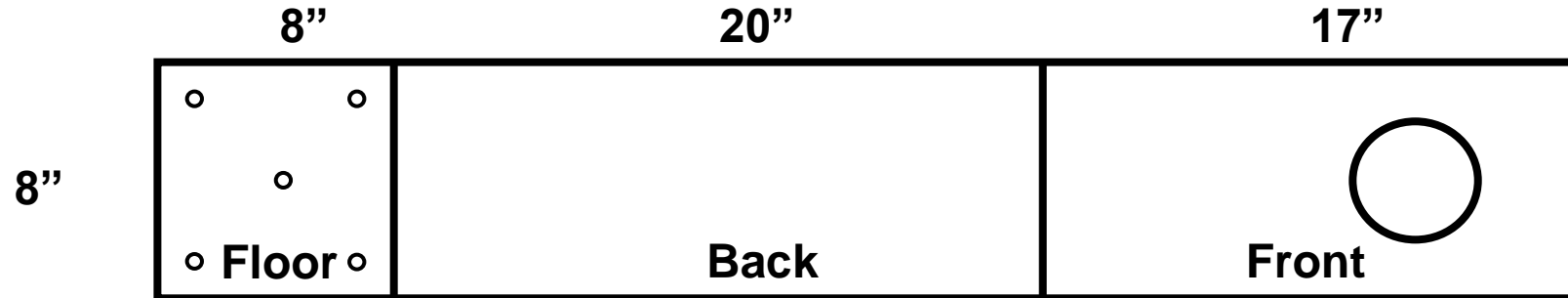


**Nest Box for Northern Saw-whet
and Boreal Owls**



One Board...20 cm (8") x 120 cm (4')



One Board...25 cm (10") x 120 cm

- use rough-sawn lumber, if possible, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick.
- cut out a 9 cm hole in the front; top edge of hole is 8 cm from top
- drill 0.5 cm drain holes in the floor

NOTES:

•If you don't use rough-sawn lumber you must score the inside of the front (several shallow passes at different angles with a saw) so the chicks can grip something when they climb out

- The dimensions will be slightly different, too; make sure the *inside* dimensions are as close to the plan as possible.

•Put a few centimetres of leaves or shavings in the bottom, but not sawdust! Shavings should not be from treated wood.

•Saw-whets like mixed woods for breeding sites; Boreals lean towards mixed woods with a higher conifer component.

•Make sure there is an open flight path to the box. Put the box at least three meters off the ground. Ideally, it should face between south and east, but this is less of a concern in denser woods.

•If you have any questions, you can call me at 867-2471, or email me at rlauff@stfx.ca. If you do get an owl nesting, I would very much appreciate a call!

<http://people.stfx.ca/rlauff/research/Owls.html>

Randy Lauff

Put the two sides, back and bottom together first. Then add the front with only three screws, two pivot screws near the top (at exactly the same level), and one at the bottom, screwed into the floor. This allows the door to swing open for easy mounting and cleaning.

Finally, add the roof by screwing it to the sides and back, but not the front. There should be a gap between the underside of the roof and the top of the door.

