



**FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND ALLIED  
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## Housing of cattle

Housing is an essential for maintaining health, comfort and protection for getting maximum production from the livestock.

### Livestock Housing

#### Main Aim

- The main purpose of an adequate shelter is:
- Providing better housing at a cheaper cost.
- To give clean and comfortable accommodation.
- To guard animals from wild animals and theft.
- To save animal from sunburns, rain, hot and cold winds of the bad weather.

#### Benefits

The advantages of sufficient shelter are:

- Amplified production of milk.
- Appropriate disease control.
- Correct and controlled feeding of animals.
- Encouragement to other dairy farmers.
- Enhanced productive and reproductive efficiency of animals.
- Excellent fitness of animals.
- Improved care and management of animals.
- Production of top quality milk and milk products.
- Reduction in mortality rate of calves.
- Rising pride of dairy farmer.
- Superior employment of labour.

#### Site selection

A number of factors are to be considered for site selection of a dairy farm:

- Soil
- Sunlight
- Elevation
- Protection from incoming wind
- Availability of labour, market, electricity and water
- Durability • Accessibility to the surroundings
- An overall view, etc.

### Layout

It includes the following:

- Economic factors to be considered: capital, labour, nature of land, number of animals, forage land, etc.
- Distribution of land to different heads: the land available in the entire farms should be distributed such that their proportion will be 2:2:2:1 for land under building, paddock+road, fodder, permanent pasture, cash crops, respectively.

### Floor space requirement per animal

	Covered area ( m <sup>2</sup> )	Open area ( m <sup>2</sup> )
Cow	3.5	7
Buffalo	4	8
Young stock Upto 3M	1	1.5
Young stock upto 3-6M	1	2.5
Young stock >6	2	4
Pregnant Cow	4	8
Bull	12	120

Roofing material

- a. Thatched – 1. Palmyra 2. Coconut
- b. Tiles – 1. Country tiles 2. Mangalore tiles 3 Flat tiles.
- c. Asbestos
- d. Iron sheets
- e. Light roofing
- f. RCC

## **Poultry Housing**

Housing of poultry involves lot of cost only next to feeding. Adequate housing facility must be provided for better production of egg and meat.

### **Housing requirements**

#### **Light**

- It should be distributed evenly.
- Young chicks require light all the time.

#### **Ventilation**

- It is required for fresh air circulation either naturally or artificially through electric fans.

#### **Floor space**

- Housing too many birds in limited space causes lot of problems. The following table shows the recommended space for different categories of bird:

For Chick	Floor space requirement are 0.045, 6.0, 0.18, 0.18/chick for the age group of 0-4, 4-8, 8-12 and more than 12 weeks. The corresponding minimum feeder space requirements are 2.5, 6.5, 7.5 and more than 7.5 m <sup>2</sup> /chick, respectively.
For Broiler	Space requirements are 0.06-0.09 m <sup>2</sup> /bird on floor for 0-12 weeks age group, 0.45-0.027 m <sup>2</sup> /bird on plastic cage for 0-12 week age group.

For Breeders (adult)	0.09 m <sup>2</sup> /bird in single cage, 0.045 m <sup>2</sup> /bird in double cage and 0.045-0.066 m <sup>2</sup> /bird in colony cage.
Space in Pen :	For leghorn with 25, 100, 200, 500 birds per pen the space requirements are 0.32, 0.30, 0.22 and 0.18 <sup>2</sup> m/bird respectively. The corresponding figures for heavier birds are 0.36, 0.31, 0.30 and 0.22 m <sup>2</sup> /bird, respectively.