



PERSPECTIVE OF GREENHOUSE, Plan 5946, shows how baseboards are installed, also plywood arches and ridge-board. For actual working drawings, apply at your local County Agent's office.

be an advantage to using two layers of film for added insulation. This insulation could reduce the amount of heating needed during the winter.

Provides Air Space

When using two layers, apply the first layer, then place ropes over the plastic extending from one baseboard over the ridge to the other baseboard. This rope should be placed midway between the plywood arches. The second sheet is applied over the ropes and is then fastened with batten strips and screws to the plywood arches and baseboard. Tightening the rope will sag the inside plastic sheet and give the necessary air space for insulation.

A number of modifications could be placed on this greenhouse to give better temperature and humidity controls. A fan with thermostat and humidistat controls will help keep temperatures and humidity at the desired range.

If the greenhouse is used in the early fall or late spring, it will be necessary to add some type of cooling. An evaporative cooler mounted on one end probably will be the most satisfactory.

Can Be Heated in Winter

It also will probably be necessary to add some form of winter supplemental heat. Commercial greenhouses try to keep the temperature somewhere near 60°. Most home owners will probably find that an electric heater with blower will keep plants from freezing and this should be satisfactory.

Our Biggest Industry

Despite a continuing reduction in the number of farms and farmers, agriculture is the nation's biggest business. As the number of farms and farmers have gone down, production from these farms has continued to climb and, today one farm worker produces food and fiber for himself and 26 others.

Today, four out of every 10 jobs in private employment are related to agriculture. Ten million people have jobs storing, transporting, processing, and merchandising the products of agriculture. Some six million people have jobs providing the supplies farmers use. When we note that "only 8.6 per cent of our labor force in 1960 was in agriculture" we refer to the on-the-farm people. Actually the figure for 1962 is 7.7 per cent. When the broader definition of agriculture is used, it is nearer 40 per cent.

Simple and Economical Backyard Greenhouse

W. E. Larsen

The plan for this backyard plastic greenhouse was originally developed in Oregon and has since been constructed and tested by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The greenhouse shown (Plan 5946) is a small structure eight and one-half feet wide and twelve feet long. The length can be increased or decreased in multiples of three feet. Each 12-foot length should have a frame built in the interior to give stability to the ridge board and arches.

The secret to obtaining a good-looking building that is easy to build is in the construction of the proper ridge board. Rip a one foot by 10 foot board at a 30° angle, smooth the edge with a plane and nail the boards together firmly to form a 120° angle for the ridge. These two boards, fastened in this manner, give a strong

ridge and at the same time give the proper angle for the plywood when it is fastened securely to the ridge board.

Use Plywood Arches

One piece of quarter inch exterior plywood, 8 feet long and 4 inches wide, is bent and fastened inside of the baseboard. Another piece of quarter inch by 8 foot plywood is put on top and fastened to the outside of the baseboard. This split in the arches gives more strength to the arches and gives a firm fastening at the base. Screws will have to be placed in the two strips of plywood to make them act as a unit.

Treated foundation boards and treated stakes, galvanized screws or brass screws, and all other measures to resist corrosion will be found quite helpful in preserving the frame, so that it may be used over several years with new plastic covers being installed as the old plastic becomes damaged.

The plastic film for covering this greenhouse should probably be 4 mil ultraviolet inhibited polyethylene. This film probably will last a year. However, the owner should expect to replace the film each fall. There may

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