# 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



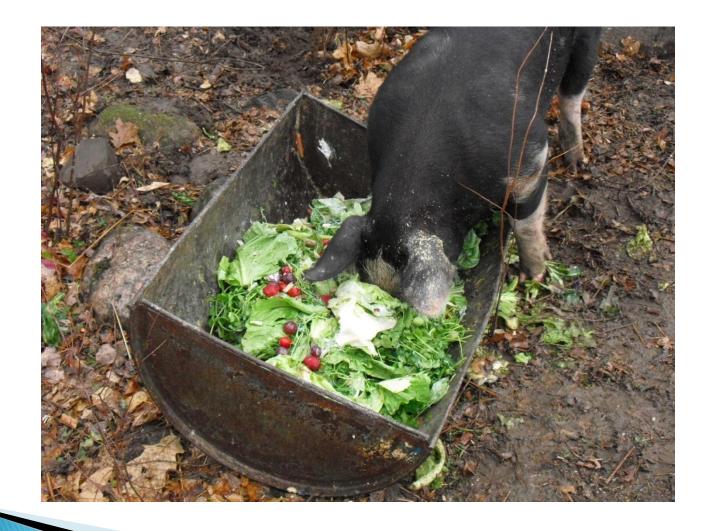
## FOOD WAS REFRIGERATED



## **OR FROZEN**



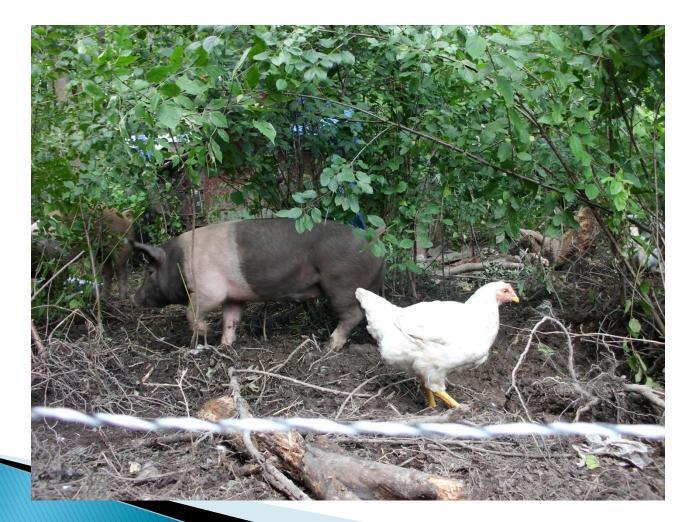
## **OR FED FRESH**



#### 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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