



Mono-Slope Beef Barn Design and Management

May 17, 2013

2:30 pm (eastern), 1:30 pm (central), 12:30 pm (mountain), 11:30 am (pacific)

What is a Mono-Slope Beef Barn? It's a newer style barn for cattle that is becoming increasingly popular in the upper Midwest. Join us for this webinar to discover what exactly a mono-slope barn is and why beef producers are building them. Learn about the basic design of the roof, flooring, walls, curtains, alleys, manure storage and other features. Listen as two cattle producers share how they designed and manage their mono-slope barns. See how they operate the barn curtains to adjust air flow, maintain and bed the pack, handle manure, provide feed, move cattle and comply with state and federal regulations. Both of these producers are currently cooperating in a multi-state USDA grant to determine gas emissions from deep-bedded mono-slope beef barns. Get a sneak preview of the July webinar which will feature this research and the impact of these barns on air quality. *An application for continuing education credit for Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) and members of the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists (ARPAS) has been submitted.*

Beth Doran is the beef program specialist for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, serving 17 counties in northwest Iowa since 1993. She received her Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University in Animal Nutrition, where she specialized in beef feedlot nutrition. Her Extension efforts include educational programming for beef producers that manage over one-million head of cattle on feed. Her cooperative research has focused on various cattle feeding issues, such as opportunities and challenges for dairy steer feeding in NW Iowa, the value of third-party certification claims at Iowa's feeder cattle auctions, environmental conditions in beef deep-bedded mono-slope facilities, and the current multi-state research project measuring gas emissions from four beef deep-bedded mono-slope facilities that use two bedding management techniques. Phone: (712) 737-4230; Email: doranb@iastate.edu



Ron and Clayton Christensen (father and son) of Royal, IA are fourth and fifth generation cattle feeders, and Ron remarked he has sixth generation grandchildren poised to feed cattle. Ron graduated from South Dakota State University with a General Agriculture degree. He began farming in 1976 and initially fed cattle in open lot facilities. While he and Clayton still use these facilities, they expanded the cattle feeding enterprise in 2007 and built a deep-bedded mono-slope barn that houses slightly less than 1000 head. Ron and Clayton finish 3000 head of beef cattle yearly. In their mono-slope barn, they generally clean around the pack, bed with cornstalks

twice weekly and maintain the pack between closeouts. When asked why he built a mono-slope barn, Ron answered, "It seems like the best environment to raise cattle because it provides cattle comfort." Phone: (712) 260-9266; Email: ronchris@royaltelco.net

Nick Mack of Watertown, SD farms 1500 acres and finishes 3000 head of cattle with his two brothers and son. He began farming in 1978 and moved his cattle under roof in monoslope barns in 1998. Nick has been employing a weekly scrape system of manure removal. When asked why he decided to raise cattle in mono-slope barns, Nick answered, "Given our location, it helps us prevent manure runoff to the nearby creek." Phone: (605) 881-6807

How Do I Participate?

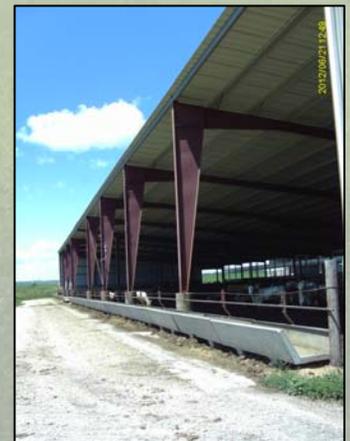
On the day of the webcast, go to www.extension.org/58813 to download the speaker's power point presentations and connect to the virtual meeting room. First time viewers should also follow the steps at: www.extension.org/8924.

Links For More Information:

* Mono-Slope Beef Barns <http://www.extension.org/67544>

* Mono-Slope Research Project <http://www.extension.org/67545>

* Cattle Feeding Buildings in the Midwest <https://www-mwps.sws.iastate.edu/catalog/construction/cattle-feeding-buildings-midwest>



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