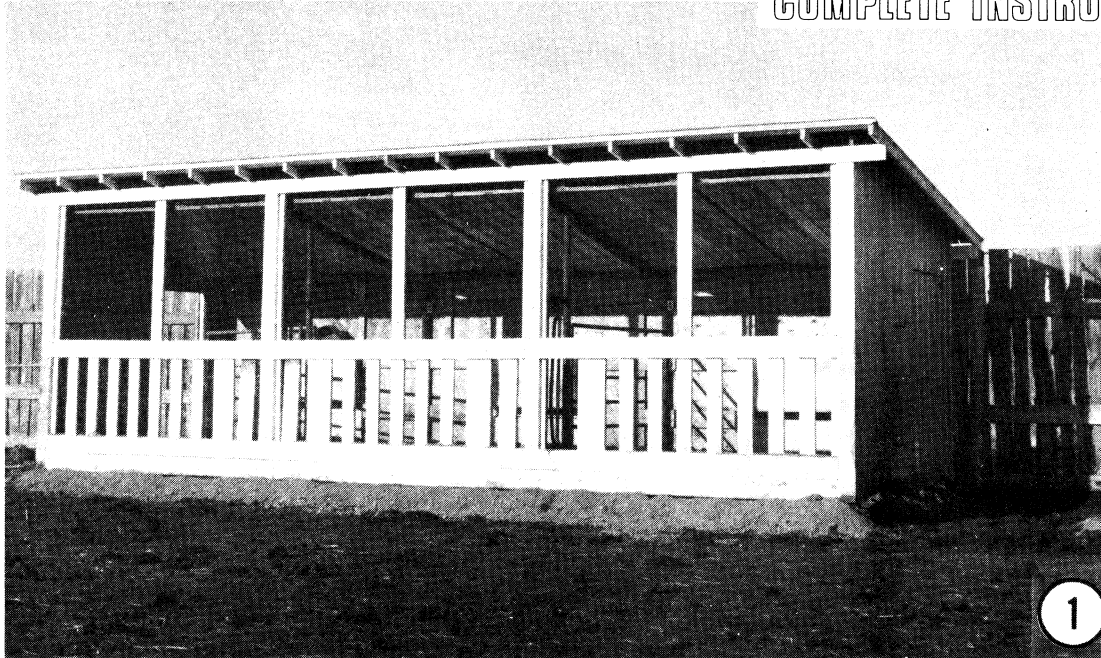


PORTABLE PIPE FRAME CALVING SHELTER

COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS



CANADA
PLAN SERVICE

The Canada Plan Service prepares detailed plans showing how to construct modern farm buildings, livestock housing systems, storages and equipment for Canadian Agriculture.

This leaflet gives the details for a farm building component or piece of farmstead equipment. To obtain another copy of this leaflet, contact your local provincial agricultural engineer or extension advisor.

PORTABLE PIPE FRAME CALVING SHELTER

PLAN 1353 NEW 85:03

This portable calving shelter, based on a popular design developed at the Canada Agriculture Research Station at Melfort, Saskatchewan, provides a first-class facility for calving in fields or on the open range during adverse weather. It is particularly suited to the production of purebred stock, permitting the herdsman to provide the necessary extra attention.

Locate the shed in a readily accessible but sheltered field or feedlot. Water is important. It will usually be supplied by pail, unless the shed is permanently located near the farm water supply. Heavy steel pipe skids make it possible to tow the shed to new, clean locations. The shed is narrow enough to pass through most farm gates.

The shed is of welded pipe frame construction for ruggedness and durability. Use either 2½ in. standard steel pipe, or 2¼ in. drill stem (a high-grade used steel pipe sometimes available in 'oil' country). Shed units with single-sloped roofs may be set up face-to-face to complete a modular ridge-ventilated barn. As free-standing units, these are used like open-front sheds with the front easily closed off for stormy weather. Several of these units can also be placed in a semicircle around a bedded area to increase the sheltered calving area.

Two sizes of sheds are shown, consisting of either two or three calving pens about 10 ft square. Each pen has a built-in pipe frame headgate (an old dairy stanchion), a crowding gate and convenient attachments for cow treatment or for assisting a difficult calving.

When calving in freezing weather, additional heat can be provided to the newborn calf for the first 12-18 hours, after which calf and mother are turned out with the rest of the herd. A portable quartz infra-red 1750 watt heater is secured about 4 ft above the ground behind a protective barrier so that the cow can have easy access to her calf.

Swing-up front doors made of steel siding and wood framing can be opened up and fastened to the underside of the roof in mild weather, thus allowing sunshine into the bedded area. The calf creep gates in the front wall can then be opened to use the shed as a calf rest area.

If you plan on calving cows in January or February, it would be advisable to have a three-pen unit for every 30-40 cows since every calf will need to go through the calving pens. However, for calving in early spring, the pens would only be used for the problem cases. The big advantage of this system is that the shed can be moved on its heavy pipe skids to clean calving areas to cut down on calf scours. If you can split the calving herd into separate groups of 25-30 animals, older

calves will not spread scours to the younger calves. If the calving area is extremely dirty, move the herd to a new field even if there is snow on the ground.

- 1 three-pen calving shelter
- 2 for two-pen calving shelter, omit center section
- 3 welded 2½" standard pipe, or 2¼" drill stem, frame with steel tabs welded on for mounting ⑥ and ⑦
- 4 all corner braces 2'-0" long
- 5 center post at back wall only, for ①
- 6 2" × 8" wood frame, bolted to tabs on pipes ③
- 7 2" × 8" girts @ 2'-0" oc, sides and back
- 8 8'-0" × 4'-0" × ⅜" exterior plywood or waferboard lining at sides and back wall
- 9 2 - 2" × 8" headers, one each side of pipe frame, to support roof and doors ⑳ & ㉑
- 10 2" × 4" × 12'-0" rafters @ 2'-0" oc, 1" × 4" purlins @ 1'-6" oc, 2" × 6" face board, 1" × 4" soffit board makes 2" ventilation slot
- 11 galv. steel roofing
- 12 2" × 6" × 4'-0" uprights @ 1'-1" oc
- 13 remove these uprights for calf creep entrance
- 14 3'-0" × 6'-8" wood frame door
- 15 screw hooks to hinge catching gate
- 16 head gate
- 17 9'-0" crowding gate, 1½" pipes spaced @ 9½" oc
- 18 hinge made of 1" rod welded to vertical pipe frame, and 4" lengths of 1½" pipe welded to ⑰
- 19 2 - 1" removable pipes inserted into 1½" × 6" pipe, held in place by ⅜" bolt
- 20 2 - 8'-0" × 8'-0" doors with 2" × 4" frame on flat; fasten with galv. steel straps on uncovered surface
- 21 8'-0" × 9'-8" center door (made as ㉑), omit for two-pen shelter
- 22 door hinged to ⑨; exterior side clad with fiberglass translucent panelling top half and ⅜" plywood or metal cladding bottom half; interior bottom half lined with ⅜" waferboard
- 23 portable 1750 W infra-red quartz electric heater suspended from rear wall 4'-0" above floor; protect heater with framework
- 24 blocks under shelter, to prevent skids from freezing onto ground
- 25 back fence or catching gate

