

THE STAVE SILO.

As the live stock of the country increase in number and improve in quality, more and more interest is taken in the preservation of succulent food for their use during the winter. In many parts of Canada the cheapest crop for such a purpose is Indian Corn (*Zea mays*) and since the preservation of this forage is an important consideration, so the question of silos and silo building is claiming more attention. Many letters have been received asking for directions for constructing silos and inquiring as to the relative economy of the different kinds of silo in use.

The most common objection advanced to the more general use of the silo is the considerable expenditure necessary to erect such a large air-tight chamber, as well as the subsequent expense of maintaining such a building in repair, and the apparent short life of the silo as commonly constructed.

From extensive observation and study of silos and silo construction, and from experience here with a number of different silos, it would appear that the tub or stave silo is the form of cheap silo that for various reasons is most worthy of recommendation. It combines simplicity and cheapness of construction, with the requisite conditions to preserve the ensilage in the very best condition for feeding.

No data are as yet available as to the longevity of the Stave Silo, its probable life depends, however, upon the quality of the material used and the proper construction of the foundation and sides.

The first point to decide when preparing to build is the amount of ensilage to be stored and the size of silo required for such an amount. A good average daily ration for a cow being from 35 lbs. to 40 lbs., the amount required for a given number of cattle during a certain period may be easily estimated. By referring to the following table, the approximate capacity of different sized tub silos may be ascertained:—

TABLE giving the approximate capacity of stave silos for well matured corn silage, in tons.

Depth in Feet	Inside Diameter in Feet									
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
20	58	66	75	84	94	104	115	126	138	150
21	62	71	80	90	100	111	123	135	147	161
22	67	76	86	96	107	119	131	144	157	172
23	71	81	92	103	115	127	140	154	168	183
24	76	86	97	109	122	135	149	163	179	194
25	80	89	103	116	129	143	158	173	189	206
26	85	97	109	123	137	151	167	183	200	218
27	90	102	115	129	144	160	176	194	212	230
28	94	108	122	136	152	168	186	204	223	243
29	99	113	128	143	160	177	195	214	234	255
30	105	119	134	151	168	186	205	225	246	268

In all silo construction, a most important point is to build as high as possible, since each foot added in height increases by so much the chance of success and gives a more than proportionate increase in capacity, due to the greater pressure of the taller column of material.

The silo may be built inside the barn or adjacent to it, as convenient. If built outside, it may be expected to prove as satisfactory as if built under cover, though