

U. S. Dept. of  
Agriculture;  
Bureau of Agric.  
Economics.  
412 Post Office Bldg.,  
Phone: 93891.

FEDERAL-STATE MARKET NEWS SERVICE  
Fruits and Vegetables

Michigan Dept. of  
Agric., Bureau of  
Foods & Standards  
Cooperating.  
Grand Rapids, Mich.,  
Wed. Dec. 6, 1933.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT NO. 20.

BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET FRUIT AND VEGETABLE  
SUMMARY OF 1933 SEASON

The Benton Harbor cash market for the 1933 season was in active operation from June 1, to November 12, 1933. During this time according to count made by Market Officials, 6,073,282 packages passed over the market. Reduced to carlot equivalents, a more comprehensible figure this indicates a movement of 6,797.73 cars. Of this figure, grapes accounted for the heaviest volume with a movement of 1,501.32 cars of 12 qt. packages, and 284.48 cars of 4 qt. packages; Apples came second with a count of 1,123.42 cars; Tomatoes ran a close third with a roll of 1,047.19 cars; Cantaloupes figured in fourth place with a count of 639.46 cars; Strawberries came fifth with a movement of 467.85 cars; Black Raspberries sixth with 247.42 cars; Pears seventh with 206.40 cars; and Celery eighth with 203.52 cars. All other commodities amounted to less than 100 cars each, including peaches, which in the 1932 season was the most important crop with the exception of grapes.

The total cash return to growers for produce sold over the Cash Market is estimated at \$2,633,673.12. Grapes ranked as the most valuable crop with an estimated value of \$390,135.32 for the 12 qt. packages, and \$133,709.62 for the 4 qt. packages; Apples second in value with \$430,706.70; Tomatoes third with \$367,249.53; and Strawberries fourth with \$245,719.87. Other commodities at various lesser values are shown in chart below.

Commodity & Container	Total Sold	Average Price	Cash Return to Grower	Carlot Equivalent	High & Low of Season	Active Shipping Period
Strawberries 16 qt	243,287	1.01	245,719.87	467.85	.45-2.00	6/1 - 6/29
Blk. Raspberries 16 qt	153,407	1.11	170,281.77	247.42	.60-2.50	6/25- 7/70
Red Raspberries 24 pt	115,253	1.37	157,896.61	160.07	1.05-4.00	6/19- 8/2
Dewberries 16 qt	49,968	1.43	71,454.24	96.09	1.10-2.00	7/12- 8/11
Blackberries 16 qt	7,175	1.32	9,461.00	13.79	1.00-1.75	7/12- 8/11
Blueberries 16 qt	7,738	2.35	18,164.30	14.88	2.15-5.00	6/25- 8/24
Gooseberries 16 qt	2,763	1.96	5,415.48	5.31	.85-1.50	6/14- 7/14
Cherries sour 16 qt	61,130	.98	59,907.40	99.57	.60-1.65	6/18- 8/10
" sweet 16 qt	20,795	1.49	30,984.55	33.27	.90-2.75	6/13- 8/3
Currants 16 qt	10,776	1.29	13,901.04	20.72	1.00-1.85	6/22- 8/1
Cantaloupes crates (9s,10s,11s,12s,14s)	255,773	.584	149,371.43	639.46	.20-1.50	7/6 -10/8
Apples Bu.	579,686	.743	430,706.70	1123.42	.30-1.00	6/22-11/12
Peaches Bu.	36,550	1.79	65,424.50	91.37	1.35-3.00	7/6 -10/13
Pears 12 qts. & Bu. (Bartlett's)	82,561	1.64	84,212.22	206.40	.35-1.85	7/13-11/5
(Kieffers)		.33				
Plums Bu. & Half-bu. (Bushels)	75,223	1.24	62,925.81	126.20	.50-2.05	7/9 -10/8
(Half-bushels)		.748				
Grapes 4 qts; 12 qts; Bu.; 6 & 8 basket crates, 2 qts.						
(4 qts.)	1,069,677	.125	133,709.62	284.48	.07- .15	8/10-11/7
(12 qts.)	2,131,887	.183	390,135.32	1501.32	.14- .40	8/15-11/7
Quinces Bu. & 12 qts	2,575	1.34	3,450.50	6.44	.40-1.75	9/14-11/2
Tomatoes 733,033			367,249.53	1047.19	.07-1.60	6/26-11/6
(4 qts)		.086				
(12 qts)		.384				
(Bushels)		.50				
(4, 6, & 8 basket crates)		.485				
Beans						
Limas, 12 qts in pod.	54,307	.387	21,016.81	77.58	.15- .90	7/30-11/1
Limas, shelled 24 pts.	2,418	1.71	4,134.78	3.49	1.00-3.00	8/8- 11/1
String, Bushels		.822				
String, 12 qts	24,123	.329	8,418.93	36.03	.15-2.00	6/29-10/15
Cucumbers 4 qts, 12 qts, & Bushels	57,884	.364	21,069.78	96.47	.10-2.00	6/29-10/15
Peppers 13,563			5,357.39	19.38	.20- .55	7/10-11/2
(12 qts)		.32				
(Bushels)		.47				
Potatoes 23,108			34,939.30	59.42	.60-2.60	6/28-11/12
(Bushels)		1.13				
(100 lb sacks)		1.89				
Onions 31,169			18,888.41	49.87	.12-1.25	7/13-11/12
(50 lb sacks)		.746				
(10 lb sacks)		.186				
Celery 2/3 & 1/2 crates, Bunches	183,166	.186	34,068.88	203.52	.05-1.00	6/23-11/12
Eggplant 12 qts. & Bu.	3,385	.43	1,455.55	8.46	.15- .65	7/23-10/27
Miscellaneous (8 commodities)	39,378	-	13,951.40	58.26	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6,073,282</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,633,673.12</b>	<b>6797.73</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6/1 - 11/12</b>

Notes:-- # indicates mean average, not weighted.  
# indicates returns based on non-weighted seasonal average.

Carlot Equivalents compiled in accordance with U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Table of Number of Packages per carload; vis:-- Strawberries 520; Raspberries red 720; All Other Berries 520; Cherries 625; Currants 520; Cantaloupes Avg. 400; Apples 516; Peaches 400; Pears 400; Plums Bu. 400; Plums Half-bu. 800; Grapes 4 qts 3,760, 12 qts 1,420; Quinces 400; Tomatoes avg. 700; Beans 12 qts 700, 24 pt cases 720; Cucumbers Bu. 400, 12 qts 700; Peppers Bu. 400, 12 qts 700; Potatoes sacks 100 lb 360, Bu. 600; Onions 50 lb sacks 500, 10 lb sacks 2,500; Celery avg. 900; Eggplant Bu. 400, 12 qts 700. Figures prior to Sept. 1 furnished by W.H. Esslinger and J.W. Russell. Total package count furnished by J.C. MacMillan, Benton Harbor Marketmaster.

JRB. Compilations by J. R. Brandou. R. E. Keller, Local Representative.

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