Department of Agriculture

AGNOTES

For all districts

Two-stand shearing sheds

November, 1985 Order No. 3064/85

This agnote replaces agnote Order No. 283/79
Agdex 437/721

by Kieran Ransom, sheep industry officer

The following floor plans show how features such as front-fill catching pens and raised boards can be incorporated in two-stand shearing sheds.

These plans should be read in conjunction with other agnotes on shearing shed design. They give information on things such as dual-purpose sheds, raised boards, slide-and-swing and lift-and-swing gates, shed size, shed siting, lighting, ventilation, critical dimensions for pens, machinery installation and so on.

Plan 1

This plan is adapted from a design used successfully in an existing shed. The barrier between the sheep area and the wool room is two metres high and made from wood. The forcing pen (on the left in the plan) fills very easily even while shearing is in progress. This is probably because the sheep are not moving towards the source of noise (the shearer) when the forcing pen is being filled.

The catching pen also fills very easily. Sheep move easily from the forcing pen to the back of the catching pen because they think they are escaping when they are moving away from the shearer.

A small gate between two catching pens enables sheep to be easily shifted between catching pens so that both shearers can finish the mob at the same time.

The boxes for pieces, locks and bellies are movable. The press is put alongside the table so that most fleeces can be put directly into the press after skirting.

Plan 2

This plan has been copied from the catalogue of Bowley-Geddes, Main St, Clare, South Australia. It also features a raised board and front-fill catching pens. Lift-and-swing gates are featured in these sheds.

The shed as supplied by the manufacturer is timber-framed; internal yards are also made from timber.

Plan 3

This plan (which is based on theory), uses the revolving forcing gate principle (commonly seen in dairies) to move sheep into the catching pen. In this design each catching pen has a slide-and-swing gate that moves around to act as a forcing gate.

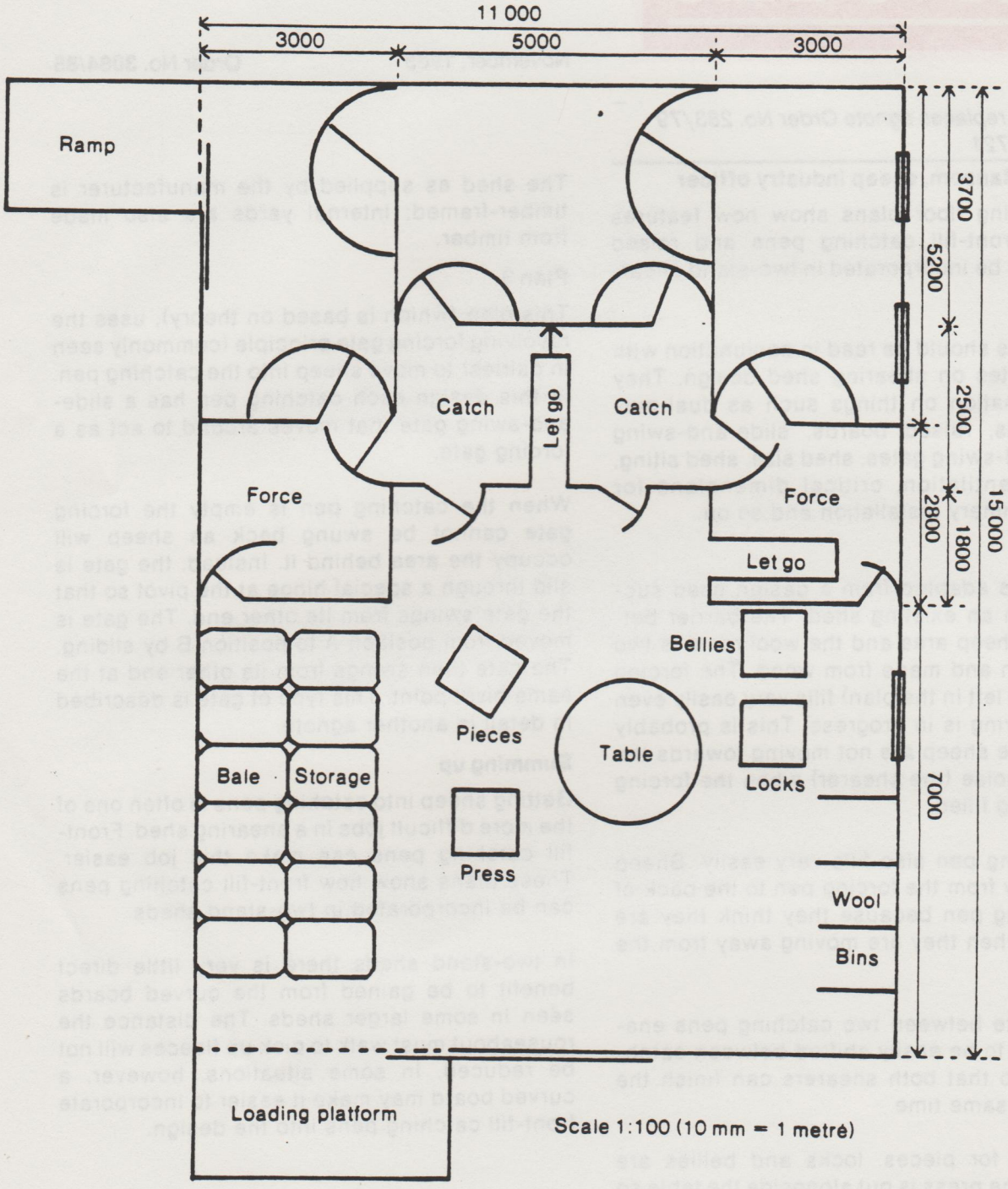
When the catching pen is empty the forcing gate cannot be swung back as sheep will occupy the area behind it. Instead, the gate is slid through a special hinge at the pivot so that the gate swings from its other end. The gate is moved from position A to position B by sliding. The gate then swings from its other end at the same pivot point. This type of gate is described in detail in another agnote.

Summing up

Getting sheep into catching pens is often one of the more difficult jobs in a shearing shed. Front-fill catching pens can make this job easier. These plans show how front-fill catching pens can be incorporated in two-stand sheds.

In two-stand sheds there is very little direct benefit to be gained from the curved boards seen in some larger sheds. The distance the rouseabout must walk to pick up fleeces will not be reduced. In some situations, however, a curved board may make it easier to incorporate front-fill catching pens into the design.

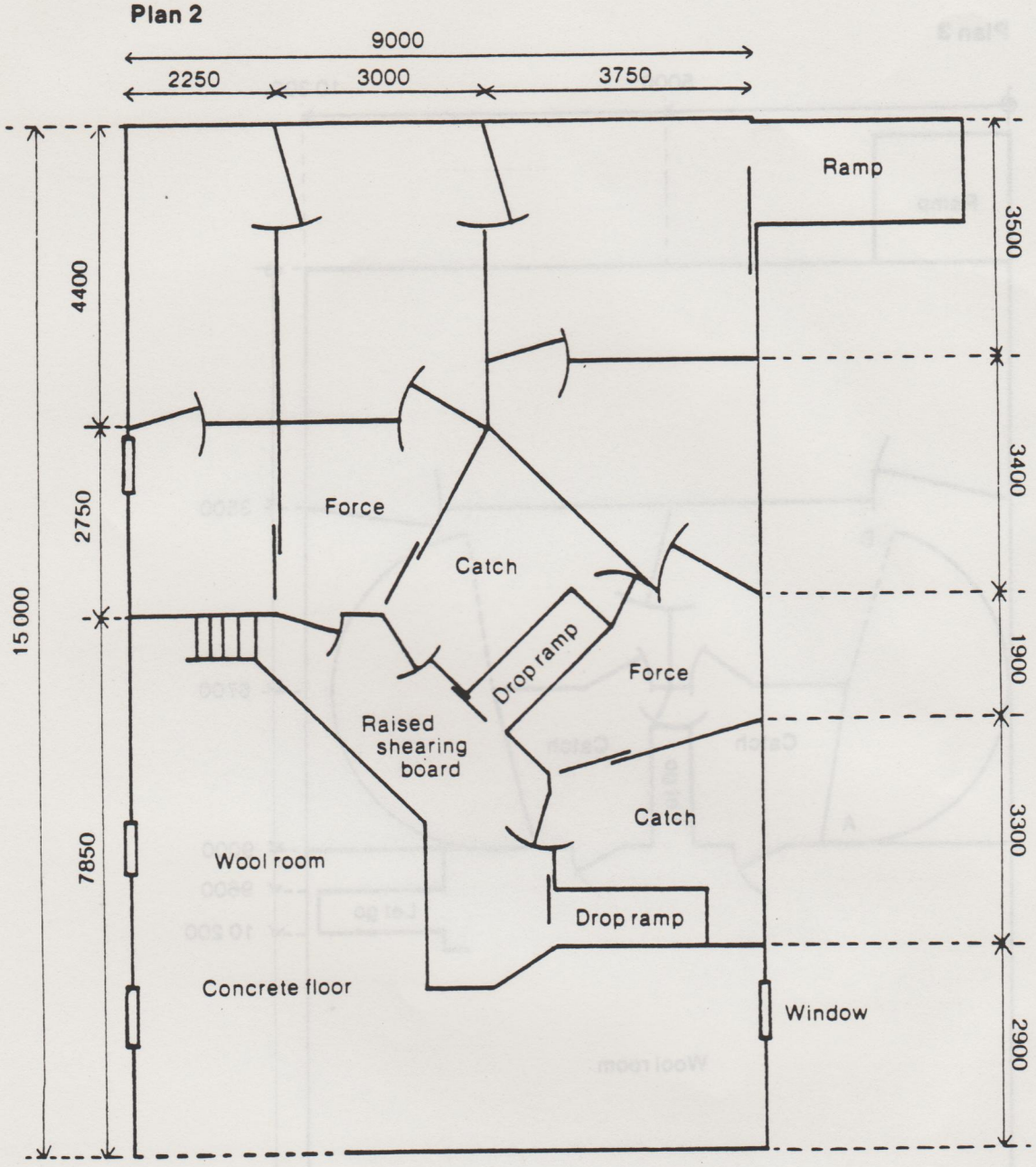
Plan 1



Scale 1:100 (10 mm = 1 metre)

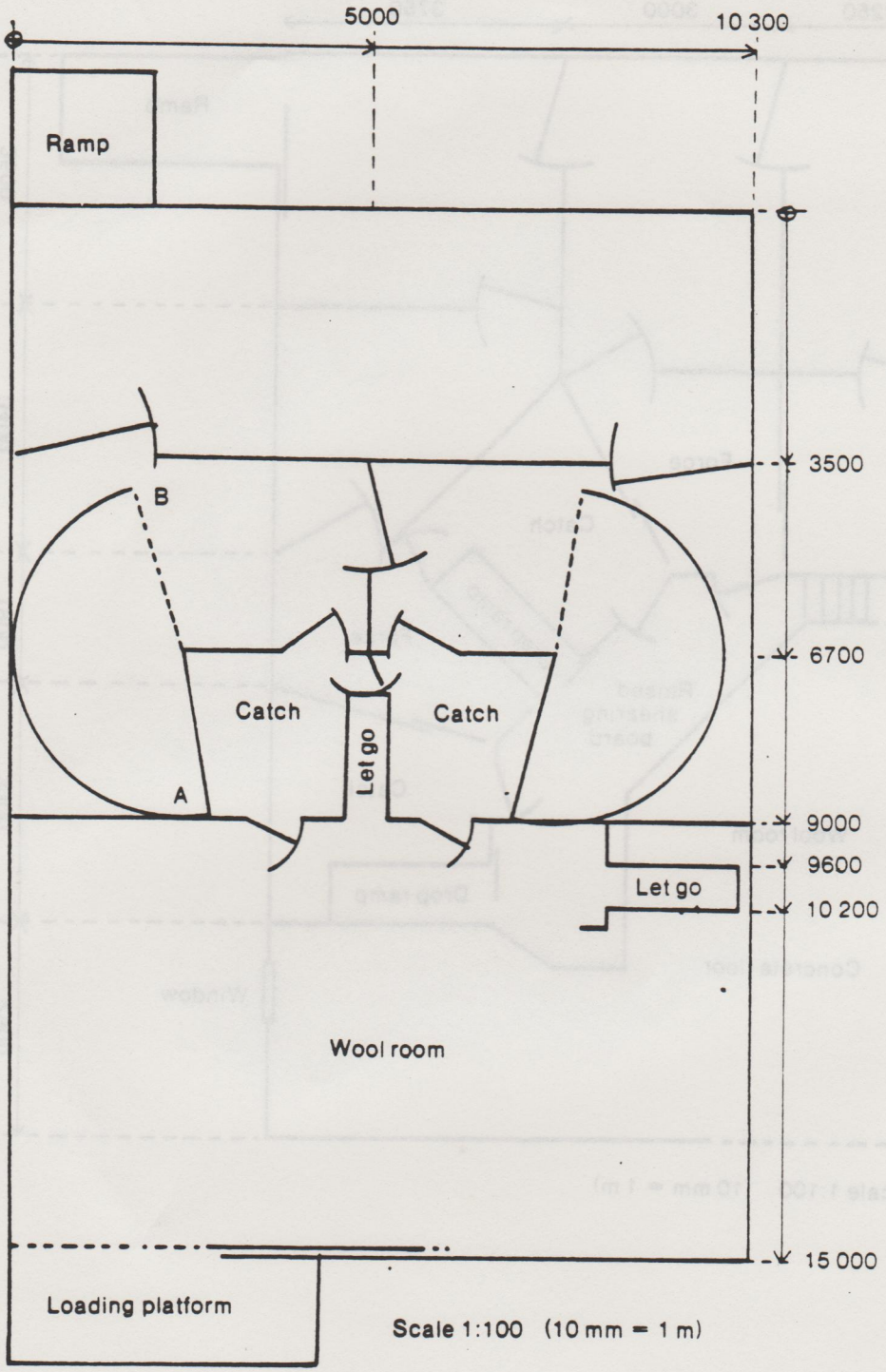
To conform with building industry practice, all measurements are given in millimetres; thus, 2400 means 2 metres and 400 millimetres.

Plan 2



Scale 1:100 (10 mm = 1 m)

Plan 3



F D Atkinson Government Printer Melbourne

ISSN 0155-0217