

412 Post Office Bldg.
Telephone: 68441

Grand Rapids, Michigan
Thurs., Nov. 13, 1941.

BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET FRUIT & VEGETABLE SUMMARY 1941 SEASON
--Active Operation June 1 to November 7, 1941.

Generally, conditions were favorable for fruit and vegetable production in the Western Michigan fruit belt, served by the Benton Harbor Cash Market during the 1941 season. The largest peach crop since 1898 was produced by Michigan this season. The apple crop, while not of record proportion, was about average. Both grapes and strawberries were considerably below normal, due to adverse weather conditions. Active bidding by canneries reduced tonnage of fresh offerings for some commodities--such as, strawberries, red and black raspberries, currants, blackberries, dewberries, grapes, tomatoes, and pears. Cannery and processors purchases were also heavy for other commodities--such as, peaches and off-grade apples--but did not make such marked differences on quantities offered for fresh trade on the local market. Also heavy government purchases of farm pack peaches and apples removed considerable tonnage from fresh market channels.

An early spring, with advanced blossom and planting dates, advanced harvesting ten days to two weeks ahead of last season and about a week over normal.

The volume of produce handled over the market was above the 1940 movement and slightly less than the previous 10-year average, amounting to 7,690 cars, compared to 7,258 cars for 1940 and 7,887 cars for the 10-year average.

Peaches accounted for the largest volume over the market with a movement of 2,956 cars or 39% of the total shipments; apples were second with a volume of 1,225 cars; tomatoes, third, with 883 cars; grapes, which were first in volume last season, dropped to fourth this season with only 617 cars; strawberries, fifth with 546 cars; pears, sixth, with 381 cars; and cantaloups, seventh, with 286 cars.

The total number of packages handled amounted to 5,333,029 and compares to 6,224,333 for 1940 and to 7,052,263 for 1939.

The total cash return was placed at \$4,256,035.21 and compares to the 1940 returns of \$3,749,664.40.

Grower loads amounted to a total of 108,653 for the season and compare to 113,681 for 1940 and 134,199 for 1939.

6,894 day buyers purchased tickets for buying privileges over the Market this season. This compares to 6,332 a year ago and 8,786 for 1939.

(Season)	(Growers Loads)	(Day Buyers)	(Total Packages)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Total Value)
1931	102,285	9,190	4,837,758	7,162	\$2,822,285
1932	123,351	11,393	7,310,159	9,412	2,970,235
1933	112,154	8,877	6,073,282	6,798	2,633,673
1934	131,392	10,728	6,909,774	8,183	3,793,401
1935	121,245	9,501	6,412,766	8,049	3,137,215
1936	131,963	9,489	5,891,711	8,251	4,780,731
1937	133,361	8,875	7,151,661	8,921	4,354,147
1938	96,839	5,614	5,679,942	5,469	3,137,595
1939	134,199	8,786	7,052,263	9,370	3,785,854
1940	113,681	6,332	6,224,333	7,258	3,749,664
1941	108,653	6,894	5,333,029	7,690	4,256,035

Summary of Movement and Average Price of Benton Harbor Cash Market

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per Unit)	(Total Value)	(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per Unit)	(Total Value)
<u>A P P L E S</u>							
1931	853	\$.71 bu.	\$311,520	1931	688	\$.76 pkg.	\$210,000
1932	905	.74	334,999	1932	712	.61	99,622
1933	1,133	.74	430,707	1933	639	.58	149,371
1934	1,497	.82	633,689	1934	368	.80	120,533
1935	1,165	.61	366,675	1935	445	.64	113,535
1936	1,806	1.02	950,231	1936	409	.67	109,514
1937	1,276	.55	367,340	1937	246	.80	137,974
1938	1,101	.60	520,050	1938	258	.55	99,187
1939	1,839	.53	511,642	1939	314	.53	116,360
1940	1,021	.62	439,564	1940	236	.95	156,629
1941	1,225	1.00	642,877	1941	286	.98	196,524
<u>P E A C H E S</u>							
1931	1,170	\$.70 bu.	\$336,000	1931	500	\$.61 pkg.	\$213,500
1932	1,665	.42	557,980	1932	690	.34	163,428
1933	91	1.79	65,425	1933	1,047	.50	367,250
1934	801	1.53	524,478	1934	853	.63	377,520
1935	1,692	.92	625,874	1935	912	.42	264,921
1936	1,668	1.61	1,073,976	1936	1,067	.66	490,515
1937	2,587	1.08	1,117,445	1937	1,009	.50	403,644
1938	1,286	1.25	694,532	1938	980	.45	352,767
1939	2,533	.68	702,660	1939	762	.42	336,229
1940	1,394	1.25	697,052	1940	671	.48	338,434
1941	2,956	.96	1,135,158	1941	683	.58	416,197
<u>P E A R S</u>							
1931	125	\$.98 bu.	\$49,100	1931	430	\$1.77 crt.	\$434,737
1932	404	.75	119,831	1932	---	unavailable	unavailable
1933	206	1.02	84,212	1933	477	1.01	245,720
1934	774	.82	253,501	1934	174	1.69	152,285
1935	280	.96	106,921	1935	560	1.24	360,883
1936	588	.86	202,123	1936	282	1.88	380,994
1937	201	.93	93,507	1937	688	1.60	693,720
1938	326	.75	122,114	1938	255	2.10	300,350
1939	373	.82	152,845	1939	735	1.20	527,401
1940	307	.95	145,696	1940	895	1.20	601,183
1941	381	.83	158,022	1941	546	1.73	529,149
<u>G R A P E S</u>							
1931	1,328	\$.12	\$512,308	1933	136	\$.84 pkg.	62,926
1932	2,885	.03	537,518	1934	132	.86	79,353
1933	1,786	.12	523,845	1935	119	.84	59,853
1934	1,837	.12	467,790	1936	113	.95	74,414
1935	1,643	.11	450,949	1937	147	.95	89,283
1936	820	.16	431,205	1938	87	.86	49,974
1937	1,800	.12	501,713	1939	166	1.15	76,440
1938	124	.25	71,560	1940	155	1.45	89,825
1939	1,375	.12	392,816	1941	165	.70	92,649
1940	1,542	.12	424,803				
1941	617	.18	333,348				
<u>C A N T A L O U P S</u>							
1931	888	\$.76 pkg.	\$210,000	1931	500	\$.61 pkg.	\$213,500
1932	905	.74	334,999	1932	690	.34	163,428
1933	1,133	.74	430,707	1933	1,047	.50	367,250
1934	1,497	.82	633,689	1934	853	.63	377,520
1935	1,165	.61	366,675	1935	912	.42	264,921
1936	1,806	1.02	950,231	1936	1,067	.66	490,515
1937	1,276	.55	367,340	1937	1,009	.50	403,644
1938	1,101	.60	520,050	1938	980	.45	352,767
1939	1,839	.53	511,642	1939	762	.42	336,229
1940	1,021	.62	439,564	1940	671	.48	338,434
1941	1,225	1.00	642,877	1941	683	.58	416,197
<u>T O M A T O E S</u>							
1931	888	\$.76 pkg.	\$210,000	1931	500	\$.61 pkg.	\$213,500
1932	905	.74	334,999	1932	690	.34	163,428
1933	1,133	.74	430,707	1933	1,047	.50	367,250
1934	1,497	.82	633,689	1934	853	.63	377,520
1935	1,165	.61	366,675	1935	912	.42	264,921
1936	1,806	1.02	950,231	1936	1,067	.66	490,515
1937	1,276	.55	367,340	1937	1,009	.50	403,644
1938	1,101	.60	520,050	1938	980	.45	352,767
1939	1,839	.53	511,642	1939	762	.42	336,229
1940	1,021	.62	439,564	1940	671	.48	338,434
1941	1,225	1.00	642,877	1941	683	.58	416,197
<u>P L U M S</u>							
1933	136	\$.84 pkg.	62,926	1933	136	\$.84 pkg.	62,926
1934	132	.86	79,353	1934	132	.86	79,353
1935	119	.84	59,853	1935	119	.84	59,853
1936	113	.95	74,414	1936	113	.95	74,414
1937	147	.95	89,283	1937	147	.95	89,283
1938	87	.86	49,974	1938	87	.86	49,974
1939	166	1.15	76,440	1939	166	1.15	76,440
1940	155	1.45	89,825	1940	155	1.45	89,825
1941	165	.70	92,649	1941	165	.70	92,649

Commodity and usual container	Packages	Avg. Value per package	Total Value for season	Carlot Equivalents #
Apples (bu.)	642,877	\$1.00	\$ 642,877.00	1,225
Beans-Green & Wax (bu.-12 qt.)	27,532	.50	13,791.00	17
" Lima (12 qt.)	59,043	.70	41,330.10	36
" Romain (12 qt.) (Cranberry)	7,306	.80	5,844.80	4
Beets (doz. & bu.)	844	.50	422.00	2
Berries (crates)-Black (16 qt.)	2,582	2.10	5,422.20	5
" Black Rasp (24 pt.)	33,953	2.24	76,054.72	45
" Blue (16 qt.)	10,702	3.75	40,132.50	19
" Dew (16 qt.)	32,627	2.15	70,148.05	58
" Goose (16 qt.)	2,449	1.88	4,604.12	4
" Red Rasp (24 pt.)	90,060	2.46	196,947.60	107
" Straw (16 qt.)	305,867	1.73	529,149.91	546
Cabbage (bulk-bu.)	10,144	.50	5,072.00	17
Cantaloups (crt.-9x9,10x10,11x11,12x12,13x13,14x14, bu. 12 qt.)	200,535	.98	196,524.30	286
Carrots (doz. & bu.)	1,393	.50	696.50	3
Cauliflowers (doz.-crt.)	9,036	1.10	9,939.60	24
Celery (crt. & doz.)	85,592	.25	21,398.00	39
Celery Cabbage (doz. & crt.)	324	1.00	324.00	1
Cherries-(Crates) Sour (16 qt.)	13,936	1.34	18,674.24	19
" Sweet (16 qt.)	20,931	2.06	43,117.86	28
Cider (gallon)	60,238	.25	15,059.50	30
Corn, Green, Sweet (doz.-bu.)	19,485	.13	2,533.05	8
Cucumbers (12 qt.)	123,822	.52	64,387.44	103
Currants (crates 16 qt.)	9,284	2.06	19,125.04	17
Eggplant (bu.)	12,023	.63	7,574.49	20
Grapes (4 qt.)	553,730	.18	99,671.40	154
" (12 qt.)	556,375	.42	233,677.50	463
Lettuce (bu.)	702	.60	421.20	1
Onions (10 lb. sacks)	16,226	.18	2,920.68	6
" (50 lb. sacks)	5,257	1.10	5,782.70	11
Peaches (bu.)	1,183,457	.96	1,135,158.72	2,956
Pears (bu.)	190,388	.83	158,022.04	331
Peppers (bu. 12 qt. 4 qt.)	43,914	.30	13,174.20	27
Plums (bu.-half-bu.-12 qt.)	133,357	.70	93,649.90	165
Potatoes-(bu.-100 lb. sacks-bulk)	10,481	1.15	12,053.15	29
" (Sweet-bu.)	2,734	.90	2,460.60	5
Quinces (bu.)	5,353	1.75	9,367.75	11
Radishes (doz. bch-bu.)	1,171	.30	351.30	2
Rhubarb (doz. bch-bu.)	65	.40	26.00	0
Spinach (bu.)	332	1.00	332.00	0
Squash (bu. each)	3,732	.70	2,633.40	7
Tomatoes (4 qt. 12 qt. crt.-4,6,&8 basket)	717,582	.58	416,197.56	683
Turnips (bu.)	1,329	.50	664.50	3
Watermelons (each)	112,736	.25	28,184.00	113
Miscellaneous (in chart below)	22,943	1.75	40,250.25	10
GRAND TOTAL	3,503,029		\$4,256,035.21	7,690

Miscellaneous - commodities not listed above:

Commodity and usual container	Packs	Avg. per Pkg.	Season Value	Commodity and usual container	Packs	Avg. per Pkg.	Season Value
Apricots (16 qt.)	224	\$1.25	\$ 281.00	Grapes (crates)	856	\$1.50	\$ 1,284.00
Asparagus (24 bu. crt.)	11	2.00	22.00	Grapefruit	342	1.25	427.50
Beans-Limas (dry lb.)	60	.08	4.80	Grapejuice (gal.)	950	.65	617.50
" (shelled)	78	3.00	234.00	Honey- (1 lb. jar & cone)	1,012	.14	141.68
" Navy	30	.95	28.50	" (5 lbs.)	974	.43	419.82
Berries:				Lemon	226	3.50	791.00
Boysen, 16 qt. crt.	62	2.00	124.00	Limes (1/4 bu. box)	12	1.50	18.00
Elder (12 qt. Jumbo)	8	.75	6.00	Mulberry (16 qt. cr.)	3	1.75	5.25
Cranberry	120	4.00	480.00	Nuts-Chestnuts (lb.)	136	.18	24.48
Logan	10	2.00	20.00	" Hickory (bu.)	7	1.50	10.50
Young (16 qt. crt.)	2	2.00	4.00	" Pecans	100	.20	20.00
Bananas (bu.)	143	2.50	357.50	" Walnuts (bu.)	17	1.00	17.00
Broccoli				Okra (12 qt. Jumbo)	136	.75	102.00
Chickens (each)	92	1.00	92.00	Oranges (1/2 box)	760	1.75	1,330.00
Citron (each)	243	.10	24.30	Parsley (doz.)	196	.40	78.40
Corn-pop (lb.)	520	.04	20.80	Peas	207	.50	103.50
Dill (doz. bu.)	585	.60	351.00	Pumpkins (each)	1,039	.15	155.85
Eggs (doz.)	4,431	.31	1,373.61	Syrup-Maple (gal.)	27	2.00	54.00
Gladiolia (doz. stk. bu.)	8,474	.15	1,271.10	" Sorghum "	850	.75	637.50
				TOTAL	22,045		10,308.59

Notes: # packages reduced to carlot basis U.S.D.A., A.M.S. conversion tables from "Factors for use in Fruit and Vegetable Offices in Cities east of the Rocky Mountains for converting truck, boat, and L.c.l. receipts of fruits and vegetables to carlots, issued effective beginning Jan. 1, 1937."

Package account furnished by F.G. Bryant, Marketmaster, Benton Harbor, Michigan.
Prices prior to August 1, furnished by Marketmaster and J.E. Wells, News Palladium, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

M.W.M.

R.E. Keller, Local Representative.

After five days return to
United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
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