

FEDERAL-STATE MARKET NEWS SERVICE

Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Agricultural
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BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SUMMARY
1936 SEASON

The Benton Harbor cash market was in active operation from June 1st to November 16th, 1936.

The 1936 season was a very active one for the Benton Harbor cash market. There was an increase in volume of produce handled over that of the year previous, and the movement was exceeded in volume only once since the market began operation. Reduced to carlot equivalents the movement over the market this season amounted to 8,251 cars as compared to 8,049 cars in 1935, 8,183 cars in 1934, 6,798 cars in 1933, 9,412 cars in 1932 and 7,162 cars in 1931. Increase in the movement of apples, pears, tomatoes, and miscellaneous small fruits offset the reduction in grape haulings due to the small grape harvest. Peaches with a heavy crop in the southwestern part of the fruit belt and a light crop in the north section, showed a slight reduction this season as compared to a year ago. Apples for the first time since figures have been compiled accounted for the heaviest volume of all commodities sold over the market, with a movement of 1,806 cars. In 1935, peaches came first and prior to this, from 1931 to 1934, grapes accounted for the heaviest volume. During the past season, peaches were second in rank of volume over the market with 1,868 cars; tomatoes third with 1,067 cars; grapes fourth with 820 cars; pears fifth with 588 cars; and cantaloups sixth with 409 cars. All other commodities ranked less than 300 cars.

The total movement of all packages sold over the market according to count by market officials amounted to 5,891,711 packages, and compares to the movement of 6,412,766 units in 1935; 6,909,774 in 1934; and 6,073,282 in 1932.

The total cash return to growers for produce sold over the market is estimated at \$4,780,731.42. This is the largest returns since inception of the market, exceeding the peak year of 1934 by around a million dollars and exceeding that of a year ago by more than one million six hundred fifty thousand dollars. The increase in total value was due to general price advances for most of the commodities sold over the market as the volume was only a trifle larger than the 1934 and 1935 movements and less than the 1932 forwardings. Apples, peaches, grapes, cantaloups and tomatoes, as well as some of the small fruits and vegetables moved at advanced levels. Peaches ranked highest in value of all produce sold over the market with an estimated value of \$1,073,976.26; apples came second with an estimated value of \$950,230.98 and grapes third with an estimated value of \$431,204.60.

(Season)	(Total movement reduced to carlots)	(Total Value)
1931	7,162	\$2,822,285.00
1932	9,412	2,970,235.00
1933	6,798	2,633,673.00
1934	8,183	3,798,401.00
1935	8,049	3,137,215.00
1936	8,251	4,780,731.42

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

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per bushel)	(Total Value)
1931	853	\$.71	\$ 311,520.00
1932	905	.74	334,999.00
1933	1123	.74	430,706.76
1934	1497	.82	633,688.62
1935	1165	.61	366,675.27
1936	1806	1.02	950,230.98

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

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per bushel)	(Total Value)
1931	1170	\$.70	\$ 336,000.00
1932	1665	.42	557,980.00
1933	91	1.79	65,424.50
1934	801	1.63	524,477.90
1935	1692	.92	625,873.50
1936	1668	1.61	1,073,976.26

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

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per bushel)	(Total Value)
1931	125	\$.98	\$ 49,100.00
1932	404	.75	119,831.00
1933	206	1.02	84,212.22
1934	774	.82	253,500.65
1935	280	.96	106,920.95
1936	588	.86	202,123.22

Summary of Grape Movement and Average Prices of Benton Harbor Cash Market:

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value: 12 qts.)	(4 qts.)	(Total Value)
1931	1328	\$.27	\$.12	\$ 512,307.73
1932	2885	.15	.08	537,518.00
1933	1786	.18	.12	523,844.94
1934	1837	.23	.12	657,790.37
1935	1643	.18	.11	460,849.22
1936	820	.35	.16	431,204.60

Summary of Cantaloup Movement and Average Price of Benton Harbor Cash Market:

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per package)	(Total Value)
1931	688	\$.76	\$ 210,000.00
1932	712	.61	99,622.00
1933	639	.58	149,371.43
1934	368	.80	120,532.60
1935	445	.64	113,534.76
1936	409	.67	109,513.51

Summary of Tomato Movement and Average Price of Benton Harbor Cash Market:

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per package)	(Total Value)
1931	500	\$.61	\$ 213,500.00
1932	690	.34	163,428.00
1933	1047	.50	367,749.53
1934	853	.63	377,520.14
1935	912	.42	264,920.91
1936	1067	.66	490,514.97

1936

Commodity and Containers	Packages	Avg. Value per Package	Total Value for Season	Carlot Equivalents
Apples (Bushels).....	931,599	\$1.02	\$ 950,230.98	1806
Beans - Green & Wax (Bushels).....	} - 39,033	1.51	29,469.91	} - 52
(12 qt baskets)....		.52	10,148.58	
Beans - Lima (12 qts)	36,048	.66	23,791.68	48
(24 pt crates).....	174			
- Aromas (12 qts)	5,444	.625	3,402.50	7
Berrios: (crates)				
Black (16 qt).....	3,194	1.88	6,004.72	6
Black Rasp. (24 pt).	155,447	1.46	226,952.62	216
Blue (16 qt).....	6,213	4.28	26,591.64	12
Dew (16 qt).....	67,457	1.88	126,819.16	130
Goose (16 qt).....	1,126	3.50	3,941.00	2
Red Rasp. (24 pt)...	150,003	1.78	267,005.34	208
Straw (16 qt).....	202,651	1.88	380,993.88	282
Cabbage (Bushels)....	30,004	.45	13,501.80	50
Cantaloups (9x9, 10x10, 11x11, 12x12, & 14x14 crates, Bushels, 12 qts)....	163,453	.67	109,513.51	409
Cauliflower (bulk in dozens - doz. crates)	3,099	.97	3,006.03	6
Celery (flat crates, 1/2 crates, square crates, bunches)....	173,601	.18	31,248.18	145
Celery Cabbage (bulk in dozens, doz. crates)	1,925	.73	1,405.25	5
Cherries				
Sour (16 qt crates)	48,233	1.25	60,291.25	77
Sweet (16 qt crates)	13,823	2.15	29,719.45	22
Cucumbers (4 qts, 12 qts, Bushels).....	112,664	.67	75,484.88	195
Currants (16 qt crates)	7,341	2.16	15,856.56	14
Eggplant (Bushels)...	5,720	.58	3,317.60	12
Grapes, (4 qts).....	841,965	.16	134,714.40	224
(12 qts).....	843,892	.35	295,362.20	594
(crates).....	1,504	.75	1,128.00	2
Onions, (10# sacks)....	} - 131,129	.11	9,015.12	} - 131
(50# sacks)....		.45	22,128.02	
Peaches (Bushels)....	667,066	1.61	1,073,976.26	1668
Pears (Bushels).....	235,027	.86	202,123.22	588
Peppers (12 qts and Bushels).....	21,457	.45	9,255.65	52
Plums (Bushels.....)	} - 78,643	1.67	19,699.32	} - 113
Half-bushels.....		.82	54,714.54	
Potatoes (100# sacks)	20,494	2.10	43,037.40	57
Quinces (12 qt, Bushels, Half-bushels)...	4,515	1.86	8,397.90	11
Tomatoes				
(4 qts).....	} - 746,589	.11	4,106.24	} - 1067
(12 qts).....		.63	399,798.41	
(4-6-8-basket crates, 16 qt crates)		1.16	86,610.32	
Watermelons (each)...	59,893	.30	17,967.90	40
Miscellaneous Other Commodities.....	81,285	---	---	---
T O T A L S	5,891,711	---	4,780,731.42	8251

Note:-- The carlot equivalents of the above chart were compiled in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture's table of number of packages per carload, usual loadings. The leading commodities are given herewith: Apples Bushels 516; Beans, green and wax, Bushels 450, 12 qts 750; Beans, lima, 12 qts and 24 pt. crates 750; Beans, Aroma 12 qts 750; Berrios, crates, Black 16 qt 520; Black Raspberries 24 pt 720; Blueberries 16 qt 520; Dewberries 16 qt 520; Gooseberries 16 qt 520; Red Raspberries 24 pt 720; Strawberries 16 qt 720; Cabbage Bushels 600; Cantaloupes crates 400; Cauliflower crates 500; Celery bunches 1200; Celery Cabbage crates 400; Cherries sour and sweet crates 16 qt 625; Cucumbers 12 qts 700; Bushels 400; Currants 16 qt crates 520; Eggplant Bushels 500; Grapes, 4 qts 3,760, 12 qts 1,420, crates 750; Onions 10# sacks 2,500, 50# sacks 500; Peaches Bushels 400; Pears Bushels 400; Peppers Bushels 400, 12 qts 700; Plums Bushels 400, Half-bushels 800; Potatoes 100# sacks 360; Quinces Bushels 400; Tomatoes 12 qts and 4, 6, 8 basket crates, & 16 qt crates 700; Watermelons each 1500.

OTHER 1936 MARKET TOTALS (ENTIRE SEASON)

Growers Loads 131,963; Resale Loads 1,174; Day Buyers 9,489; Season Buyers 143.

(Total package count furnished by R.D.Krieger, Marketmaster, Benton Harbor, Mich.)

R. E. Keller,

JRB. Released November 24, 1936.

Local Representative.