

BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET
FRUIT & VEGETABLE SUMMARY
1942 Season June 1 to November 3.

Weather conditions were exceptionally favorable for most fruit and vegetable crops in West Michigan served by the Benton Harbor Cash Market. Practically the only crop that suffered serious setbacks was peaches, which were injured in the southern and eastern section of the fruit belt due to bud injury from winter kill. The season was earlier than usual from blossom time through harvesting. Moisture was ample and there was no serious frost damage either at blossom time or in the late fall. Apple, grape, cherry, tomato, and raspberry yields were above 1941; pears and strawberries about the same; and cantaloups and plums slightly less than in 1941. Not all this bumper crop was reflected in offerings over the Cash Market, as movement was heavy from loadings by shippers and associations. Also an active demand at strong prices from processors and canneries took much of the tonnage of small berries, pears, plums, tomatoes and grapes sold in past seasons on the fresh market. Labor shortages caused some difficulty in harvesting and packing of crops, but generally most stock was marketed with little loss. However active bidding for all available labor increased production costs.

The volume of produce handled over the market amounted to 7,078 carlot equiv., which is 8% less than 1941 volume of 7,690 cars and 10% under the 10-yr (1931-40) ave. of 7,887 carlots. Peaches accounted for the largest volume with 1,844 cars; apples were second with 1,540 cars; grapes, third with 904 cars; tomatoes, fourth with 736 cars; strawberries, fifth with 542 cars; with the balance of commodities under 500 cars.

1942 cash to grower values were the best since records have been tabulated over the market in 1931. Total cash returns amounted to \$6,162,056.97 and compare to \$4,256,035.00 for 1941, and \$3,516,990.00 for the 10-yr. ave. (1931-40). Peaches accounted for the largest return of any of the crops, amounting to \$1,512,412.10.

5,323,041 packages were handled over the market and compares to 5,333,029 packages in 1941, and 6,144,365 packages for the 10-yr. ave. (1931-40).

6,103 tickets were sold to day buyers making purchases over the market and compares to 6,994 a year ago, and 8,875 for the 10-yr. ave. (1931-40). 106,035 loads were offered by growers for sale and compare to 108,653 in 1941, and 120,047 for the 10-yr. ave. Practically all offerings except a few late lots of apples and grapes moved to market via truck.

(Season)	(Grower Loads)	(Day Buyers)	(Total Packages)	(Carlot Equi)	(Tot. Val)
1931	102,285	9,190	4,337,758	7,162	\$2,822,285
1932	123,351	11,393	7,210,159	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	3,798,401
1935	121,345	9,501	6,412,766	8,049	3,137,215
1936	121,963	9,489	5,991,711	8,251	4,780,731
1937	173,361	8,875	7,151,661	8,921	4,354,147
1938	96,839	5,214	3,679,942	5,489	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
1942	106,035	6,103	5,323,041	7,078	6,162,056

(Season)	(Carlot Equi)	(Ave.)	(Tot. Value)	(Season)	(Carlot Equi)	(Ave.)	(Tot. Value)	
A P P L E S				C A N T A L O U P S				
1931	853	\$.71 bu.	\$311,520	1931	688	\$.76 crts.	\$210,000	
1932	905	.74	334,999	1932	712	.61	99,622	
1933	1,123	.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	.90	137,974	
1938	1,101	.90	520,050	1938	258	.55	99,187	
1939	1,839	.53	511,642	1939	314	.53	116,360	
1940	1,021	.82	439,564	1940	236	.95	156,629	
1941	1,225	1.00	642,877	1941	286	.98	196,524	
1942	1,540	1.28	1,034,899	1942	211	1.32	194,612	
P E A C H E S				T O M A T O E S				
1931	1,170	\$.70 bu.	\$336,000	1931	500	\$.61 pkg.	\$213,500	
1932	1,665	.42	557,990	1932	690	.34	163,428	
1933	91	1.79	65,425	1933	1,047	.50	367,250	
1934	801	1.63	524,478	1934	853	.63	377,520	
1935	1,692	.82	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	1.35	694,532	1938	980	.45	352,767	
1939	2,583	.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	
1942	1,844	2.05	1,512,412	1942	736	.74	571,901	
P E A R S				S T R A W B E R R I E S				
1931	125	\$.92 bu.	\$ 49,100	1931	430	\$1.77 crts.	\$434,797	
1932	404	.75	119,331	1932	---	16	---	
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	106,321	1935	560	1.24	360,683	
1936	588	.86	202,123	1936	282	1.28	360,994	
1937	201	.93	93,507	1937	688	1.80	693,720	
1938	328	.75	122,114	1938	255	2.10	300,350	
1939	373	.82	152,845	1939	785	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	
1942	249	1.57	195,490	1942	542	2.16	655,704	
G R A P E S				P L U M S				
1931	1,328	\$.12 (4 qt.)	\$.37 (12qt.)	\$512,308	1933	126	\$.84 1/2 bu.	\$ 62,926
1932	2,885	.08	.15	537,518	1934	132	.86	79,353
1933	1,786	.12	.18	523,845	1935	119	.84	59,853
1934	1,837	.12	.23	657,790	1936	113	.95	74,414
1935	1,643	.11	.18	460,849	1937	147	.95	89,283
1936	820	.16	.35	431,205	1938	87	.86	49,974
1937	1,800	.12	.21	501,713	1939	166	1.15	76,440
1938	124	.25	.45	74,560	1940	155	1.45	89,825
1939	1,375	.12	.21	392,816	1941	165	.70	92,649
1940	1,542	.12	.20	424,803	1942	102	1.23	100,695
1941	617	.18	.42	333,348				
1942	904	.24	.50	581,753				

1942

Commodity and usual container	Packages	Avg. Value per package	Total Value for season	Carlot Equivalents #
Apples (bu.)	808,515	\$1.28	\$1,034,899.20	1540
Beans-Green & Wax (bu.-12qt.)	18,808	.55	10,344.40	12
" Lima (12 qt.)	33,105	.92	30,456.60	21
" Romain (12 Qt.) (Cranberry)	5,639	.89	5,018.71	1
Beets (doz. & bu.)	770	.75	577.50	1
Berries (crates)-Black (16 qt.)	4,496	2.25	10,116.00	8
" Black Rasp (24 pt.)	107,959	2.48	267,738.32	144
" Blue (16 qt.)	20,429	4.18	85,393.22	36
" Dew (16 qt.)	51,491	2.61	134,391.51	92
" Goose (16 qt.)	3,028	2.33	7,055.24	6
" Red Rasp (24 pt.)	109,919	3.06	336,352.14	147
" Straw (16 qt.)	303,567	2.16	655,704.72	542
Cabbage (bulk-bu.)	5,410	.60	3,246.00	9
Cantaloups (crt.-9x9,10x10,11x11,12x12,13x13,14x14, bu. 12 qt.)	147,434	1.32	194,612.88	211
Carrots (doz. & bu.)	1,039	.75	801.75	2
Cauliflowers (doz.-crt.)	6,874	1.50	10,311.00	18
Celery (crt. & doz.)	59,533	.33	19,645.89	27
Celery Cabbage (doz. & crt.)	192	1.00	192.00	0
Cherries-(Crates) Sour (16 qt.)	15,860	2.48	39,332.80	21
" Sweet (16 qt.)	21,846	3.09	67,510.32	29
Cider (gallon)	27,946	.32	8,942.72	14
Corn, Green, Sweet (doz.-bu.)	12,154	.12	1,458.48	5
Cucumbers (12 qt.)	109,482	.62	67,878.34	91
Currants (crates 16 qt.)	9,373	2.51	23,807.42	17
Eggplant (bu.)	9,912	1.02	10,110.24	17
Grapes (4 qt.)	531,695	.24	127,606.80	147
" (12 qt.)	908,293	.50	454,146.50	757
Lettuce (bu.)	553	1.00	553.00	1
Onions (10 lb. sacks)	46,495	.25	11,623.75	19
" (50 Lb. sacks)	10,934	1.18	12,961.12	22
Peaches (bu.)	737,762	2.05	1,512,412.10	1844
Pears (bu.)	124,516	1.57	195,490.12	249
Peppers (bu. 12 qt. 4 qt.)	55,342	1.00	55,342.00	35
Plums (bu.-half-bu.-12 qt.)	81,866	1.23	100,695.18	102
Potatoes-(bu.-100 lb.sacks-bulk)	11,446	2.00	22,892.00	30
" (Sweet-bu.)	631	1.50	946.50	1
Quinces (bu.)	4,696	2.12	9,955.52	9
Radishes (doz. bch-bu.)	1,040	.40	416.00	2
Rhubarb (doz. bch-bu.)	140	.40	56.00	0
Spinach (bu.)	391	1.00	391.00	1
Squash (bu. each)	4,822	.75	3,616.50	10
Tomatoes (4 qt.12qt.crt.-4,6,&8 basket)	772,840	.74	571,901.60	736
Turnips (bu.)	882	.75	661.50	1
Watermelons (each)	100,631	.35	35,220.85	101
Miscellaneous (in chart below)	33,203	--	19,271.03	--
GRAND TOTAL	5,323,041	--	\$6,162,056.97	7078

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 (16qt.)	340	\$1.50	\$ 510.00	Grapefruit	6	\$2.00	\$ 12.00
Asparagus(24bu.crt)	27	1.80	48.60	Grapejuice (gal)	7,062	.82	5,790.84
Beans-Limas(shell)	63	3.50	220.50	Honey-(1 lb.jar & cone)	702	.20	140.40
Berries:				" (5 lbs.)	1,721	.77 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,333.77
Boysen,16qt.crt.	44	2.60	114.40	Lemon	187	3.50	654.50
Cranberry	24	.15	3.60	Mulberry(16qt.crt)	31	2.25	69.75
Cherry Mix	767	--	--	Nuts-Chestnuts(lb)	79	.17 $\frac{1}{2}$	13.83
Chickens(each)	24	1.00	24.00	" Hickory(bu.)	12	1.50	18.00
Citron (each)	35	.10	3.50	" Walnut(bu.)	26	1.50	39.00
Corn-pop (lb.)	379	.07	26.53	Okra(12 qt.Jumbo)	117	1.25	146.25
Dill (doz.bu.)	823	.40	331.60	Oranges ($\frac{1}{2}$ bx.)	646	2.00	1,292.00
Eggs (doz.)	6,111	.36	2,199.96	Parsley(doz.)	357	.40	142.80
Figs	74	--	--	Peas	125	.75	93.75
Gladiolia (doz. stk.bu.)	8,320	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,040.00	Plants	2,100	--	--
Grapes (cmts)	2,187	2.25	4,920.75	Pumpkins(each)	807	.10	80.70
				Sage	1	--	--
				:: TOTAL	33,203	--	\$19,271.03

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 count furnished by Marketmaster. Prices prior to August 1, furnished by Marketmaster and J.E.Wells, News Palladium, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

MVM. R.E.Keller, Local Representative.

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