

DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT  
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**MHOW**

**LOOSE HOUSING SYSTEM AND MODERN DAIRY  
FARM**

**by**

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# LOOSE HOUSING

Loose housing may be defined as a system where animals are kept loose except milking and at the time of treatment. The system is most economical.







Some features of loose housing system are as follows.

1. Cost of construction is significantly lower than conventional type.
2. It is possible to make further expansion without much change.
3. Facilitate easy detection of animals in heat
4. Animals feel free and therefore, prove more profitable with even minimum grazing.
5. Animals get optimum exercise which is extremely important for better health and production
6. Overall better management can be rendered.

# Other provisions:

1. The animal sheds should have proper facilities for milking barns, calf pens/ calving pens and arrangement for store rooms etc.
2. The shed may be cemented or brick paved, but in any case it should be easy to clean.
3. The floor should be rough, so that animals will not slip.
4. Inside the open unpaved area it is always desirable to plant some good shady trees for excellent protection against direct cold winds in winter and to keep cool in summer.

# Space requirement

<b>Type of Animal</b>	<b>Floor space per animal ( Sq. feet)</b>		<b>Manger length per animal ( inches)</b>
	<b>Covered Area</b>	<b>Open Area</b>	
Cows	20 - 30	80 - 100	20-24
Buffaloes	25-35	80-100	24 -30
Young stock	15-20	50-60	15 -20
Pregnant Cows	100-120	180 - 200	24 -30
Bulls Pen	120-140	200-250	24 -30





# Cattle shed:

The entire shed should be surrounded by a boundary wall of 5' height from three sides and manger etc., on one side. All along the manger/ there shall be 10" wide water trough to provide clean, even, available drinking water. The water trough thus constructed will also minimize the loss of fodders during feeding. Near the manger, under the roofed house 5' wide floor should be paved with bricks having a little slope.



Beyond that, there should be open unpaved area (40' X 35') surrounded by 5' walls with one gate. It is preferable that animals face north when they are eating fodder under the shade. During cold wind in winter the animals will automatically lie down to have the protection from the walls.



**Shed for calves:** On one side of the main cattle shed there shall be full covered shed 10' X 15' to accommodate young calves. Such sheds with suitable partitioning, may also serve as calving pen under adverse climatic conditions. Beyond this covered area there should be a 20' X 10' open area having boundary wall so that calves may move there freely.



In this way both cattle and calve sheds will need in all 50 X 50 area for 20 adult cows and followers. If one has limited resources, he can build ordinary, katcha /semi Kutcha boundary walls but feeding and water trough should be cemented ones.

# Modern dairy farm





Dairy farms are farms where cows are raised to make milk and milk products like cheese, ice cream, butter and whipping cream.

# Routine of dairy farm

- Starting work at 4 - 4:30 a.m
- Cleaning and sanitizing [getting rid of germs] of the hoses, connections, and pipes that the milk flows through.
- Feeding the cows.
- Milking the cows.
- Taking the cows out to the exercise yard in warmer weather and then cleaning their stalls.

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- Taking care of the animals: checking bruises, wounds, hooves--just seeing that the cow is healthy.
  - Feeding and taking care of the young calves.
  - Sanitizing the hoses, connections, and pipes again.
  - Milking the cows again around 4:00 p.m.
  - Checking milk to be sure that the butterfat content is right
  - Feeding cows.

# Milking methods

- **Hand milking**
- **Vacuum bucket milking**
- **Milking pipeline**
- **Fully automated robotic milking**





**THANK YOU...**