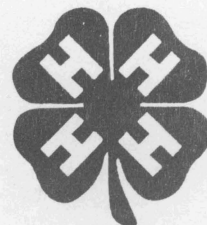


*Mrs. Dot Holland*

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3-3-59



## ELECTRIC BROODERS WILL SAVE PIGS

by

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### GENERAL

The most serious losses of young pigs occur during the first few days after birth. These losses often are caused directly or indirectly by chilling. Young pigs are sensitive to cold and, in trying to stay warm, they lie close to the sow and often are mashed or trampled.

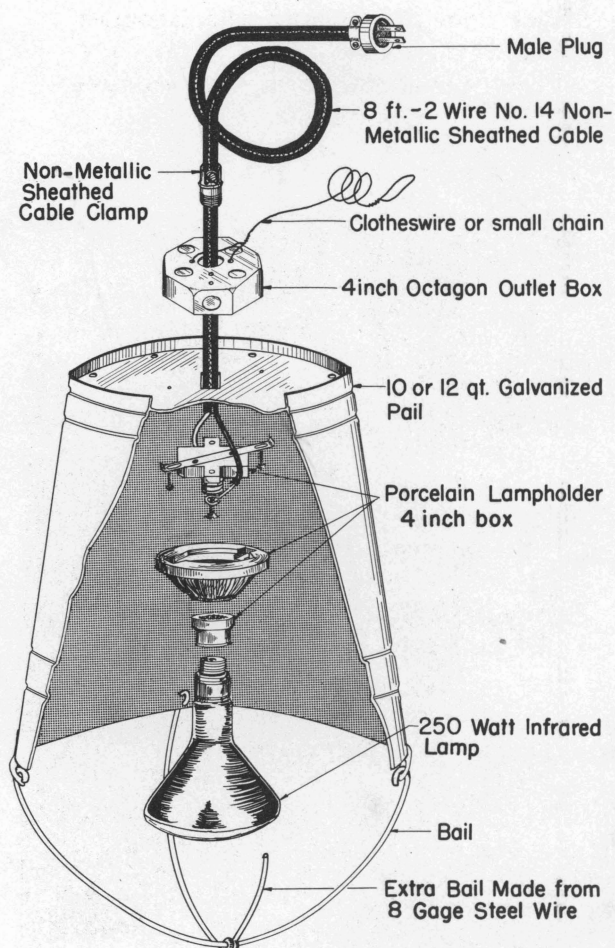
A pig brooder will provide the needed warmth away from the sow. Brooders have been found to save a sufficient number of pigs to more than justify their use.

### SELECTING THE PIG BROODER

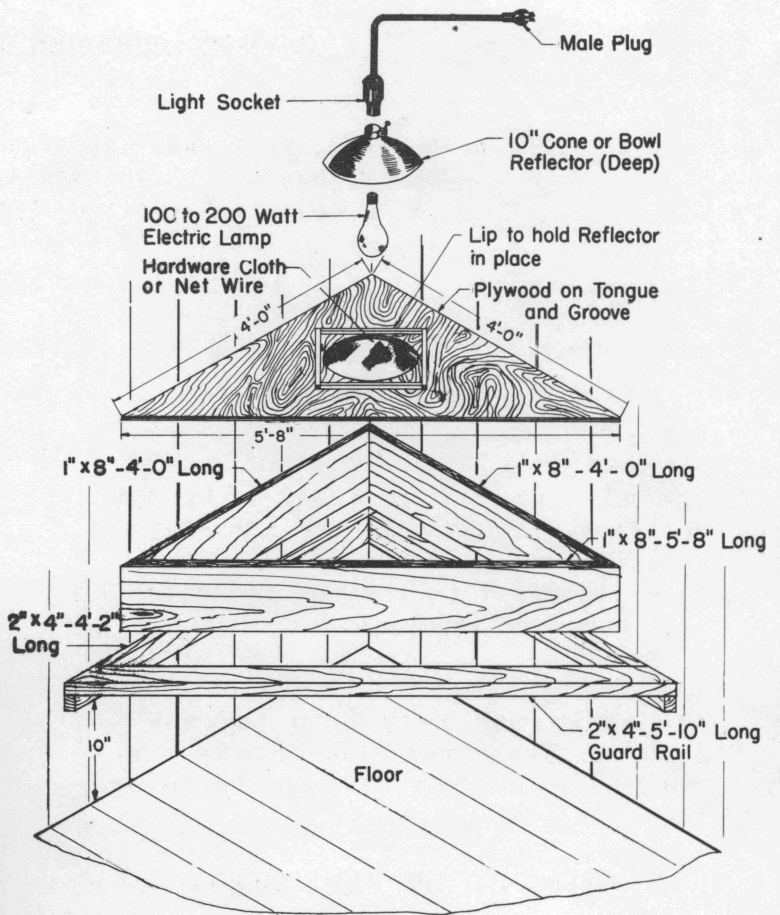
Pig brooders are of two types: (1) a hover which fits into the corner of the pen and is heated by a regular 100 to 200 watt light bulb or (2) an infrared heat lamp suspended where the owner wants the pigs to bed up.

### HOW TO USE THE ELECTRIC BROODER

1. The hover type pig brooder should be fastened securely in the corner of the pen or house so that the sow cannot move it.
2. The infrared brooder should be suspended securely from a rafter or the ceiling by a wire or small chain. The bottom of the lamp should be about 30 inches above the floor or litter.
3. Provide 115 volt electric power to the brooder.
4. Place the sow in the pen a day or so before farrowing.
5. Turn the lamp on several hours before the pigs arrive and adjust the heat. Test the infrared brooder by placing your hand on the floor under the lamp. If your hand becomes uncomfortably hot in a short time, raise the lamp. The pigs will gain strength in a short time and from then on will move toward or away from the heat.



6. For early spring litters the heat ordinarily should be left on continuously for ten days and if the weather is very cold, two weeks.
7. The pigs may have to be placed under the brooder by hand until they learn to go voluntarily - once or twice is usually sufficient; however, sometimes it takes a day or two of training.
8. Place the pigs under the brooder immediately after birth, but allow them to come out voluntarily for nursing.



#### COST OF OPERATING ELECTRIC PIG BROODER

The brooder will average from 25 to 35 kilowatt hours of electricity per litter of pigs. At 3¢, this means a cost of 75¢ to \$1.05 per litter of pigs for electricity.

*Additional information and publications on hog raising can be obtained from your county agricultural agent.*

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