De Boer Housing Systems Ltd

Specializing in cow comfort and welfare through quality and durability

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De Boer Housing Systems is committed to providing products and designing buildings that positively influence the performance of the herd.

With the increasing pressures of modern dairying, optimising efficiency is vital. A key part is providing the right environment and conditions to allow cows to do that.
Buildings to suit the cow’s and the farmer’s needs.

Central to our designs are cow comfort and cow welfare. The 5 “Cow Freedoms” are an integral thought in this design. We aim to optimize cow routing and make the job easier for farmers and staff working in this building.

Do you want to feed the cows on a central tractor passage or on the outside of the building? How do you want to milk your cows, through a conventional parlour or using milk robots? We can help you with the most suitable lay-out for all your needs.
Attention to detail is vital to get a building that works for you.

Crucial to your design is the need for slurry storage facilities. A number of different options are available for you to choose from. We take into account your space, ground conditions and budget.

Are you looking for suspended slurry storage or outside slurry storage? If you are having a suspended, slatted floor in your shed, then we would generally design a SLALOM slurry mixing system. A well proven system for over 40 years in Europe and 20 years in the UK.

Once we have had a consultation with you, we can prepare detailed drawings showing how your system will look and function for you.

A suspended tank with SLALOM slurry mixing system, saves alot of time.
The most used and most cost effective way of mixing slurry.

At De Boer Housing Systems, we specialise in designing slurry systems that are cost-effective to build, maximise slurry storage and most importantly are SAFE to use.

The ‘slalom system’ uses a tractor mixer to push or pull slurry along a series of channels that make a circuit back to mixer. It is a tried and tested method of mixing slurry tanks that has been advocated on the continent for decades.

The beauty of the slalom system is that one electric or tractor mixer can mix a whole tank, making it easy to mix a large amount of slurry on a regular basis. This eliminates the risk of a tank blocking, and also reduces the risk of fatal gasses being emitted.
ECO FLOOR SLATS

The best flooring system for cows on the market........by far.

If cows are housed all year-round, the only surface they ever walk on is the surface YOU provide in the shed. It is a vital component of the shed, and will impact the health, fertility and milk yield of the cow.

The ECO floor is a flat floor, totally free from sharp edges. The surface is 50/50 rubber to concrete, providing maximum grip. At the same time the wear and tear on the hooves is reduced considerably. Cows feel much more relaxed and this encourages a natural stride and natural behaviour by the cows.

• High activity due to perfect surface to walk on.
• Cows show 20% more activity than on normal concrete floors.
• Cows show much more natural behaviour.
• Higher feed intake and milk yield.
• Increased fertility and fertility detection.
• Rubber inserts reduces damage to cow’s feet and hooves considerably.
• 50/50 rubber and concrete is ideal combination.
• The ECO floor can be supplied with an ammonia reducing seal under the rubber inserts.
• Average lactations increases by 6 months or more.
• Farms with ECO floor are showing a pay back time between 5 to 6 years.

Slats are supplied standard in 4.0 ton axle weight for all sizes or 10 ton axle weight up to 3.0 meters and 6.0 ton axle weight for 3.25 to 4.00 meters long.
Outperforming any other make of pre-cast slat, at a very competitive price.

- Higher activity than on normal slats.
- Slightly narrower slots for better weight distribution.
- Less wear and tear on cow’s hooves.
- The profiling gives much better grip for cow’s feet.
- Cows show much more natural behaviour.
- The profiling retains a bit of moisture, stopping dung drying out.
- Resulting in cleaner floors.

Other pre-cast concrete products
DUAL CHAMBER Waterbeds

Do you want to eliminate hair loss and swollen hocks?

“The Diamond Standard” of dairy bedding, DCC Waterbeds are the only bedding surface designed to float the pressure points and move with the cow’s skin to eliminate skin abrasions.

The waterbed flexes with the body movements and is the only system that will never compact. It is the lowest cost-per-cubicle bedding surface on the market today. Because of these features, the beds provide excellent cow comfort as well as help the farmer save time and money.

Waterbeds always keep their rounded shape which allows liquid to run off the bed, as opposed to a mattress which will compress over time, or deep litter beds which absorb the liquid. The water also disperses the cows body heat, cooling cows down in the summer, where as standard mattresses act as a layer of insulation, retaining the heat, which can result in cows over-heating.

- Dual Chamber water beds offer the best cow comfort for cows lying down.
- Cows will lie down for 12 to 14 hours a day.
- Cows pressure points are floating and therefore no abrasions on joints
- Prevents hock and knee injuries.
- Improved blood circulation in joints.
- Dry and clean surface area.
- Liquids run off quicker than on ordinary mattresses.
- Front and rear pockets are filled separately
- Needs very little bedding.
- Lowest lifetime cost per bed.
- 10-year limited manufacturer’s guarantee.

Make swollen hocks and hair loss a thing of the past!
We provide High Pressure Sodium, Metal Halide and LED lights, and a fully automated control system to suit all aspects of dairy buildings. Agri-light are the leaders in agricultural lighting, producing light fixtures with:

- The largest spread of light (24m) on the market.
- Cast aluminum shell that disperses the heat.
- Fully waterproof, fixtures can be pressure washed off to ensure optimum light output.
- Stainless steel brackets and fixings.
- Lights can be controlled by automated control management box.
- Zones can be lit independently.

Maximise productivity and increase fertility by providing the correct light levels for your cows.

Providing your cows with a light regime of average 150-200 lux, for 16 hours a day, and 8 hours of darkness, will produce positive results. With the correct light levels, cows will be more active and show more natural behaviour. Most cow sheds are too dark, making cows in-active.

Cow's produce milk best whilst lying down. The period of darkness ensures that cows are resting properly, resulting in a reduction of stress and optimises blood circulation through the udder. This can increase milk yields by up to 15%. Correct light levels will improve oestrus detection, improves fertility and improve disease detection.

New AgriLED pro 32, fully dimmable

Cows need 200 lux average for 16 hours per day

HPS, the most cost-effective way of achieving the correct light level

The first step in achieving the correct lighting for your cows is getting an accurate light-plan of your buildings. Contact us for a light-plan.
Natural ventilation the healthy way.

Providing dairy cows and young stock with plenty of fresh air is essential for animals to stay healthy and reduce diseases. We recommend using natural ventilation where possible. Lots of fresh and cool air is essential for dairy cows and it will give you a much better control on diseases.

The optimum temperature for dairy cows is about 7 degrees Celsius. High yielding cows need low temperatures to cool down. Depending on temperature, humidity and stock density, all the air inside the shed may need to be refreshed several times each hour.

In new buildings a good quality ventilation system can be built in more easily. With a 22 degree roof pitch on the building and a 1.25 m overhang, optimum ventilation can be achieved. At the same time you can improve entry of natural light. Being flexible with air flow, adjustable to the weather conditions, where you are protected from rain and heavy winds is the best way forward.

We provide a variation of curtain materials. Form 100% solid materials to curtains mesh with 80 or 90% solid. Often bird nettings are installed first, which stops wild life entering the shed and at the same time breaks the wind to a certain degree.

- Large choice of solid or part open curtains.
- Large choice of colours.
- Manual operation or electric motor operation.
- Fully automated weather station available.
- Lumitherm insulates well from temperature.
- Lumitherm is ideal for calf housing.
- Lumitherm polybag is inflated by small electric fans.

Good air quality is essential for housing cows all year round.
Lunging space is the most critical issue in cubicles.

Cubicles come in many shapes and forms. At De Boer Housing Systems we believe in room and space in a cubicle, in order for cows to be able to lunge as naturally as possible. The C-220 cubicle system has the least obstruction of any cubicle on the market.

The Super comfort cubicle is a tried and tested system over the last 30 years or so. This system can be mounted onto 2 horizontal rails or direct onto support posts.

Comfort Cubicles
- We like to hot-dip galvanise all our cubicles
- The C-220 is the most open cubicle on the market, resulting in the most natural lunge.
- Super-Comfort and US style shapes.
- Optional Nylon neckband cushions the cow from steel neck rail.
- The C-220 is the easiest and quickest cubicle system to install

Brisket Pipe
- Positions the cow in the cubicle perfectly without hindering the lunging space.
- Heavy duty round 160mm pipe.

The bed length is the most important dimension in cubicle beds!!!
A different system for different situations.

We offer cable, chain and rope scraper systems to suit all situations. Each system lends itself to certain circumstances. We take shed layout, passage length, bedding material and slurry storage into account to supply you with the most suitable scraper system.

In most situations we recommend cutting a groove for the cable or chain to run in. We have a specially modified machine to do the job quickly and efficiently.

Drive Units

- Cable drive units: 0.25KW, 0.37KW and 0.55KW.
- Rope drive units: 0.25KW, 0.37KW.
- Chain drive units: 0.37KW, 0.55KW and 0.75KW.
- Switch boxes are digital or analogue.
- Large, heavy duty, corner wheels.
Handling races are supplied in a base unit of 6.0 meters with extensions of 3.0 or 6.0 meters.

**Self-locking feed fences, the cheapest handling system available.**

De Boer Housing Systems offer a range of self-locking feed fences for adult cows to young stock (6 to 22 months old).

Alternatively a standard neck rail system or an “Alberta” hinged neck rail system can be supplied.

**Quiet with rubber sound absorbers**
- A rubber spring opens up the feed place.
- Smooth top rail, easy to operate
- Hold back a small number of cows and release the group
- Release a small number and hold back the group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self-locking barrier</th>
<th>For cows and heifers older than 18 months</th>
<th>No. of places</th>
<th>Feed width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.L.C-600</td>
<td>Length = 2.50/2.96/3.56/4.37 meter</td>
<td>4/5/6 and 7</td>
<td>600mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.L.C-650</td>
<td>Length = 1.34/1.97/2.69/3.25 meter</td>
<td>2/3/4 and 5</td>
<td>650mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.L.C-700</td>
<td>Length = 1.40/2.02/2.60/3.50/4.79 meter</td>
<td>2/3/4/5 and 7</td>
<td>700mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.L.C-750</td>
<td>Length = 1.50/2.50/3.00/3.75 meter</td>
<td>2/3/4 and 5</td>
<td>750mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.L.C-800</td>
<td>Length = 1.66/3.43/4.12/5.00 meter</td>
<td>2/3/4 and 5</td>
<td>800mm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self-locking barrier</th>
<th>For young stock 12 – 22 months</th>
<th>No. of places</th>
<th>Feed width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.L.YS-510</td>
<td>Length = 1.12/1.72/2.32/2.94/3.50 meter</td>
<td>2/3/4/5 and 6</td>
<td>510mm</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self-locking barrier</th>
<th>For young stock 7 – 12 months</th>
<th>No. of places</th>
<th>Feed width</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.L.YS-650</td>
<td>Length = 1.10/1.56/2.02/2.62/3.24/3.50 meter</td>
<td>2/3/4/5/6 and 7</td>
<td>460mm</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self-locking barrier</th>
<th>For young stock 1 – 7 months</th>
<th>No. of places</th>
<th>Feed width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.L.YS-380</td>
<td>Length = 1.35/2.11/2.89/3.57 meter</td>
<td>3/5/6/7 and 8</td>
<td>380mm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Stainless steel water troughs for cleaner water.

De Boer Housing Systems offer a large range of stainless steel and frost free water troughs. Stainless steel water troughs are much easier to clean as the surface is not so rough as a hot dipped galvanised steel trough. Stainless steel does not rust and therefore lasts much longer.

Most water troughs will have a ball valve included. Troughs can also be supplied with a gravity feed system. This is an advantage where you want to use plate cooled water and bore-hole water for cows to drink. The water is fed into a central trough which is then connected with a large diameter pipe to the troughs.