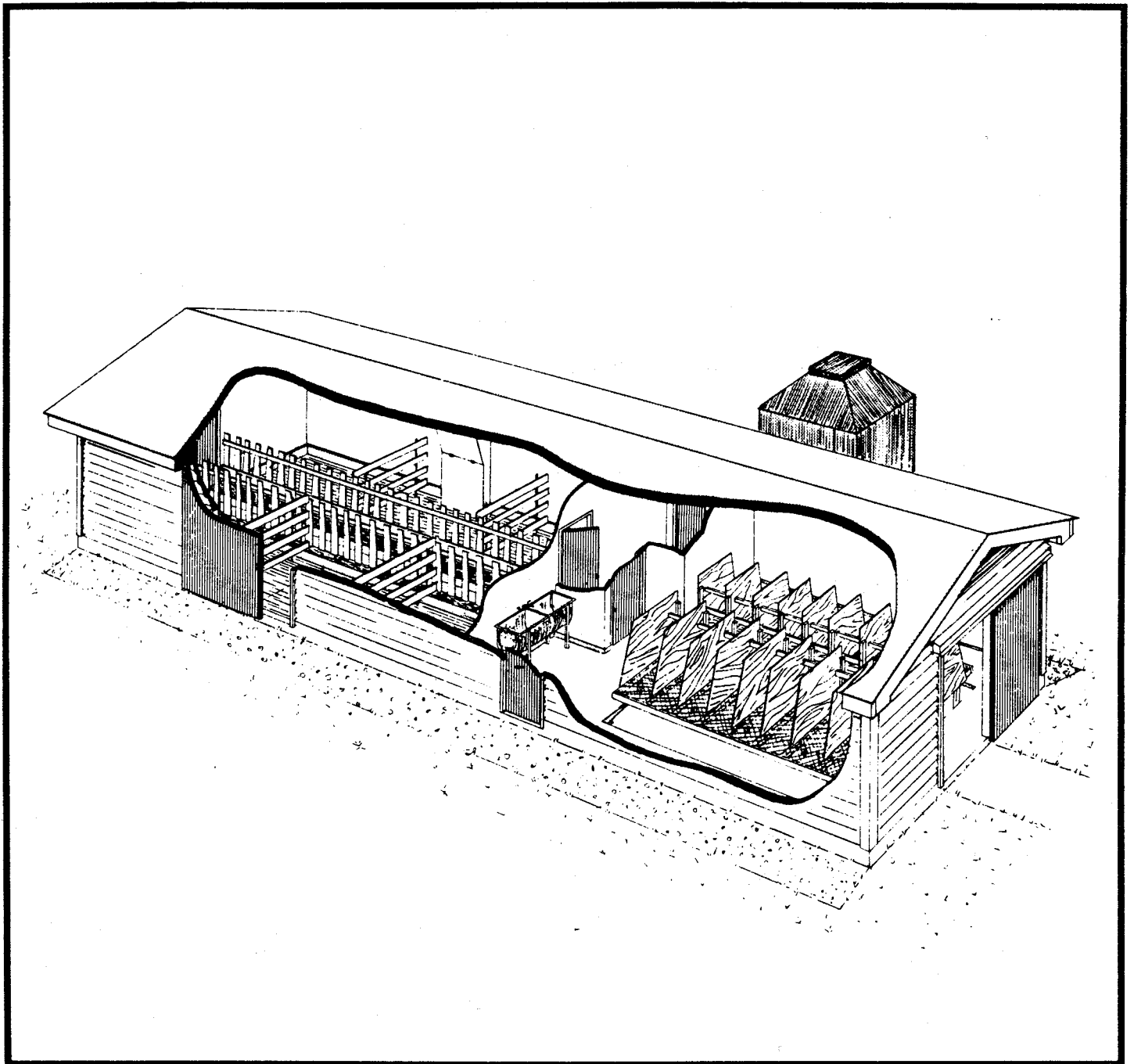


PLAN

1401

DAIRY-BEEF STARTER BARN



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 management information and describes one of these detailed plans. To obtain a copy of the Canada Plan Service detailed plan, contact your local provincial agricultural engineer or extension advisor.

DAIRY-BEEF STARTER BARN

NEW 5:75

This is a plan for starting dairy-beef calves to 24 weeks of age. The building is 20 ft wide and 66 ft long to accommodate four groups of 16 calves, with a new group added every 6 weeks.

The building is divided into three rooms for health and environmental reasons. One room for calves to 6 weeks has individual calf tie stalls and liquid diet preparation area. The second room is a dry feed preparation area. The third room has slotted floors and group pens housing calves from 6 to 12, 12 to 18 and 18 to 24 weeks of age.

Ventilation and Heating

Young calves do not produce sufficient heat to maintain a comfortable temperature and desirable air quality unless supplementary heat is provided in cold weather. Each calf room is well-insulated and ventilated with thermostat controlled exhaust fans. This along with the supplementary heat will provide a controlled environment.

Manure System

This plan is designed for liquid manure handling of all wastes. The manure from the individual calf stalls can be scraped or washed into a drain leading to the storage tank under the slotted floor section of the building. The drain is closed with a rubber plug which can be removed for cleanout.

Calves in group pens with slotted concrete floors require minimal labor and barn space. They remain surprisingly clean on slotted floors when crowded in group pens at the pen space indicated in the plan.

A tank under the slotted floor provides 6 months' storage capacity. The tank is designed as one compartment 36 x 19 ft for easier agitation and pumping out. Tractor-pump access into the tank is by an 8-ft sliding door in the wall and a 4-ft removable section of floor slats. If the slotted floor area is increased, be sure to provide additional pumpout openings so that no point in the tank is over 25 ft from the opening. When agitating liquid manure be sure to *remove the animals, open all doors and work in pairs* to minimize risk of manure gas poisoning.

To control water pollution the manure storage tanks should be manure-tight. Plan for sufficient storage to eliminate spreading manure on snow, frozen ground or sensitive crops. For most situations, spring and fall applications are best, requiring up to 6 months' storage. *Obtain approval of your plans from proper local authorities before you start construction.*