

The principal noteworthy features are as follows:—

The diamond pen (D) forms a useful collecting point and also a short cut between seven different pens. It therefore adds considerably to the handiness of the yards. It is designed to hold 100 sheep and the surrounding pens hold multiples of this number, which is a useful feature in filling the "diamond."

The double crush pen shown is fitted with four extra gates (the centre gates 18, 19, and 20 and the small gate 24). When a set of yards is built only those which are likely to prove most useful need be included. Gates 13 and 14 at the entrance to the crush pens could with advantage be built in the form of balanced lift gates.

The run-through (R) is another most useful feature and can be used for a variety of other jobs such as foot-rotting (part of it being used as a bath; see page 229 for details of how it can be filled or emptied quickly), branding, dagging, or drenching. Where a drenching "gun" is used a very convenient arrangement is to strain a wire along from end to end of the run-through, directly above it and about 8ft. from the ground. The tank for the drenching solution can then be suspended from this wire on a pulley and will follow the man working the gun along and save him carrying the tank.

The yards shown are designed to link up with a woolshed and dipping installation, the connection being indicated on the left of the plan.

Estimates of Quantities and Costs: No. 5 Plan

Fences

Length of outer fence	ft.	488
Length of fence round diamond		36
Length of other internal fences		484
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Length of all fences (excluding gates)		1,008

If five 4in. x 1½in. rails are used for fences a total of 1008 x 5 = 5040 lineal feet of this timber will be required.

Crush and Race

End panels of the crush on both sides are close boarded with single-dressed 6in. x 1in.'s = 16ft. x 6 = 96 lineal feet.

Sides of race are close boarded with single-dressed 6in. x 1in.'s = 28ft. x 6 = 168 lineal feet.

* If drafting gates and race stop-gates are constructed of double-dressed 6in. x 1in. timber, add 66 lineal feet, plus 56 lineal feet of 4in. x 1in. (dressed) for stiles, and stiles and stays of hinged end panel of crush.

Gates

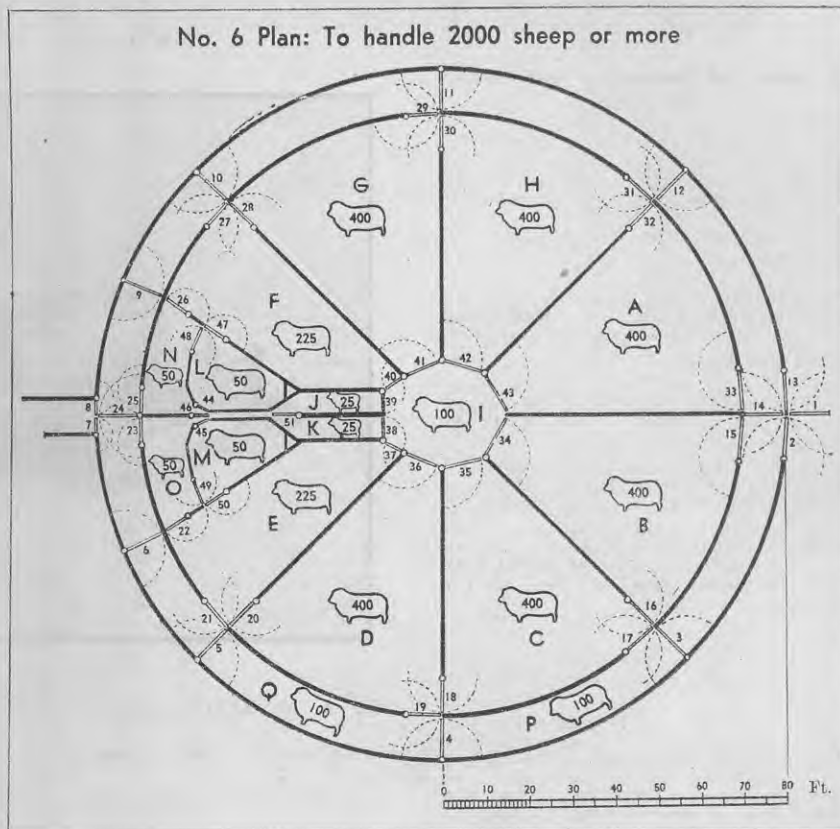
If common swing gates are constructed, the following timber will be required:—

For 4 x 10ft., 11 x 8ft., 14 x 6ft., 5 x 5ft., 5 x 4ft., and 1 x 2ft. gates a total of 2122 lineal feet of 4in. x 1in. timber for stiles and stays of all gates, and rails of gates under 7ft., plus 640 lineal feet of 4in. x 1½in. timber for rails of gates 7ft. or wider.

Total timber (lineal feet): 5680 of 4in. x 1½in., 2178 of 4in. x 1in., 330 of 6in. x 1in.

PLANS OF SHEEP-DRAFTING YARDS

No. 6 Plan: To handle 2000 sheep or more



Posts

A total of 183 posts will be required and of these at least 43 require to be heavy enough to act as gateposts.

Cost

The same general remarks apply as for No. 1 Plan.

Timber

super ft.	in.	in.	At per 100 super ft.	£	s.	d.
2367	4	x 1½	£2 10	..	59	3 6
726	4	x 1	£2 10	..	18	3 0
165	6	x 1	£2 10	..	4	2 6
183 posts at £38 per 100				..	69	10 10

Approx. 813 ¾in. x 3½in. to 4½in. black bolts and nuts at average of 15s. per 100 6 2 0

Approx. 813 ¾in. washers at 2s. 9d. per gross 15 6

43 pairs of hinges and gudgeons at average of 7s. 6d. per pair 16 2 6

Estimated cost £173 19 10

Sundries

As for No. 1 Plan.

* If drafting gates are constructed on the laminated principle (3 layers) to give a flush, smooth finish, a total of 120ft. of 6in. x 7/16in. finish dressed timber will be required instead of the 42ft. of 6in. x 1in. and 24ft. of 4in. x 1in.

No. 6 Plan

Circular sheepyards have had phases of popularity for many years, and as they certainly have some advantages not possessed by other types,

an example (No. 6 Plan: Large circular yards to handle 2000 sheep or more) is included here. There are apparently many who assume that circular yards can be built of practically any size, but a little reflection will show that this is not the case with the usual type shown here. There must be room for the crush, the race, and the drafting pens, not to mention part of the diamond, between the centre and the outside fence of the yards. This imposes a certain minimum size which is not much below that shown in No. 6 plan.

Though the plan is largely self explanatory, one or two features can be elaborated on. The central diamond pen (I) can be used to great advantage in circular yards and is really an essential part of the design. In this case it communicates with not fewer than 10 different pens. The outside race or alleyway also serves as a connecting link between the majority of the pens. In the plan only two entrances to the yards from outside paddocks are shown, through gates 2 and 13, but of course fences and gates can be included at any convenient point round the outside ring fence to suit existing conditions.

Four-way drafting is a feature of the design and circular yards lend themselves to this. The arrangement of gates leading to the woolshed should also be noted. The end of the ramp is closed by two small gates (7 and 8) each 4ft. long. They may be swung across to meet gates 23 and 25 of the drafting pens so that sheep from pen