Multi-Purpose Agricultural Structure Constructed with Hollowcore Plank

Solutions: Expansive column-free structure provides adequate storage and production space.

The fertile soils of Central Wisconsin make the region one of the best in the world for growing ginseng, a root commonly used for its herbal properties. In recent decades, the use of the root expanded beyond China and has become increasingly popular in the western world. American ginseng is considered the “Gold Standard” because it is grown in nutrient-rich soil and provides additional benefits; however, the majority of the product is grown internationally and marketed as American-grown ginseng, causing consumers to be wary.

Baumann Wisconsin Ginseng, the largest producer of American ginseng in the state, found a comforting solution. The producer started tracking their ginseng from the farm to the hands of the consumer, ensuring source authenticity. The tracking system pushed Baumann Wisconsin Ginseng forward, providing the opportunity for operation growth. Now, at any one time, at least 500 acres of ginseng is being grown and harvested. With the steady growth they experienced, the family farm knew it was time for their drying and storage space to expand with them.

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S.D. Ellenbecker of Athens, WI specializes in agricultural applications and was contracted to build Baumann Wisconsin Ginseng’s expansive multi-purpose structure. To build the open space the farm needed, hollowcore was used for its inherent durability and strength without the need for additional load-bearing columns. County Materials’ Roberts, WI facility manufactured and delivered 9,240 square feet of 10-inch hollowcore to the site.

County Materials hollowcore is readily available and was selected for its speed of installation and structural benefits. During the manufacturing process, planks are cut to specified lengths to be installed upon arrival, shortening construction schedules. Hollowcore’s ability to be installed in all weather conditions made it an attractive solution for this late winter project. Additional benefits, such as three-hour fire ratings, indoor temperature control, and low life-cycle costs further validated the contractor’s choice in materials.

County Materials hollowcore plank proved as a reliable solution for this expansive agricultural structure that Baumann American Ginseng can utilize for decades to come.

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