CUTTING FEED COSTS WITH FOOD WASTE PART TWO BY NANCY LUNZER

PART TWO: FEEDING HOGS GROCERY STORE WASTE FOODS



THE HIGH COST OF CORN AND SOYBEANS

 GLOBAL DEMAND AND COMMODITIES SPECULATORS HAVE CAUSED CORN AND SOYBEAN PRICES TO RISE.

- DEMAND FOR CORN TO MAKE ETHANOL HAS PUT FURTHER PRESSURE ON CORN SUPPLIES.
- THE DROUGHT OF 2012 HAD INCREASED THE COST OF GRAIN AND HAY.
- CORN AND SOYBEAN FIELDS ARE THE BIGGEST SOURCES OF SOIL EROSION AND HERBICIDE AND PESTICIDE RUN-OFF.
- HIGH PRICES AND HIGH COST TO THE ENVIRONMENT ARE MAKING ALTERNATIVE FOODS MORE REALISTIC AS HOG RATIONS.

FORTY PERCENT OF ALL FOOD PRODUCED IS WASTED

- ALL FOOD PRODUCTS HAVE A DATED SHELF LIFE.
- IMPERFECT PRODUCE WITH ODD-SHAPES OR COLORS, OR PRODUCE WITH NICKS OR BRUISES ARE CULLED.
- SOME IS LEFT IN THE FIELDS. SOME IS NEVER SHIPPED.
- THE FOOD THAT MAKES IT TO THE SUPERMARKET IS PICKED OVER FOR IMPERFECTIONS, NICKS OR BLEMISHES, AND FINALLY BECOMING OVERRIPE.
- NINETY PERCENT OF THE CULLED PRODUCE IS EDIBLE BUT FOOD SAFETY LAWS PROHIBIT USE BY HUMANS.

REDUCING GROCERY STORE WASTE

- TEAL'S MARKET IN MILACA, MN GENEROUSLY PARTICIPATED IN THIS RESEARCH.
- THEY PROVIDED PRODUCE AND DAIRY PRODUCTS THAT WERE PAST THEIR "BEST IF USED BY DATE," OR PAST FRESH.
- BETWEEN JUNE 27, 2011 AND NOVEMBER 27, 2012, WE COLLECTED 50,867 POUNDS OF FOOD AND PACKAGING AND KEPT IT FROM THE AREA LANDFILL.
- AN AVERAGE OF 200 POUNDS OF FOOD WAS COLLECTED DAILY.

GROCERY STORE FOOD WAS PICKED UP SIX DAYS A WEEK



FRUITS AND VEGETABLES MADE UP ABOUT HALF OF THE FOOD



DAIRY PRODUCTS MADE UP THE REST OF THE FOOD



THE TYPE OF FOOD VARIED ACCORDING TO WHAT WAS IN SEASON



MOST OF THE FOOD WAS FED STRAIGHT OUT OF THE PACKAGE



UNPACKAGING FOOD TOOK SEVERAL HOURS A DAY



ROTTEN OR MOLDY FOOD WAS COMPOSTED



PACKAGING WAS SORTED, RINSED, STACKED AND STORED FOR RECYCLING



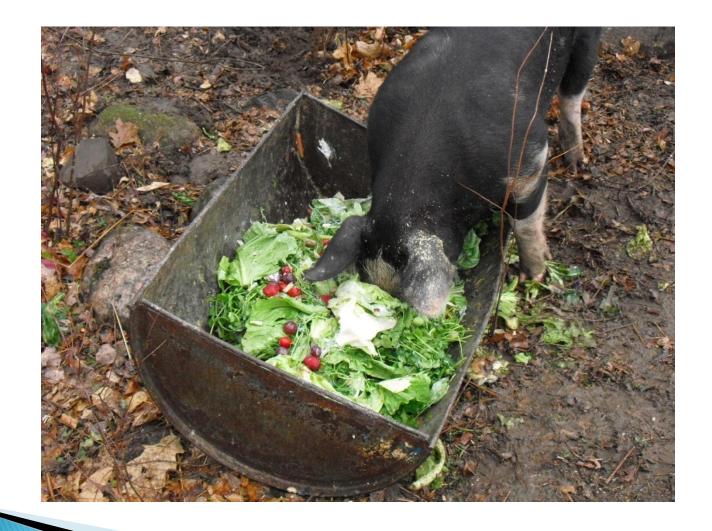
FOOD WAS REFRIGERATED



OR FROZEN



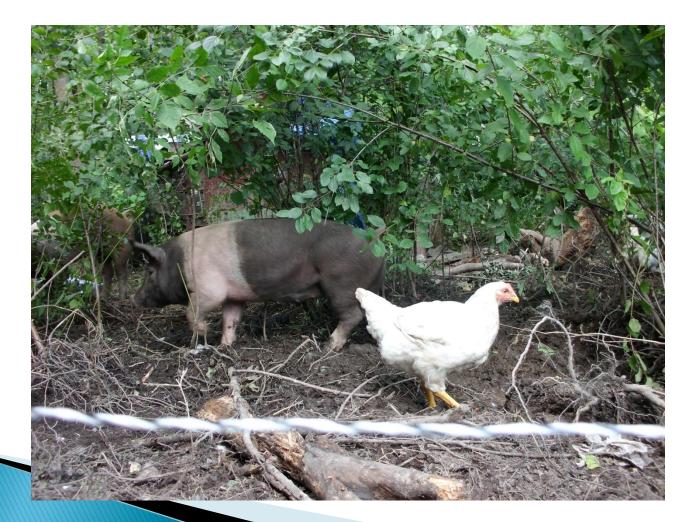
OR FED FRESH



RECYCLING WAS TAKEN TO TOWN ONCE A MONTH



WE RAISED TWELVE HOGS AND 100 CHICKENS ON 50,000 POUNDS OF GROCERY STORE WASTE



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

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