



# Make your own hay rack

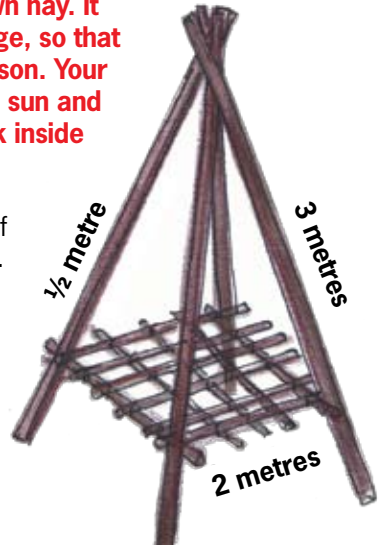
Every dairy farmer can make and store his own hay. It is very important to have enough hay in storage, so that your cows have sufficient feed for the dry season. Your hay should be stored in a barn, away from the sun and rain. It is best to stack the hay onto a hay rack inside the barn.

A hay rack is easy to build and will not cost you a lot of money. It is a good way to keep the hay clean and dry. Less hay is wasted if it is kept on a rack than on the ground. First you should pick a location for your hay rack. Your hay rack should be:

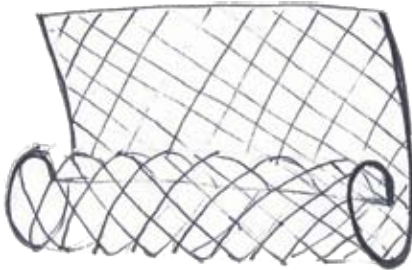
- In a barn or store room or in a shaded area.
- Close to the area where your animals are fed.

### You will need:

- Four strong wooden poles of 3 metres each.
- Two strong wooden poles of 2 metres each to hold your structure in position.
- Wire mesh or wooden slats made from clean-cut branches to serve as the rack.



Your hay rack should be at least half a metre off the ground, so that the hay will stay dry and clean at the bottom



### Important things to remember

- Stack the hay loosely at the centre of the rack, but more densely around the outside.
- It is better to build a few racks than only one.
- You can also make a thatch roof if your rack is outside, to protect it from sun and rain. **UM**

