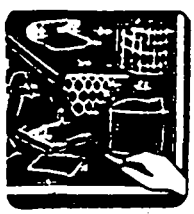


TIPS FOR AMATEUR BUILDERS

This section provides illustrated information and details of construction to help the user to construct ferrocement structures quickly, easily and economically.

The Pedestal Pit Latrine

G.T. Cigolotti*

A new idea of low-cost sanitation is introduced by the construction of pedestal pit latrine. This is simple, safe, comfortable and easily cleaned. The pedestal pit latrine can be constructed on site with a minimum of easily found materials. When full, it is easily moved.

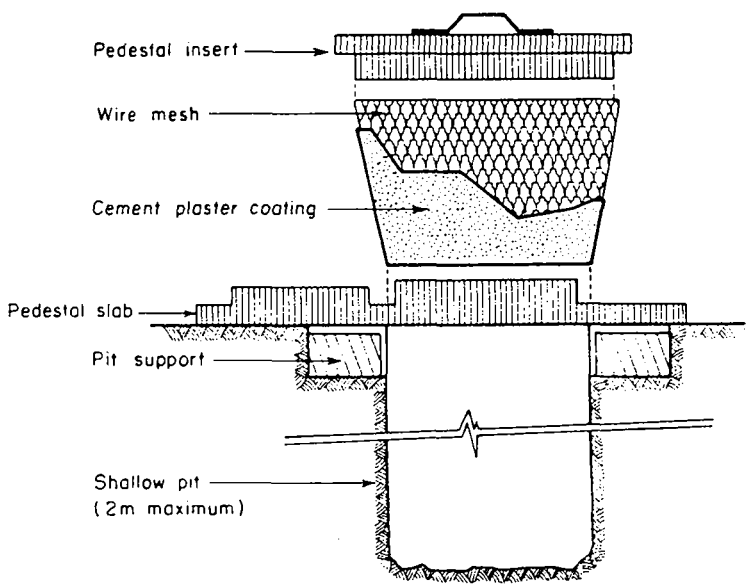
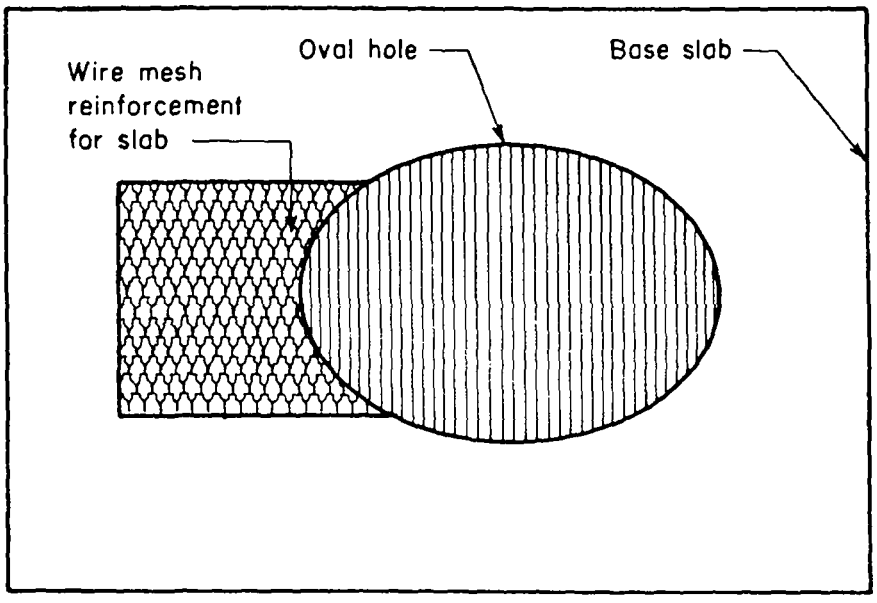


Fig.1. Partially completed pedestal (profile).

* Environmental Health Analyst, Box 324, St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada, E3L 2Y4.

CONSTRUCTION METHOD

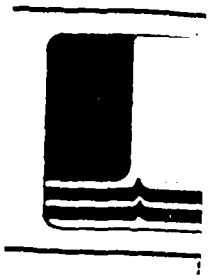
1. Prepare a mold for the pedestal slab (Fig. 1) with a hole slightly smaller than the widest part of pedestal. Base can either be reinforced concrete or a rich cement concrete mixture. Thickness varies with method of reinforcement used. The base length is twice the diameter of the pit. The pedestal can be fabricated while casting slab.
2. The mold for the top of pedestal (Fig. 2) consists of an oval insert around which is placed the sheet metal (or other substitute materials).
3. The mold for toilet seat support (optional) can be reinforced with chicken wire and two inserts, e.g. waste AA batteries set in cement. Sheet metal backing (or other substitute material) is placed around the insert and tied. The mold of the pedestal top is inserted and tied to the sheet metal backing. Be sure to obtain the proper profile with the use of the mold of pedestal top.
4. One layer of chicken wire mesh is positioned based on the profile. Mix the cement mortar and plaster to the required thickness. After 24 hours, apply a layer of cement paste for a smooth finish and for easy cleaning.



Top view

Fig. 2. Mold for pedestal top.

The ferrocement pit latrine is especially designed for low-income people in the developing countries.



This list incl
Reprints and repr
446).

All informati
System. Stored i
searches are perfo

RESEARCH AN

Material Propert

Chowdhury, S.M.
Thesis, Asian Ins
*analysis / crackin
tension / AIT Pub
Thailand*

Hoang Vinh Thang
M.Eng. Thesis, As
*analysis / cracks /
tension / tests / AIT
Thailand*

Akhtaruzzaman,
Ferrocement, M.En
*bond / computer
tests / AIT Pub
Thailand*

Gonzales, A.D.C.
Technology.
*beams (supports) /
/ AIT Pub
Thailand*