

# Cold Storage

Jim Thompson  
Biological & Agricultural  
Engineering, UC Davis

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

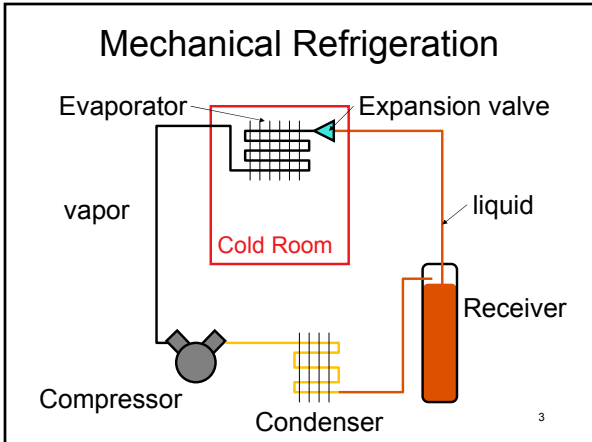
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Cold Storage

- Temperature variation < 2°F (1°C).

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Maintaining Temperature

- Refrigeration capacity.

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Reciprocating Compressor



6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Maintaining Temperature

- Refrigeration capacity.
- Evaporator coils.

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Finned-Tube Evaporators



8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Maintaining Temperature

- Refrigeration capacity
- Evaporator coils
- Insulation

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Insulation



10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Maintaining Temperature

- Refrigeration capacity.
- Evaporator coils.
- Insulation.
- Controls/thermostat.

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Calibrate control system

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Maintaining Temperature

- Refrigeration capacity.
- Evaporator coils.
- Insulation.
- Controls/thermostat.
- Air mixing volume (usually above fruit).

13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Cold Storage

- Temperature variation  $< 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ .
- Relative Humidity  $> 90\% - 95\%$ .

14

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Maintaining High Humidity

- Large evaporator surface.
- High evaporator temperature.

15

---

---

---

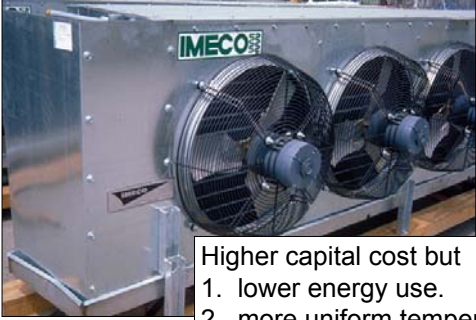
---

---

---

---

---



Higher capital cost but

1. lower energy use.
2. more uniform temperature.
3. higher humidity.

16

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Maintaining High Humidity

- Large evaporator surface.
- High evaporator temperature.
- Reduce refrigeration load.

17

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Maintaining High Humidity

- Large evaporator surface.
- High evaporator temperature.
- Reduce refrigeration load.
- Humidifier.

18

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Adds water to packing materials



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Maintain High Humidity

High humidity requires uniform air temperature.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Reduce Moisture Loss

- Minimize paper & wood packaging.

A 2lb fiberboard box can absorb water equal to 1% of fruit weight.



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Reduce Moisture Loss

- Minimize paper & wood packaging.
- Reduce time between picking and cooling.

22

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Reduce Moisture Loss

- Minimize paper & wood packaging.
- Reduce time between picking and cooling.
- Harvest during the cool hours of the day & protect fruit from heating.



23

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Cold Storage

- Temperature variation < 2°F.
- Relative Humidity > 90% - 95%.
- Adequate airflow & good uniformity.

24

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Airflow Capacity

- 100 cfm per ton of product for initial cooling.
- 20 -40 cfm per ton for long term storage.

Use only as much air as is needed to maintain uniform temperature.

25

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Airflow Uniformity

Solid ceiling plenum or duct



26

---

---

---

---

---

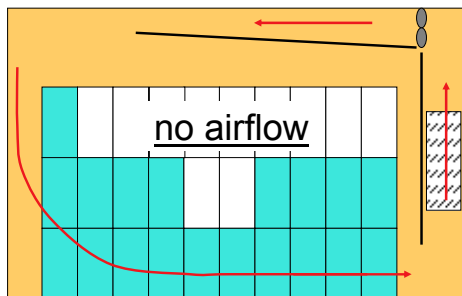
---

---

---

## Airflow Uniformity

Solid ceiling plenum



27

---

---

---

---

---

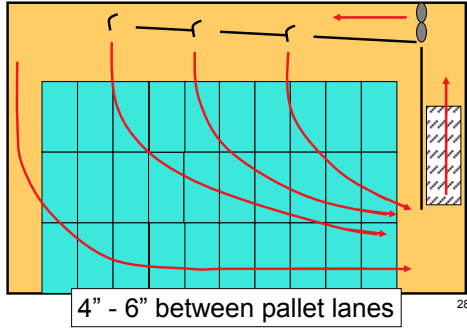
---

---

---

## Airflow Uniformity

Slotted ceiling plenum



---

---

---

---

---

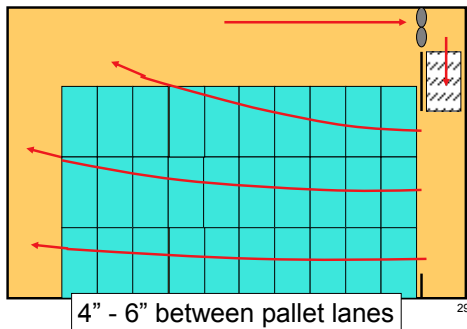
---

---

---

## Airflow Uniformity

Vertical Slots in Plenum Wall



---

---

---

---

---

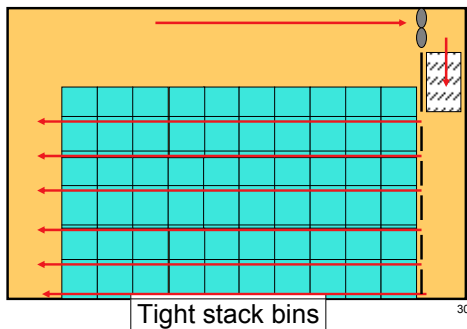
---

---

---

## Airflow Uniformity

Horizontal Slots in Plenum Wall



---

---

---

---

---

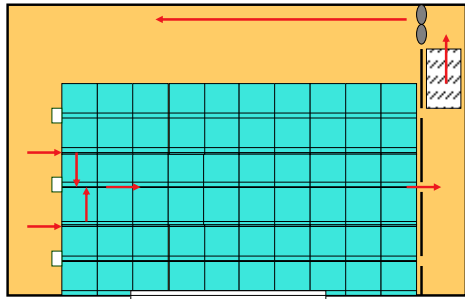
---

---

---

## Airflow Uniformity

Serpentine - Letter box



31

---

---

---

---

---

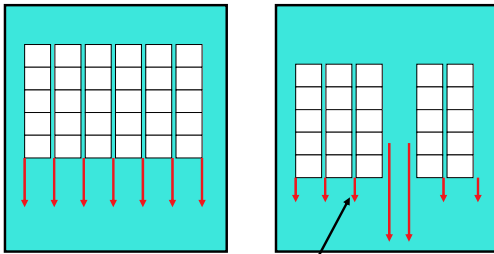
---

---

---

## Airflow Uniformity

Effect of missing lane



Air speed reduced by 43%

32

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Alternate Refrigeration Sources



33

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Evaporative Cooling



34

---

---

---

---

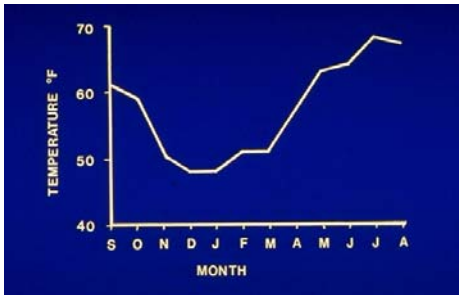
---

---

---

---

## Evaporative Cooling



Air temperature = wet bulb temp + 1 to 3°C

35

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Evaporatively Cooled Storage



36

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Underground Storage



37

---

---

---

---

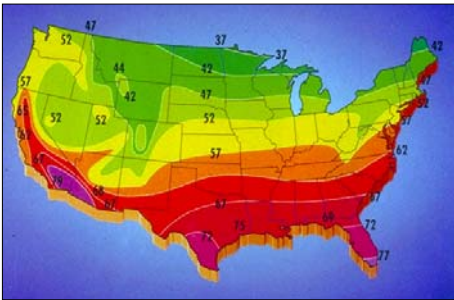
---

---

---

---

## Well Water Temperature



38

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Construction Steel Frame



39

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Insulation



40

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Construction - Wood Frame



41

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Construction - Tilt-up Concrete



42

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Concrete Dome



43

---

---

---

---

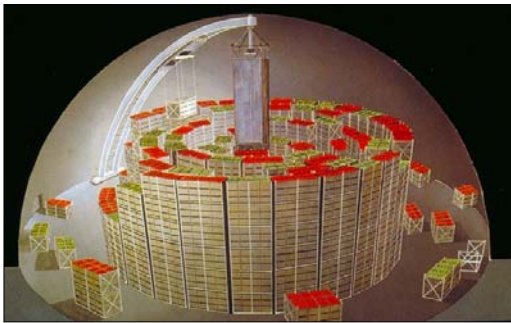
---

---

---

---

## Controlled Atmosphere



44

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---