

Dairy Goat Housing and Milking Facilities



John C. Porter, Extension Professor and Dairy Specialist

UNH Cooperative Extension



Dairy goat producers traditionally use low budget housing and make use of what they have.



Often times old dairy cattle stanchion barns are used for dairy goat housing. The back platforms can be used for a bed-pack.



The center alley of head to head stanchion barns can be used for feed access and feeding.





There are also other low budget ways to house goats. In the winter the animals need protection from drafts.



Fabric covered hooped structures can make low budget animal housing. They are flexible, moveable and let in sunlight.



Allowing feeding or access alleys along the sides of a hoop structure keep the animal away from the fabric walls.



Advanced planning is important in designing and building a new barn.

Design Considerations for Farm Buildings

I. Site

- A. Access
- B. Topography
- C. Orientation to the sun and prevailing winds
- D. Drainage
- E. Area needed plus room for future expansion
- F. Environmental concerns
- G. Distance from other buildings
- H. Soil Type
- I. Utilities

II. Site Preparation

- A. Remove top soil
- B. Add a raised gravel base
- C. Provide access roads
- D. Install needed drainage systems
- E. Lay conduits for running electrical wiring and plumbing.

III. Foundation

- A. Pressure treated posts.
- B. Concrete slab
- C. Concrete foundation

IV. Building Construction

- A. Posts and purlins
- B. Conventional stick framing
- C. Canvas fabric
- D. Greenhouse

V. Roofing

- A. Wood surface with shingles
- B. Metal roofing

VI. Other Considerations

- A. Either keep animal housing cold and well ventilated or modify the temperature with insulation in the walls and ceiling and provide for mechanical ventilation.
- B. Avoid a second story. Store feed and supplies in an extra bay on the ground floor.
- C. Design building to allow for mechanical cleaning with equipment.
- D. Keep ceiling high for good ventilation and equipment accessibility.
- E. Clear span trusses keep the building more open and flexible for other uses.
- F. Keep all animal and equipment flow in straight lines, and avoid turns and narrow alleys.

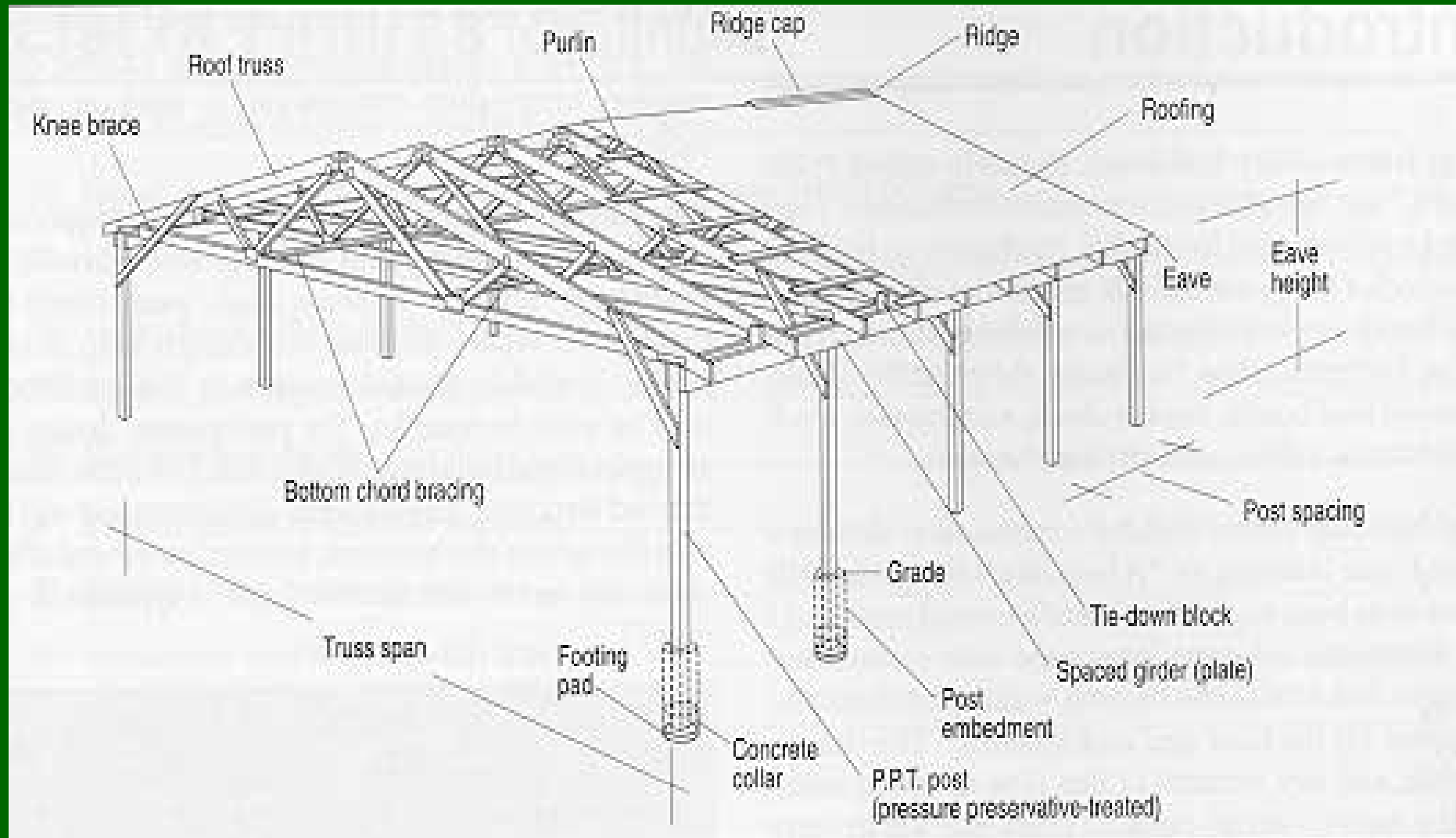
Pole barns can be specifically built for goats.



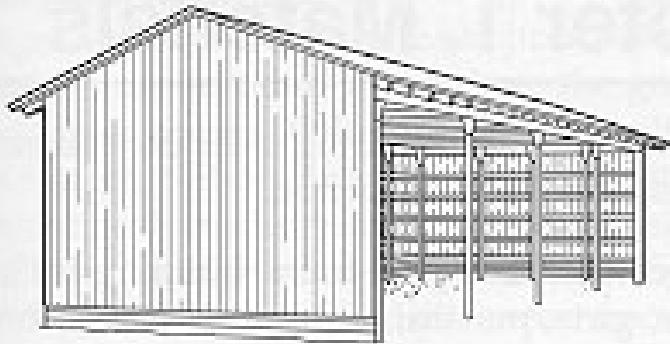
Pole barns are built with pressure treated posts and generally native lumber is used for siding and metal sheets on the roof.



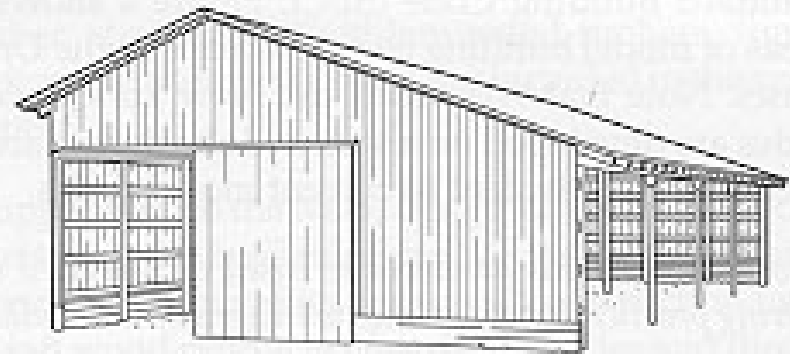
Post-frame building with trusses



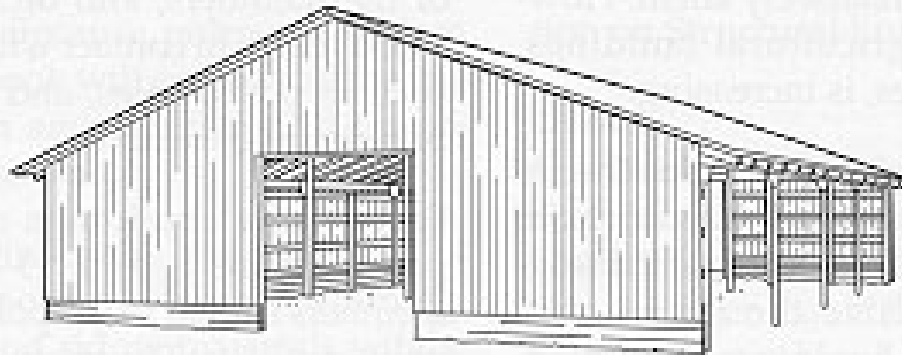
Post-frame building width and configurations



26-foot width

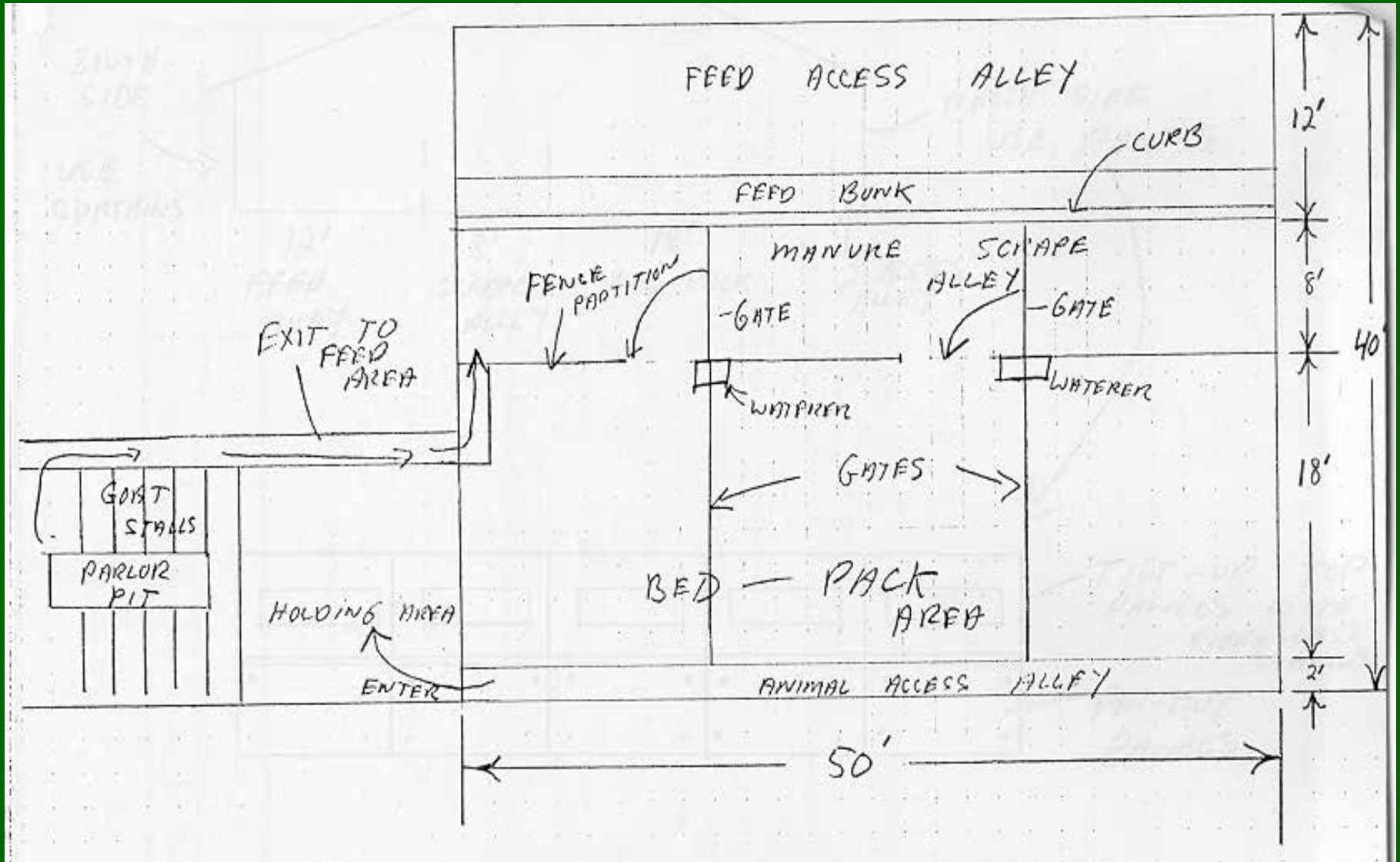


39-foot width



52-foot width

Design features of a custom dairy goat barn



Pole Barn



Curtain Side-Walls



Open Feed Access Area



Separate Loafing & Feed Area



Access Alley for Animal Movement



Holding Area Outside Parlor

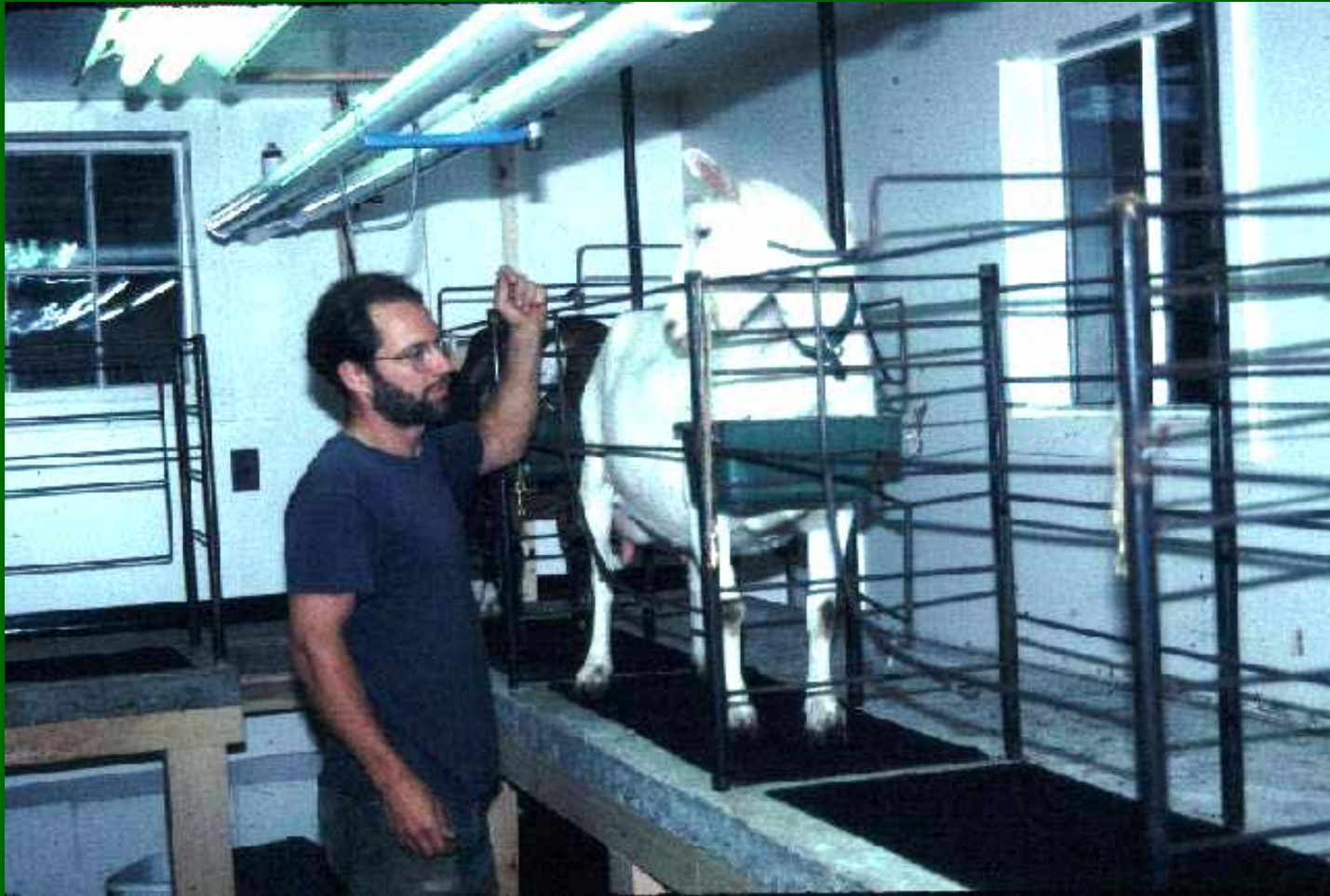


MILKING PARLORS

Parallel Parlor



Side opening parlor



Straight-through Parlor



Herringbone Parlor



MILK ROOMS



Bulk Tank & Stainless Steel Equipment



Sinks



Hot Water Heater





UNIVERSITY *of* NEW HAMPSHIRE
Cooperative Extension

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