1966

Portable Feeding Stalls

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PORTABLE FEEDING STALLS

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Feeding stalls aid a restricted feeding program. Feeding stalls are used to provide a place for sows to consume their feed with a minimum of interference from other animals. Many stall plans appear to provide an entire four-sided pen for each sow. These stalls may be more elaborate and costly than necessary. A simple stall made of a small partition is probably adequate to keep the sows apart. The stalls in the photos illustrate four different types. Table 1 shows their cost.

Photo 1 and Photo 2. These two stalls have basically the same design. The side panel in photo 1 is constructed with two 2 x 4 inch pieces while the side paneling in photo 2 is a single 2 x 10 inch piece. Metal posts are spaced 20 inches apart, driven into the ground and the panels are clamped to the posts. A wooden trough with individual stall partitions is used in these stalls, but a metal trough is preferred. These stalls can be used with or without a floor. The stalls can be dismantled and moved to another pen.

The stalls are effective in the objective of keeping the sows separated while eating. The additional length of each stall (8 ft.) appears to discourage the more aggressive sows from forcing the timid sows out of the stall. The posts and two inch lumber make up most of the cost in the units. Although these are as expensive or more expensive than the others shown, they are durable and the materials can be used for many years. It is also believed that 6 inch partitions or 8 inch width boards made of lighter material would work satisfactorily and reduce the cost.

Photo 3. This is a modified stall because it does not have a partition between the animals. The eating spaces are separated by a structure over the trough, but the sows are not contained in a stall. This type of stall is satisfactory in situations with many sows and more available space. A few empty eating spaces are desirable to permit sows to the trough without disturbing other sows. Fence line feeding can be used when many sows are fed at the same time. This type would not work as well as the other stalls if strict individually controlled feeding was needed.

This system is inexpensive and appears to be satisfactory under most commercial conditions. Fence line feeding would minimize the labor with large herds.

Photo 4. This unit contains more materials in the partitions than necessary to keep the sows separated, but it is more typical of stalls in use today. It is not more expensive than units 1 and 2 because one inch lumber was used. However, they depreciate rapidly and their life span is relatively short.

Table 1. Cost of Feeding Stalls

	1 Photo 1	2 Photo 2	3 Photo 3	4 Photo 4
Lumber, $	25.90	27.46	14.34	40.80
Posts, clamps and nails, $	15.70	13.48	0.30	0.50
Cost without floor, $	41.60	40.94	14.64	41.30
Floor cost, $	25.40	25.40	25.40	20.54
Cost with floor, $	67.00	66.34	40.04	61.84
Cost per stall, $	11.17	11.06	6.67	10.31

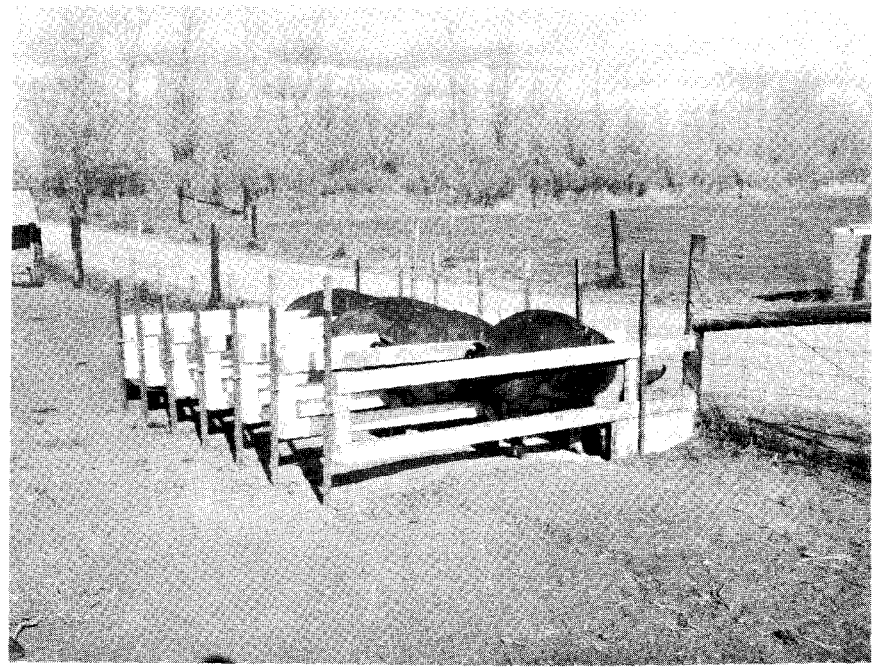

Photo 1

Photo 2

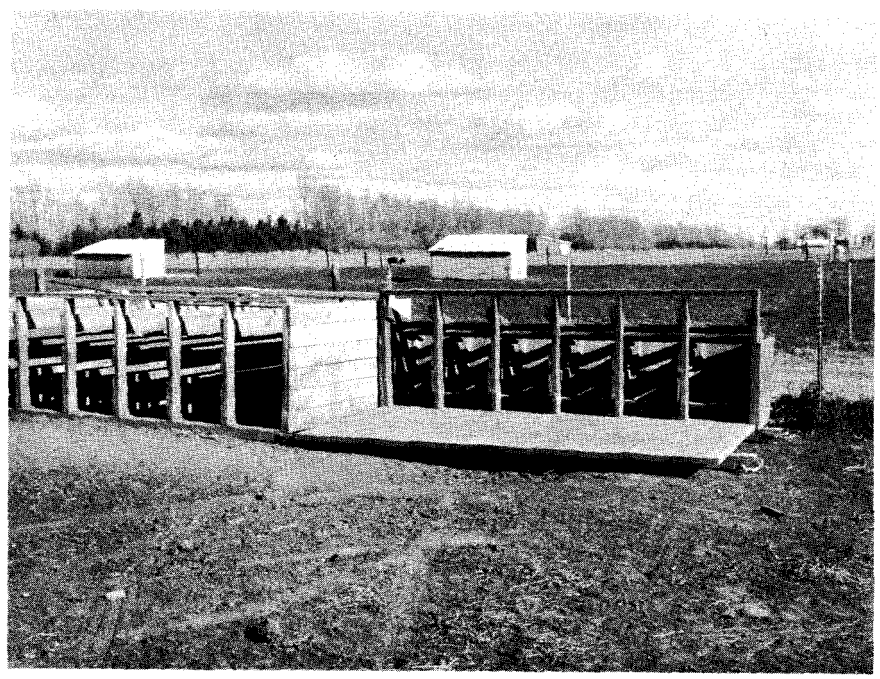

Photo 4 Photo 3

This picture shows the stalls as indicated by photo 4 and 3, respectively.