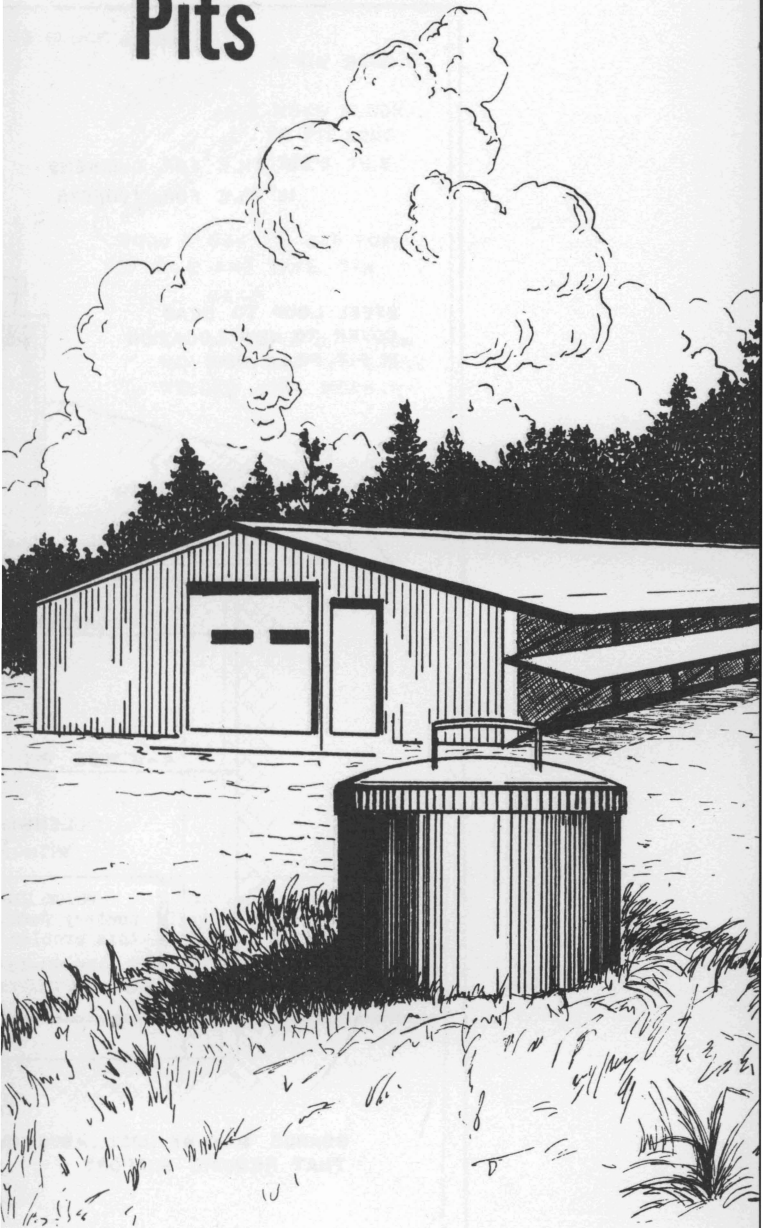


# Poultry Disposal Pits

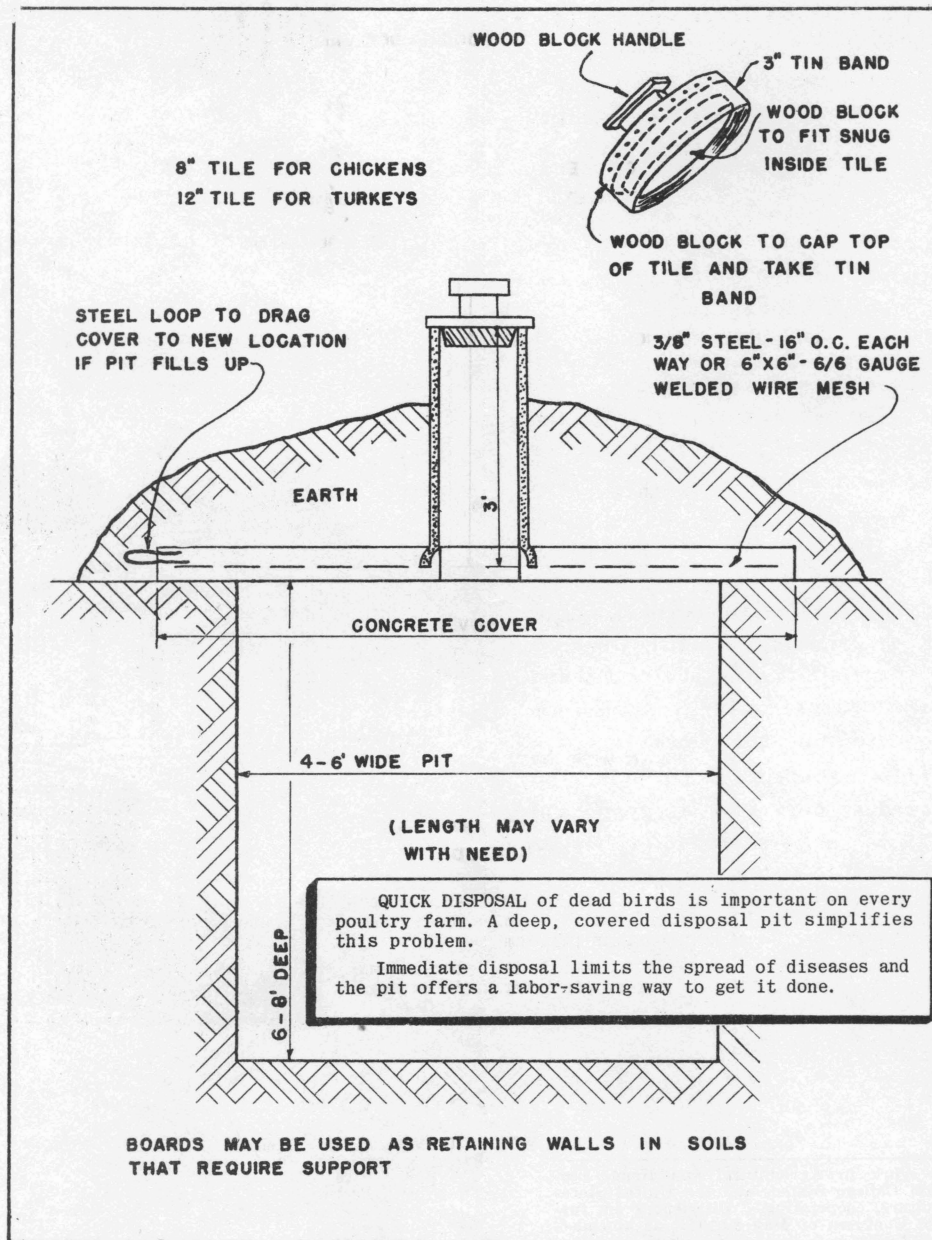


# Poultry Disposal Pits

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THE TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE SYSTEM



## LOCATION

Locate the pit at least 100 feet from a drinking water supply and where drainage will be away from the well. Locate the pit near the poultry houses to encourage quick disposal.

## DIMENSIONS

One hundred cubic feet of pit space will be adequate for a 1,000-bird laying flock, including the growing pullet replacements, a 10,000-head broiler flock or for 1,000 turkeys.

The recommended dimensions for a poultry disposal pit are a width of 4 to 6 feet, a depth of 6 to 8 feet and length to suit the size of the flock. For example, a pit 6 feet deep, 6 feet wide and 6 feet long will provide a little over 200 cubic feet of pit space that should take care of the normal mortality of 2,000 laying hens and the growing replacement pullets.

## MATERIALS

Used cement blocks, bricks or No. 2 creosoted lumber may be used to line the walls of the pit, thus preventing a cave-in. Cover the top of the pit with two crossed layers of 2-inch creosoted boards, heavy sheet steel or reinforced concrete. Fit a hole in the center of the platform with the bell end of a drainage tile, a milk or garbage can. The bottoms should be knocked out of the milk can or garbage can and they should have tight-fitting lids. A tight-fitting lid can be made to cover the drainage tile. An 8-inch drainage tile is a good size for chickens and a 12-inch drainage tile is needed for turkeys. The tight lids will prevent odors from escaping and will not attract flies. Bank the platform cover of the pit with soil up level with the top of the opening to provide good drainage away from the opening to the pit and to keep surface water from running in.

A disposal pit soon pays for itself in time saved and in reduced health hazards.