

Not your grandpa's pig farm

This is a story about change. Mike Barhorst works on a family farm. It is a privately owned business that has grown and changed.

How have consumer demands for pork **changed in the last 30 years?**

**consumers want leaner pork
consumers don't use as much lard when cooking**

How has the animal environment on the farm **changed in the last 30 years?**

animals are fed a carefully controlled diet that produces a leaner and healthier pig; outside pens changed to climate controlled barns

hogs live in environmentally controlled facilities, and are fed high nutrition diets; large numbers of hogs of the same stage of growth are kept at one facility

How have technology and specialization **changed** the day-to-day operations on the farm?

technology allows for automatic feeding and watering that can monitor larger numbers of hogs

What college education did Mike Barhorst get to prepare him to work in the **changing marketplace?**

BS in animal science, MS genetics in pigs

Graphic organizer

Organize your information for *then* (1978) and *now* (2008). Consider the **producer**, the **consumer** and the **product**. Include specifics of science, technology, education, specialization, animal health and welfare, consumer demands, and trade (exports).



30 years ago



today

producer	education	(variety of answers)	college degree
	size of farm	couple hundred acres	larger
	specialization	many species, many crops	one species and/or one crop

consumer	type of pork desired in diet	(variety of answers)	leaner
	who buys Ohio pork	local market	global market

product (hog)	leanness of hog	(variety of answers)	leaner cuts
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science and technology of...	genetics	(variety of answers)	scientifically controlled
	diet	slopping the pigs	meet nutrition needs for male/female pigs using technology
	animal environment	outside, dirt pen	climate controlled barn keeps them healthier