

BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SUMMARY
1934 SEASON

The Benton Harbor cash market was in active operation from June 1st to November 23rd, 1934.

The 1934 season over the Benton Harbor cash market was one of the most active since its inception. The volume as well as the total value exceeded that of the 1933 season. According to the daily count made by Market officials, 6,909,774 packages passed over the market, as compared to only 6,073,282 packages a year ago. Reduced to carlot equivalents, this season's movement amounted to 8,183.72 cars or almost 1,400 cars more than in 1933.

Grapes accounted for the heaviest volume of all commodities sold over the market, with a movement of 1,837.14 cars; Apples came second with a roll of 1,497.66 cars; Tomatoes came third with a count of 853.35 cars; Peaches and Pears ranked closely with a total of 801.12 and 774.76 cars respectively; Cantaloupes figured in sixth place with 368.23 cars; Black Raspberries ranked seventh with 300.02 cars; Red Raspberries came eighth with 238.35 cars; Cherries figured ninth with 211.87 cars. The following commodities totaled respectively:- Strawberries 173.69; Celery 173.64; Onions 160.66; Plums 131.50; Dewberries 111.10, and all other products amounted to less than 100 cars each.

The total cash return to growers for produce sold over the 'Cash Market' is estimated at \$3,798,401.92, which is approximately 44% more than the 1933 returns of \$2,633,673.12. Peaches accounted for a major portion of this increase in value, increasing sharply from \$65,424.50 to \$524,477.90. Grapes totaled first in value as well as in volume with returns of \$657,790.37. Apples followed very closely with a value of \$633,688.62. Peaches ranked third with \$524,477.88. All commodities with lesser values are indicated in the general market chart.

As may be noted in the chart below the 1934 season over the Benton Harbor cash market returned the largest value to growers in the last four years. The movement was exceeded but once during this period, namely in the 1932 harvest.

(Season)	(Total Value)	(Total Movement reduced to carlots)
1931	\$2,822,285.00	7,161.87
1932	2,970,235.00	9,412.00
1933	2,633,673.00	6,797.73
1934	3,798,401.92	8,183.72

The volume of apples moved over the Benton Harbor cash market has shown successive yearly advances, mounting from 853 cars in 1931 to 1497.66 cars in 1934. The average value per bushel of \$.82 for this season (1934) was the highest in any of the past four years.

Summary of Apple Movement and Average Price of Benton Harbor Cash Market

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per Bushel)	(Total Value)
1931	853.00	\$.708	\$311,520.00
1932	905.00	.740	334,999.00
1933	1123.42	.743	430,706.76
1934	1497.66	.820	633,688.62

During the four year period listed below the greatest volume of peaches passing over the Benton Harbor cash market occurred in the 1932 season. Likewise the total crop value was highest for this harvest. The top average value per bushel was received in the 1933 deal.

Summary of Peach Movement and Average Price of Benton Harbor Cash Market

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per Bushel)	(Total Value)
1931	1170.00	\$.70	\$336,000.00
1932	1665.00	.42	557,980.00
1933	91.37	1.79	65,424.50
1934	801.12	1.634	524,477.90

The movement of pears over the Benton Harbor cash market was by far the heaviest during the past season than for any crop during the four year period 1931-1934. Total value was likewise highest. However, average value per bushel was higher both in 1933 and in 1931.

Summary of Pear Movement and Average Price of Benton Harbor Cash Market

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per Bushel)	(Total Value)
1931	125.00	\$.982	\$49,100.00
1932	404.00	.75	119,831.00
1933	206.40	1.02	84,212.22
1934	774.76	.818	253,500.65

During the four year period 1931-1934 the heaviest movement of grapes over the Benton Harbor cash market occurred in 1932, however, the greatest returns to the growers were in the last season (1934). The highest average price in this period was in 1931, when 12 qt. climax baskets averaged \$.273, and 4 qt. climax baskets averaged \$.119.

Summary of Grape Movement and Average Price of Benton Harbor Cash Market

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value: 12 qts, 4 qts)	(Total Value)
1931	1328.00	\$.273 .119	\$512,307.73
1932	2885.00	.15 .08	537,518.00
1933	1785.80	.183 .125	523,844.94
1934	1837.14	.235 .123	657,790.37

The carlot equivalents of the following chart was compiled in accordance with the U. S. Department of Agriculture's table of number of packages per carload, usual loadings. The leading commodities are given herewith: Apples bushels - 516; Beans green, wax, lima bushels - 400, 12 qts 700; Beans, lima 24 pt. cases - 720; Berries all 16 qt crates 520, 24 pt crates 720; Cabbage bushels 600; Cantaloupes crates average 400; Celery bunches average 1200; Cherries 16 qts 625; Cucumbers bushels 400, 12 qts 700; Currants 16 qts 520; Grapes 4 qts 3,760, 12 qts 1,420; Onions 50 lb sacks 500, 10 lb sacks 2500; Peaches bushels 400; Pears bushels 400; Peppers bushels 400, 12 qts 700; Plums bushels 400, half-bushels 800; Potatoes cwt.bags 360; Tomatoes 12 qts 700, 4 - 6 - 8 basket crates average 700.

Commodity:	Total Reported	Avg. Value per Package	Total Value for Season	Carlot Equivalents	High and Low Price of Season	Active Shipping Season
Apples, Bu.	772791	\$.82	\$633,688.62	1497.66	\$.40-2.35	7/25-11/10
Beans, Green & Wax:						
Bu.	49056	.984	12,043.18	30.60	.60-1.75	7/4 -10/17
12 qts.		.33	12,149.61	52.60	.20- .70	
Beans, Lima:						
12 qts.	36022	.619	22,976.62	51.46	.30-1.25	8/5 -10/30
24 pts.	500	1.98	990.00	.69	1.75-2.50	
Berries: (16 qt unless otherwise stated)						
Black.	5416	1.478	8,002.90	10.37	1.00-2.00	7/4 - 8/10
Blk. Rasp.	156166	1.28	199,389.20	300.32	.75-2.50	6/25- 8/2
(16 qt & 24 pt)						
Blue.	7933	2.807	22,753.15	15.24	2.50-4.00	6/29- 8/21
Dew.	57725	1.407	81,169.00	111.10	1.15-2.50	7/1 - 7/29
Goose.	1097	1.582	1,735.95	2.11	1.00-2.05	6/20- 7/15
Red Rasp.	171610	1.482	254,326.02	238.35	1.00-3.00	6/20- 8/7
(24 pt)						
Straw.	90323	1.686	152,284.58	173.69	1.00-2.90	6/5 - 7/10
(16 qt & 24 pt)						
Cabbages	18135	.35	6,347.25	30.23	.25- .85	8/15-11/25
(bu. & cwt)						
Cantaloupes	147290	.808	120,532.60	368.23	.25-1.50	7/25-10/3
Bu. & crates						
Carrots	4976	.40	1,990.40	9.95	.30-1.00	8/15-11/1
Doz. Bch. & Bu.						
Cauliflower	2432	1.25	3,040.00	4.86	.90-1.50	9/25-11/1
Doz's. & Crates						
Celery	208371	.174	36,256.55	173.64	.05- .60	6/26-11/15
(crts, bunches, & boxes)						
Celery	1891	.50	945.50	3.78	.30-1.00	9/1 -11/9
Cabbage. (Doz's)						
Cherries (16 qt)						
Scur.	102166	.887	90,662.15	163.46	.50-1.35	6/17- 8/10
Sweet.	30258	1.747	52,867.40	48.41	.75-2.75	6/13- 8/1
Cucumbers	46662	.642	29,956.90	77.77	.15-2.00	7/18-10/7
Bu., 12 qts., 4 qts.						
Currants	7420	2.257	16,746.80	14.26	1.40-2.85	6/25- 8/1
16 qt crates.						
Eggplant, Bu.	3127	.49	1,532.23	7.82	.25-1.00	8/15-10/18
Grapes						
4 qts.	1303328	.123	160,309.34	346.63	.07- .18	
12 qts.	2116015	.235	497,263.53	1490.15	.15- .38	8/12-11/7
cartons.	174	1.25	217.50	.36	1.00-1.35	
Onions	87320	.684	59,726.88	160.66	.12-1.25	8/14-11/15
50 lb and 10 lb sacks.						
Peaches	320474	1.634	524,477.90	801.12	.40-2.75	7/13- 9/27
Bu., Half-bu., 12 qts.						
Pears	309903	.818	253,500.65	774.76	.30-1.85	7/22-11/10
Bu., Half-bu., 12 qts.						
Peppers	10380	.422	4,380.36	17.60	.20-1.25	8/8 -10/23
Bu., 12 qts., 4 qts.						
Plums	92048	.862	79,353.20	131.50	.25-2.10	7/29- 9/28
Bu., Half-bu., 12 qts.						
Potatoes	35048	1.10	38,552.80	97.35	.65-1.50	8/16-11/1
(White, Bushel and cwt sacks)						
Potatoes	3875	1.25	4,843.75	6.01	.65-1.50	9/15-10/25
(Sweet, Bushels, bulk)						
Quinces	2765	1.24	3,268.60	4.86	.35-2.25	9/12-10/29
Bu., 12 qts.						
Tomatoes	597342	.632	377,520.14	853.35	.08-1.75	8/8 -11/1
4 qts., 12 qts., 16 qt crates, Four-Six-Eight basket crates.						
<u>Miscellaneous Small Commodities</u>						
Asparagus Crts	143	1.60	360.00	--	--	--
Beets	1084	.30	325.20	1.08	--	--
Bu., Doz. Bch.						
Citron	33	.10	3.30	--	--	--
Dill Doz. Bch.	5854	.60	3,512.40	5.85	.25-1.00	--
Grapefruit	2283	1.35	3,082.05	--	--	--
Bulk, Bu.						
Hay Bales	6149	.96	5,902.04	41.00	.80-1.00	9/1 -11/1
Honey	2919	.56	1,634.64	1.45	.15- .75	9/1 -10/15
(5 lb cans, and 1 lb glass jars)						
Lemons, crts	2	5.00	10.00	--	--	--
Lettuce, Bu.	526	.40	210.40	1.32	.30- .80	9/1 -10/15
Oats, Bu.	148	.60	88.80	--	--	--
Oranges, Bu.	927	1.35	1,251.45	--	--	--
Parsley	97	.10	9.70	--	--	--
Doz. Bunches.						
Peas, Bu.	37	1.00	37.00	--	--	--
Pumpkins	2327	.10	232.70	--	--	--
Bu., each.						
Radishes	243	.20	48.60	--	--	--
Doz. Bunches						
Rhubarb, Bch.	17	.10	1.70	--	--	--
Shelled Corn	225	1.60	360.00	--	--	--
Bushels.						
Scrghum &	2097	.60	1,258.20	1.05	.50- .75	9/15-10/22
Maple Syrup.-gallon cans.						
Spinach, Bu.	827	.60	496.20	1.38	.40- .80	9/15-11/1
Squash	3403	.75	2,552.25	6.81	.05-1.25	9/15-11/1
Bushels & each.						
Straw Bales	477	.40	190.80	3.18	.35- .60	9/1 -11/1
Sweet Corn	19169	.20	383.38	19.17	--	--
Doz. Ears, Green.						
Turnips, Bu.	1432	.35	501.20	2.86	--	--
Watermelons	41434	.25	10,358.50	27.62	.05- .75	7/22- 9/21
Each.						
TOTALS	6909774	--	\$3,798,401.92	8183.72	--	--

Other Season Totals:-- Growers loads 131,392; Day Buyers 10,728; Resale loads 1851; Season stalls total \$6,020.00, Day Stalls total \$89.50, Miscellaneous received \$1500.50. Total Value for Season to City of Benton Harbor \$33,328.20.

Note: *indicates weighted average.

Total Package count furnished by R.D.Krieger, Marketmaster, Benton Harbor Cash Market, Assistance/ tabulations; J.R. & L Brandou, and L. Russel.

JRB.

Released Dec. 5, 1934.

R. E. Keller,
Local Representative.