



Curved loading chutes

It is normal practice when building a swine barn to install the loading chute projecting straight out from the barn. If there are no restrictions 100' out from the barn, this is the most logical arrangement.

However, there can be situations where there are restrictions. For example, another swine barn may be in the way or the land falls off severely restricting the turning radius for the stock truck.

In such cases, it is possible to curve the loading chute rather than coming out straight. The photo below shows the curved chute that Bruce Kelly of Wallenstein, ON built to avoid the neighbouring dry sow barn. After 14 years of loading finishing pigs, sows and more recently early weaned pigs with this chute, he reports that it has worked well for all classes of pigs with no apparent restrictions to pig flow. In fact it has worked significantly better than some straight chutes he has worked with on other farms.

As long as the other elements of good chute design are followed – step height and width, weatherproof covering, lighting, etc.- the curved chute should work as well as a straight chute.



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