Laying hen housing on straw-beds (deep litter-loose housing) are animal houses where the floor is covered with a thick layer of litter (straw, peat, sawdust, or other similar material binding the manure) that is removed only at intervals that may be several months apart. A simple closed building that is thermally insulated and with forced ventilation or natural ventilation. At least a third of the floor area must be covered with bedding (e.g. chopped straw, wood shavings) and two thirds arranged as a pit covered with slats to collect droppings (waste voided by poultry) over the 13 – 15 month egg laying period. Laying nests, feeders and water supply are placed over the slatted area to keep the litter dry.

Related concepts

- Animal housing
- Laying hen housing - battery cages

Statistical data

- Agri-environmental indicator - manure storage