



## Project Spotlight

# JOSH FIECHTER FARMS

Agricultural PEMB Building • 27,500 Square Feet • Bluffton, Indiana

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THE  
VIDEO



Josh Fiechter isn't your typical grain farmer. With his brother Nick Fiechter, they own Josh Fiechter Farms and Yoder Grain, a country grain elevator with multiple locations across Northeast Indiana. They also run a trucking company for grain transportation. As entrepreneurs, the Fiechters are constantly looking for opportunities to invest in their businesses' growth. So when operational expansion created the need for a larger facility, the Fiechters turned to Meyer Building.

## The Challenge

The Fiechters' combined businesses require a considerable amount of large equipment that needs ongoing maintenance and repairs. They did this work outside in the elements for years, but Josh and Nick wanted to bring these operations indoors. To prevent corrosion and extend the service life of vehicles and machinery, the Fiechters also wanted a wash bay that could accommodate the massive equipment. This meant the new building needed to be at least 100 feet wide with considerable height.

## Our Approach

Because of the project's height and span requirements, the Fiechters and Meyer Building opted to construct a pre-engineered metal building (PEMB). This approach offers structural strength and efficiency in the placement of supports, allowing for open spaces expansive enough to house the businesses' large farming equipment. Meyer Building took into account a myriad of details, including reinforced concrete thickness, to support the weight of agricultural machinery. Additional considerations included foundation design for a five-ton jib crane and floor drains for adequate water runoff.

## The Outcome

The new Josh Fiechter Farms facility is, by design, both practical in bringing diverse daily operations under one roof and economical in its ability to meet current needs and future demands. With a large workshop, wash bay, office space, storage area, and a loft reserved for extra equipment parts, this pre-engineered metal building is a smart investment that will help the Fiechters propel their businesses forward. Josh fittingly refers to the facility as a necessary tool in his toolbox, and Meyer Building is honored to have delivered this showcase project.

*"It was important for the job to be done well and be cost effective. We think Meyer Building did a great job, and our experience working with them was a fantastic relationship. We like the integrity of the Meyer Building team. We didn't run into any major challenges during construction. There were a few little glitches, as with any large project, but we worked through them with no problem and ended up in a really great spot."*

**Josh Fiechter**, Owner, Josh Fiechter Farms

## Construction Techniques

PEMBs use factory-designed and fabricated components to aptly meet performance and building code requirements, making them suitable for a variety of commercial and agricultural applications. With clear spans of 80 to 200 feet and wider, PEMBs are ideal for any facilities that require large, open spaces without obstructive middle supports. Meyer Building often combines construction methods, using a post-frame building for a more finished front-office space and a PEMB as a workshop, production, or storage area.



## Coordination and Project Management

Every Meyer Building project is as unique as the client. Some clients want us to coordinate everything from start to finish and handle as many details as possible, while others prefer to do some of the work themselves. For this project, the Josh Fiechter Farms team took on aspects such as permitting, excavation, and site work. For clients who want a more hands-off approach, Meyer Building has experience from design to coordinating general contracting details, plus knowledge ranging from weather and soil conditions to local building codes.

## Project Impact

Josh Fiechter Farms and Yoder Grain now run critical maintenance, repairs, and wash-down work under one roof instead of fighting against weather, corrosion, and downtime. The wide, tall PEMB gives their team clearance to move large equipment and keep tools, parts, and storage organized for faster turnarounds. The building also supports growth without forcing rework since the layout brings workshop, wash bay, office, and storage space together in one efficient hub. This facility strengthens daily workflow, protects high-value machinery, and is a long-term operational asset for a family of businesses built to keep expanding.



*"From a construction perspective, PEMBs are very versatile. You can do a lot with large clear spans up to 200 feet wide or more and no columns to obstruct the space. With heights of 50 to 60 feet or more, your options really open up. In applications where the effective use of wood tapers off, steel definitely picks up. This project was a perfect fit as a PEMB in terms of structure and usage, and we were honored to give Josh and his team the tools to grow."*

**Matthew Gerber**, Owner, Meyer Building



## PROJECT FEATURES

- 27,500-square-foot agricultural shop with overall dimensions of 100' x 275' with 20' interior clearance
- 100' x 165' shop area and mechanical room includes T1-11 wood siding up to 8' and steel siding above
- 55' x 80' wash bay includes Trusscore waterproof panels on walls
- 28' x 80' storage section and 20' x 80' animal area include steel siding and ceiling
- 20' x 70' office includes drywall finish on sides and ceiling
- 12' x 126' open lean-to for animal access
- Exterior accents include a two-tone wainscot and four 48" cupolas
- Insulated concrete foundation system with a 16" curb wall around perimeter
- Engineered concrete slab with ½" rebar at 12" O.C.
- One 18' x 12' and five 24' x 18' overhead doors
- 128' of trench drain throughout the building
- SMP paint system on siding and PVDF paint system on roof and trim
- Custom loft designed with an engineered floor joist system