

● **Hog House**

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 all since there is not one window in the entire barn — unless you count the small peepholes in the weather-tight doors in each end of the building

Down each side of the building there is a light space covered with a translucent plastic film but this plastic is never removed from the opening unless a power failure should cause the ventilating fans to shut off

Electricity does most of the work of caring for the 480 head of feeder hogs the house will hold. Along with an assist from gravity, electric controls and motors move all feed and water into the pens manure from the hogs drops

through the slatted floors into a tank of water. Wastes can be drawn off through a valve at one end of the building and spread on fields or stored in a lagoon. "We haven't fully decided how the manure will be handled," Beam says.

How did all this building program come about?

Beam, who formerly bought cattle for a Philadelphia packer, decided he wanted to get back into some phase of farming but was not quite sure what it would be.

During a visit to the Pennsylvania State Farm Show he saw some literature on controlled-environment hog houses, and became interested.

He talked the situation over with his son Titus, who farms the home farm, and they de-



**AS LAZY AS A HOG**, seems to pretty well sum up the attitude of the pigs in this feeding operation. All they have to do is eat and grow fat. They don't even have to walk very far to get feed, and feed is available for them at all times. Bulk feed is stored in two large bulk bins outside the building. Automatic controls bring the feed down through plastic tubes to the feeders in each pen. Automatic controls keep the feeders full at all times. The light streak along the rear wall is a strip of plastic in the windowless house. In an emergency, if electricity should fail these plastic curtains can be rolled down manually, but under most conditions the fans will supply all ventilation. Slatted floors keep the pigs out of their manure and out of mud. Fence panels swing both ways so that any pen can be subdivided into three separate pens when pigs are being moved or handled.

L. F. Photo.



**OVERHEAD BULK BINS** hold the feed for the 480 head of hogs in the newly constructed hog feeding barn on the farm of William Beam near Morgantown. The steel framed, aluminum covered house has no windows. A plastic curtain lets in light, but all ventilation is furnished by the 12 fans which are controlled by thermostat. Beam points to the feed bin which uses gravity to fill the hoppers of two automatic feeders in the house.

L. F. Photo.

He contacted the firm of **Kuipers Brothers**, New Holland dealers for Big Dutchman Farm Equipment. The firm arranged for Beam to investigate further. He contacted the firm of **Kuipers Brothers**, New Holland dealers for Big Dutchman Farm Equipment. The firm arranged for Beam to investigate further.



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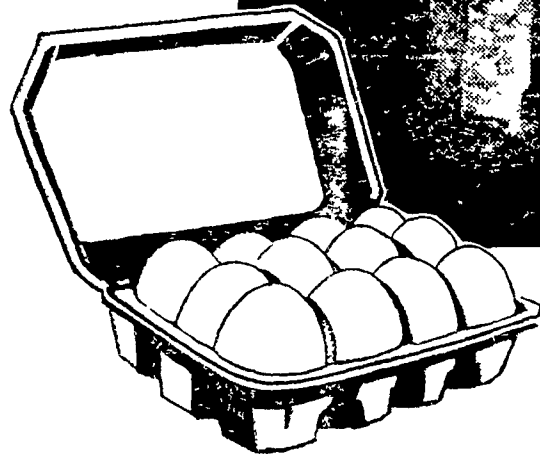
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