

Economy of the Round Dairy Barn by Wilber John Fraser. txt

56 lineal feet of 1/2 x 3-inch battening	
32 lineal feet of lattice	
444 lineal feet of 4-inch cypress	
3 10-foot cedar posts	
Total cost of lumber	\$1,313.63

Mill work:

Window sash and doors	\$270.00
Window and door frames	71.00
Sawing lumber for silo, roof, bridge and stanchions	29.78
Cost of hardware	96.57

Carpenter work:

Head carpenter	518 hrs. @ 40c = \$207.20
Carpenters	1057 hrs. @ 35c = 369.95
Common labor	429 hrs. @ 20c = 85.80

Total cost for carpenter work	----- 662.95
-------------------------------	-----------------

Tiling around barn and silo, sewer from dairy room, retaining wall, cement floor in alley, dairy, doorway of barn, and steps and tanks	128.54
Plastering dairy room and inside of silo	104.60
Painting	89.54

Total cost of barn	----- \$3670.61
--------------------	--------------------

[Illustration: FIG. 26. BARN NO. 2. 80 FEET IN DIAMETER; ENGINE ROOM IN FOREGROUND.]

The cost of this barn, if built on the ordinary dairy farm, could be materially reduced without shortening the life of the barn. Owing to the conditions under which this barn was built, it was necessary to pay for hauling all material to the farm, two and one-half miles from town. All of the labor had to be hired, and as it was necessary for the men to board themselves the wages paid were proportionately higher. The farmer usually does the excavating and hauls the brick, sand, and lumber with his own teams, tends the mason, and does quite an amount of the rough work with his own help, besides boarding the men, all of which would greatly reduce the cost. The construction could also be cheapened by using drop siding to cover the outside, instead of shingles, which in this case were used over ship lap on the side walls to improve the appearance. This barn could be still further cheapened by putting hoops, five feet apart, around the studs, and covering with common 1 x 12 boards, put on vertically, as is done in some cases. A saving could also be made on the mill work and large doors by having the carpenters make these plainer and leave the windows out of them.

Anyone wishing to build a round barn can get local bids on the lumber bill, and determine approximately the cost in his locality. This will vary with both the location and the year.

OTHER ROUND DAIRY BARNs

BARN NO. 2

Built 1897.

Diameter, 80 feet.

Capacity, 75 cows in 2 rows, tails together, 51 head in outer circle, 24 head in inner circle.

[Illustration: FIG. 27. INTERIOR OF BARN NO. 2. SHOWING TWO ROWS OF STANCHIONS AND DRIVE BEHIND COWS WHICH IS USED IN CLEANING BARN; SILO ON RIGHT.]