

1-1928

## EC230 Revised 1928 Nebraska Portable Hog Houses

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA  
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE EXTENSION SERVICE

January, 1928

Extension Circular 230 Revised

## Nebraska Portable Hog Houses



Nebraska One-Sow "Blizzard Beater"

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
CO-OPERATING

## Nebraska Portable Hog Houses

O. O. WAGGENER AND IVAN D. WOOD

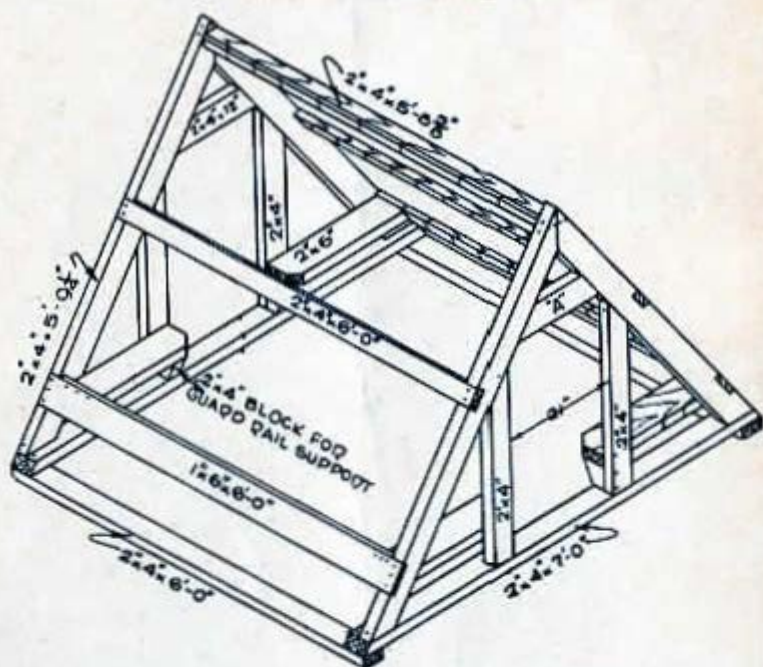


FIG. 1.—The framework for the one-sow house

### The Construction of the One-Sow "Blizzard Beater"

1. The house is 7 feet wide, 6 feet long, and is roofed with barn boards 12 inches wide and 6 feet long. Fir flooring may also be used with good results.
2. The sills are made of 2" x 4" material which should be creosoted to prevent rapid decay. Bolts at the sill corners will give added strength.
3. The dimension material for the frame should be straight and free from knots.
4. The rafters are cut from a 6-foot piece of 2" x 4" material. Figure 3 shows how the steel square may be used to cut the proper bevel. The exact length of the rafter is 5 feet, 9 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches on the long side.
5. The slope of the roof is such that the pig rails are not required at the sides but should be placed at the ends, as shown in the framing plan.
6. The upright 2" x 4" pieces form a rigid framework for a high door to be hung at either end. Leave a 2-inch clearance between the bottom of the door and ground.

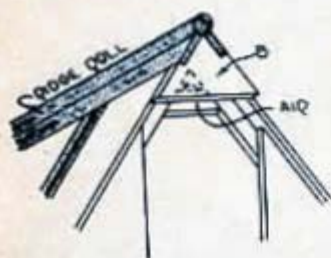


FIG. 2.—The ventilator for the one-sow house

7. At "A," Figure 1, is shown a cross-piece which forms a jamb for the top of the door and a baffle for the ventilator. See Figure 2 also.
8. After the framework is completed, the end boards should be nailed on and the doors hung. Heavy hooks and staples should be used to hold the doors both open and shut.
9. The roof boards are next nailed in place, being allowed to overhang the end boards by  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 inch at the eaves.
10. If barn boards are used, leave a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch crack to provide for metal bats.
11. The triangular piece shown at "B," Figure 2, is nailed to the overhanging roof boards to form the ventilator. The last thing to be placed is the metal ridge roll which prevents leakage at the ridge of the roof.
12. Any change from the above specifications will tend to reduce the efficiency of this house. It is planned for a purpose.
13. Give the entire house two coats of good oil paint as soon as it is completed.

#### BILL OF MATERIAL

- 1—2" x 4" x 8'-0"
- 10—2" x 4" x 6'-0"
- 3—2" x 4" x 7'-0"
- 1—2" x 6" x 10'-0"
- 4—1" x 6" x 6'-0" white pine
- 16—1" x 12" x 6'-0" barn boards
- 5—1" x 12" x 4'-0" barn boards
- 2½ lbs.—16d. common nails
- 2½ lbs.—8d. common nails
- 2 lbs.—6d. common nails
- 1 lb.— $\frac{3}{4}$ " or 1-inch galvanized bat nails
- 4—5-inch heavy strip hinges
- 1—6' x 6" galvanized ridge roll
- 13—6' galvanized bats
- 1—8' galvanized bat
- 4— $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 3½" carriage bolts

Two wrought steel hasps with staples and two 4-inch wrought steel hooks with two staples for hooking doors

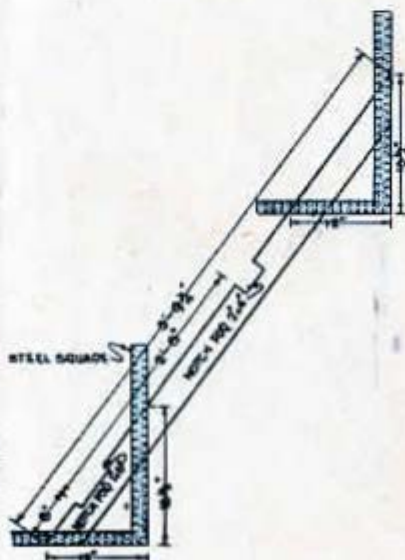


FIG. 3.—This picture shows how to use a steel square in making the rafter for a one-sow house.

### Why the "Blizzard Beater" Saves Pigs

1. The low roof reduces air space above. Since warm air has a tendency to rise, this low construction holds the heat where it will be of most benefit to the pigs.
2. The ventilators shown at either end in the comb of the roof are important and should be carefully constructed, otherwise the pigs may be smothered.



FIG. 4.—"Blizzard Beaters" lined up for farrowing time

3. The slope of the roof prevents the sow from laying near the sides. This permits the pigs to find warm shelter between the sow and the sides of the house without being crushed.
4. The high door in front allows sunshine to reach all parts of the nest. A similar door at the back, when open provides a direct circulation of air which cools the shed in hot weather and simplifies cleaning the shed and handling the sow and pigs.
5. As a rule no floor is necessary. When used on poorly drained ground, the house may be set over a floor made of rough boards laid flat on the ground.



FIG. 5.—One method of using "Blizzard Beaters" in summer

- The structure is light and can be easily moved to clean ground on a frame sled. Dragging tends to rack the framework.
- Because the house is cheap and can be easily moved, renters find it especially suited to their use.

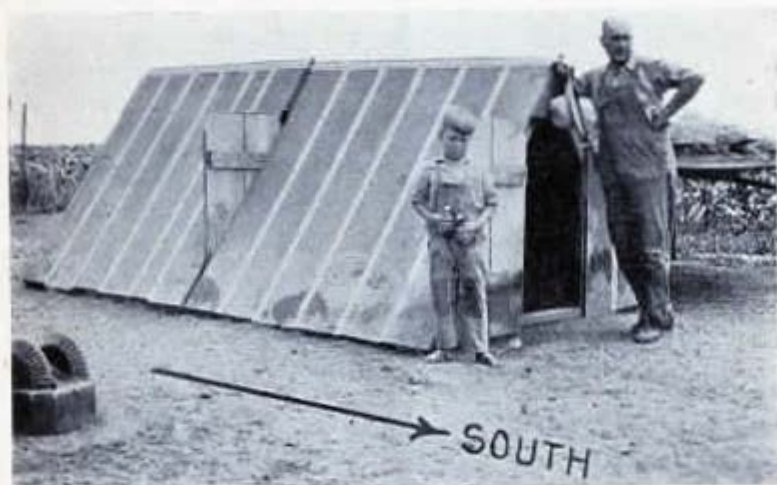


FIG. 6.—Good summer sleeping quarters are provided by standing two houses together with end doors open

#### How to Use the "Blizzard Beater"

- For farrowing, place the houses side by side a foot apart as shown in Figures 4 and 7. Hog wire under the houses will prevent rooting.

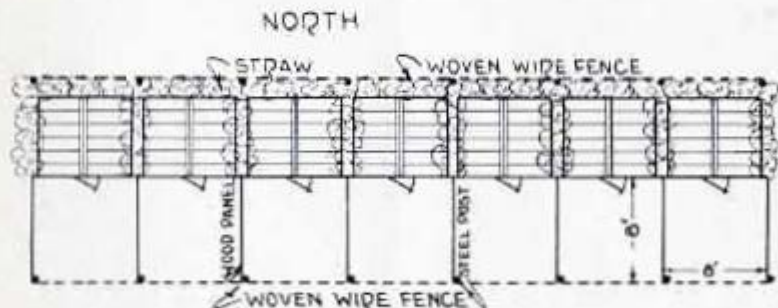


FIG. 7.—A group of one-sow houses lined up side by side and banked with straw for farrowing time. Note the pen partitions of rough fence boards

2. The houses should be located in a well drained place with a south slope if possible. Small trenches dug between will prevent rain or snow water from seeping into the nest.
3. Bed the houses lightly with short straw. Bank with straw between and behind.
4. Panels 3 feet high and 8 feet long made of rough fencing boards make excellent partitions between farrowing pens. See Figure 7.
5. At the desired time remove these panels, permitting the pigs to have the run of the clean field. Arrange a creep in which to feed the small pigs.
6. For hot weather arrange the houses end to end as shown in Figure 6. All doors should be open. This permits of the free passage of air to cool the sheds. Where floors have been used they may be removed and set on short posts for additional shade.

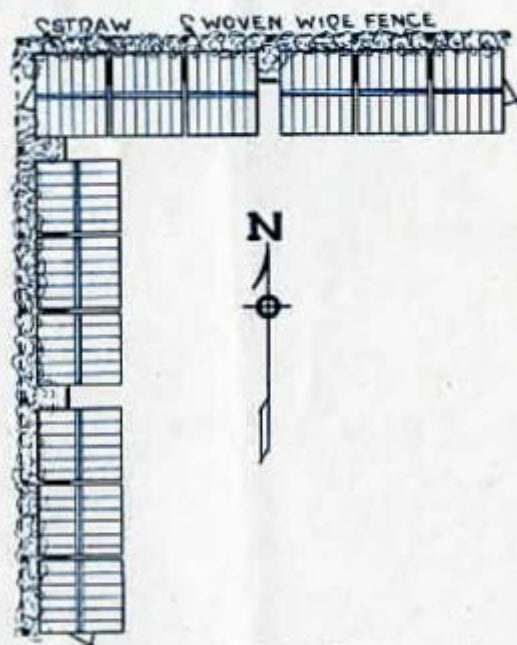


FIG. 8.—One-sow houses banked with straw and arranged for winter quarters

7. Self-feeders and automatic waterers are time and labor savers. Use them when the pigs are on pasture. A tank wagon simplifies water hauling.
8. For winter feeding, arrange the houses in batteries of three as shown in Figure 8, all doors being left open except the ones on the extreme ends.

9. Bank on the north and west with straw or corn fodder. The houses should be placed in a well protected place if there is danger of snow drifting about them.
10. Before the houses are used again for farrowing, they should be thoroughly cleaned of dirt and repaired if necessary.

### The Two-Sow "Blizzard Beater"

1. Where two-unit houses are preferred, this type gives excellent service.
2. It is 7 feet wide, 12 feet long, and is divided into two pens by a movable partition.
3. The low roof construction is desirable because it reduces air space to a minimum, and insures warm shelter for early farrowing.

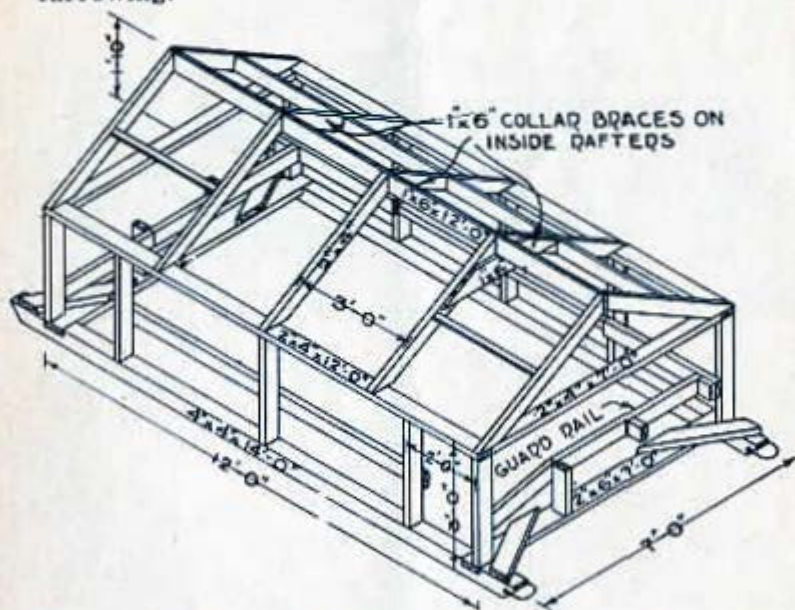


FIG. 9.—The framework of the two-sow house

4. The low height in front and handy roof doors simplify cleaning of the shed and handling of the sow and pigs.
5. With doors open, direct sunlight will reach practically the entire nest.
6. Ventilators built at the comb of the roof at each end provide a circulation of air when all doors are closed.
7. An oblong opening along the sill at the back insures a cool house in warm weather.



8. This shed should be banked with straw for cold weather farrowing.
9. Ordinarily a floor is not necessary but where desired a suitable one may be made by laying rough fence boards flat on the ground.

#### BILL OF MATERIAL

2—4" x 4" x 14'-0"	2—1" x 10" x 7'-0"
3—2" x 6" x 7'-0"	2—1- x 12" x 5'-0" barn boards
4—2" x 6" x 3'-0"	26—1" x 12" x 7'-0" barn boards
3—2" x 4" x 7'-0"	4—1" x 12" x 8'-0" barn boards
2—2" x 4" x 12'-0"	2—1- x 12" x 10'-0" barn boards
4—2" x 4" x 8'-0"	12—4" T hinges
10—2- x 4" x 4'-0"	2—4" hasps
16—2" x 4" x 3'-0"	13' galvanized iron ridge roll
1—1" x 6" x 12'-0"	2—5" clevises
1—1" x 6" x 10'-0"	206 lineal feet of metal bat
1—1- x 6" x 7'-0"	



FIG. 10.—Front view of the two-sow "blizzard beater" showing doors open and closed, and back view of the same house showing the ventilators

#### Complete Blueprints May Be Obtained at Cost

One-unit house No. 10.726-22.....	15c
Two-unit house No. 10.726-23.....	15c
One-unit house (knock down, construction) No. 10.726-22A.....	15c

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 [Revised 1-28-10M]