

4. July 20, 1973

Pork Prices

(0:40)

A University of Minnesota agricultural economist says pork prices probably will remain high for the next 12 months unless there is some reduction in feed prices.

Kenneth Egertson says there has been a substantial cutback in actual farrowings in the spring and in plans to farrow this fall. This cutback signifies the importance of hog production costs in planning.

Production costs have increased because of the rise in corn prices. Also, protein costs have almost tripled due to the increased cost for soybean meal.

Ceilings on meat prices have caused hog producers to re-think their production plans. Egertson says the news about meat packing plants closing down also has had an effect on producers.

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Canning

(0:30)

A University of Minnesota food microbiologist says a high incidence of product spoilage may occur in acid foods, such as fruits, tomatoes and pickles, canned in microwave ovens.

Edmund Zottola says no published research data indicates that food canned in the microwave oven is microbiologically safe.

It could be very dangerous to can low acid food, such as corn, beans and spinach, in microwave ovens because of the possibility of botulism.

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