

MARKET NEWS SERVICE ON FRUITS & VEGETABLES

MARKETING THE MICHIGAN GRAPE CROP
A brief Review of the 1944 Season

by
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Market reports on grapes were issued from the Benton Harbor, Michigan office from August 21 to October 26, 1944.

National Situation

The national 1944 grape harvest was estimated December 18 by the crop reporting board at 2,579,850 tons, compared to 2,972,900 tons in 1943 and 2,371,410 tons for the previous ten-year (1933-1942) average, or 13% under 1943 and 8% increase over the ten-year average. National rail shipments of fresh grapes through December 30 totaled 23,562 cars compared to 22,438 cars a year ago to date and to final forwardings for 1943 of 22,884 cars.

Commercial production of grapes in Michigan is located principally in the southwestern part of the State and is centered largely in Berrien and VanBuren counties. The principal variety is Concord. Limited production is also maintained in Champions, Moores Early, Niagaras, Delawares and Wordens. The Champion is an early jell variety, maturing between August 15-31, and is the earliest variety on the market. Moores Early follow Champions in maturity, maturing around August 25-September 10, according to the season. This variety is sold mostly on the fresh market for table and home canning use. Delawares, a white juice grape, maturing in late August are utilized mostly by champagne makers. Concord, the principal commercial variety, harvested in late September and October, excellent for table use, fresh juice, jams and wine, move into all these channels. Niagaras, a white grape maturing about the same time as Concord, is utilized mostly by wine makers for white juice blends.

Michigan Situation

Size, Quality, and Condition of Michigan Crop

Michigan's 1944 grape production was estimated by the crop reporting board December 18 at 34,000 tons. The crop was 20% under the 1943 production of 42,400 tons and 22% below the ten-year (1933-1942) average of 43,580 tons.

The grape crop failed to produce the tonnage predicted earlier in the season. Winter injury to the vines in low spots and on flat land resulted in the decreased yield. Weather conditions were good during the latter part of the season and no serious damage occurred due to frost. Labor for harvesting was limited but practically all fruit was harvested.

Returns were similar to those received for the 1943 crop with Concord realizing the best average prices. The weighted average price for all varieties to growers over the Benton Harbor Cash Market amounted to \$1.01 for 12-quart baskets and \$.45 for 4-quart baskets, compared to \$1.04 for 12-quart and \$.43 for 4-quart baskets during the 1943 season. The seasonal range by varieties over the market for No. 1 stock was as follows: Champions 12-qt \$.80-1.25 4-qt \$.25-.45, Moores Early 12-qt \$.75-1.20 4-qt \$.40-.50, and Concord 12-qt \$.85-1.50 4-qt \$.40-.57. During the latter part of the Concord harvest No. 2 stock was selling only slightly lower than No. 1.

The truck movement over the Benton Harbor Cash Market amounted to 539 carlot equivalents and the rail movement to 193 carlots, compared to 487 carlot equivalents over the market and 195 carlots by rail in 1943. This year rail shipments were billed to 26 cities in 20 states, Minnesota led with 97 cars, 68 of these being billed to Minneapolis, Kansas received 15, and North Dakota 13, other states ranged 1 to 9 cars for the season.

The total tonnage purchased by processors and wineries amounted to 19,586 tons. This amount was the second largest on record and was only exceeded by the 1943 crop when a total of 27,366 tons was used. Some confusion in the OPA ceiling price for processing of juices and jams was encountered early in the season, but during the first part of October the OPA announced a retroactive price of \$85.00 per ton for these purposes. The total tonnage used by the wineries amounted to 6,726 tons with a weighted average price of \$97.82 per ton, compared to an average of \$85.00 per ton for 1943.

No record is available on truck movement direct from farm to market.

PRODUCTION OF GRAPES 1944 SEASON WITH COMPARISONS - Released by Crop Reporting Board, Washington, D.C.

Production 1/				Production 1/			
STATE	Average	1943	1944	STATE	Average	1943	1944
	1933-42				1933-42		
		Tons				Tons	
Massachusetts	470	150	250	Florida	660	450	600
Rhode Island	225	150	200	Kentucky	2,050	1,800	1,900
Connecticut	1,450	700	900	Tennessee	2,270	2,000	2,300
New York	62,470	39,200	59,300	Alabama	1,310	1,100	1,200
New Jersey	2,600	2,100	2,600	Arkansas	8,960	7,300	9,600
Pennsylvania	17,850	15,300	19,500	Oklahoma	2,900	2,300	3,200
Ohio	24,010	17,900	24,400	Texas	2,350	2,200	2,100
Indiana	3,550	2,100	2,500	Idaho	555	250	450
Illinois	5,110	2,900	3,700	Colorado	515	400	600
MICHIGAN	43,580	42,400	34,000	New Mexico	1,050	900	1,000
Wisconsin	435	500	600	Arizona	910	1,400	1,500
Iowa	3,630	2,900	3,100	Utah	840	800	800
Missouri	8,070	5,200	6,500	Washington	8,420	15,000	18,200
Nebraska	1,700	1,400	1,300	Oregon	2,110	1,800	2,300
Kansas	2,840	2,200	2,700	Calif., all	2,143,900	2,789,000	2,358,000
Delaware	1,540	1,000	1,200	Wine var.	522,700	575,000	535,000
Maryland	465	200	250	Table var.	387,600	553,000	482,000
Virginia	2,060	1,100	1,800	Raisin var. 1/	233,500	1,661,000	1,341,000
West Virginia	1,265	800	1,300	Raisins 2/	216,700	401,000	274,000
North Carolina	6,330	5,200	6,600	Not dried	366,700	57,000	245,000
South Carolina	1,390	1,100	1,200				
Georgia	1,670	1,700	2,200	U.S.	2,371,410	2,972,900	2,579,850

1/ For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities unharvested on account of market conditions.

2/ Dried basis: 1 ton of raisins equivalent to about 4 tons of fresh grapes.

AMOUNT OF GRAPES USED BY MICHIGAN JUICE PLANTS, WINERIES AND PROCESSORS & VALUE:

Year	Total Tons Used	Weighted Avg. Returns	Total Value
1944 State Wineries	6,726	\$97.82 per ton)	
1944 Processors	12,860	85.00	\$1,751,005
1943 State Wineries	5,960	85.00	
1943 Processors	21,406	75.00	2,112,050
1942 State Wineries	5,836	55.00	
1942 Processors	18,336	55.57	1,339,918
1941	15,457	50.00	772,850
1940	12,928	42.25	546,620
1939	14,650	45.27	663,000
1938	4,500	52.50	236,750
1937	10,956	43.60	477,630
1936	8,000	42.50	340,000
1935	4,800	26.26	120,800
1934	5,700	28.00	159,600
1934	2,342	33.00	77,286
1933	3,400	19.06	64,800
1932	1,085	12.00	13,020
1931	600	40.00	24,000
1930	4,250	40.00	170,000
1929	2,468	40.00	98,720
1928	8,011	32.00	256,352
1927	6,700	41.50	278,050
1926	8,620	31.00	267,220
1925	Very small crop		
1924	3,500	76.00	266,000
1923	4,500	60.00	270,000

DISPOSITION 1944 MICHIGAN GRAPE CROP:

1. Fresh market sales over Benton Harbor Cash Market (539 cars moved over Market or 6,468 tons at 12 tons per car)	Tons 6,468
2. Reported sales to commercial processors	12,860
3. Winery purchases fresh stock (Reported by Mich. Liquor Control)	6,726
Concords	4,112 tons
Niagaras	964 tons
Delawares	180 tons
Wordens	115 tons
Moore's Early	124 tons
Champions	90 tons
Elviras	9 tons
Lucilles	15 tons
Campbells	3 tons
TOTALS FOR WINE:	5,612 tons
Concords (Juice)	1,114 tons
TOTAL GRAPES PURCHASED	6,726 tons
4. Carlot movement not previously reported moving over Benton Harbor Cash Market and not destined to processors. (Estimated approximately 20% of this moved direct from farms to cars, or 39 cars of 12 tons per car, total rail shipments reported 193 cars.)	468
5. Truck movement direct from farms to fresh market channels (Unavailable)	
TOTAL	26,522 tons

SUMMARY OF GRAPE MOVEMENT AND AVERAGE PRICES ON BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value: 12-qts.)	4-qts.)	(Total Value)
1931	1,328	\$.27	\$.12	\$512,308
1932	2,885	.15	.08	537,518
1933	1,786	.18	.12	523,845
1934	1,837	.23	.12	657,790
1935	1,643	.18	.11	460,849
1936	820	.35	.16	431,205
1937	1,800	.21	.12	501,713
1938	124	.45	.25	74,560
1939	1,376	.21	.12	392,816
1940	1,542	.20	.12	424,803
1941	617	.42	.18	333,348
1942	904	.50	.24	581,753
1943	487	1.04	.43	626,289
1944	539	1.01	.45	674,773

BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET TRUCK CARLOT EQUIVALENTS - GRAPES

Daily movement over the Market, calculated with the following carlot equivalents; 4 qt. packages 3,600 to the car, 12 qt. packages 1,200 to the car.

DATE	Carlot Equivalent	DATE	Carlot Equivalent	DATE	Carlot Equivalent	DATE	Carlot Equivalent
Aug. 21	4#	Sept. 8	4	Sept. 26	32	Oct. 14	Sat.
22	1	9	Sat.	27	19	15	4
23	1	10	20	28	13	16	2
24	2	11	13	29	6	17	3
25	1	12	27	30	Sat.	18	1
26	Sat.	13	7	Oct. 1	18	19	2
27	3	14	32	2	8	20	0
28	0	15	29	3	5	21	Sat.
29	1	16	Sat.	4	12	22	1
30	1	17	51	5	9	23	0
31	2	18	18	6	3	24	1
Sept. 1	2	19	30	7	Sat.	25	0
2	Sat.	20	32	8	7	26	1
3	Sun.	21	36	9	2		
4	3	22	21	10	1		
5	2	23	Sat.	11	2		
6	1	24	24	12	3		
7	4	25	9	13	3		

SEASON TOTAL 539
Total to date.

BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET ON GRAPES:

Note: Price ranges are for truckloads, cash to growers; 4 qt. packages are Fancy Table grade, 12 qt. packages are Michigan No. 1 and No. 2.

DATE	Champions : 4 qts.	Champions : 12 qts.	Moore's Early : 4 qts.	Moore's Early : 12 qts.	Concords : 4 qts.	Concords : 12 qts.	Niagaras : 12 qts.
Aug. 8	\$.46						
15	.40						
16	.45	1.00-1.25					
17	.33						
18	.40	.75-.85					
20	.25-.32	.65-.85					
21	.30	.75					
22	.30	.75					
23	.30-.40	.65-.85					
24	.30-.40	.70-.80					
25	.30-.35	.65-.70	.40	.90-1.00			
27	.35-.40	.65-.85	.40	.75			
28	.37	.65		.95			
29	.36-.42	.75-.85	.45	1.00			
30	.36-.40	.80-.90	.45-.50	1.00-1.15			
31	.35-.40	.75-.85	.40-.48	.90-1.10			
Sept. 1	.40	.60	.40-.46	.75			
4	.35	.85	.45-.50	1.00-1.20			
5			.50	1.00-1.10			
6			.40-.43	.90-1.10			
7			1.10	.47-.48			
8				.45-.51	1.15-1.35		
10				.40-.45			
11				.42-.50	1.00-1.25		1.00
13				.45-.50	1.15-1.25	1.00-1.10	
14					1.10-1.15	.90-1.00	1.15
15				.45-.50	1.10-1.25		
17				.45-.52	1.00-1.05		
18				.40-.45	.90-1.00		
19				.43-.50	.85-1.05	.90-.95	
20				.45-.52	.95-1.05	.80-.90	
21				.45-.50	.90-1.00	.80-.90	
22				.42-.45	.85-1.00	.75-.80	1.00-1.15
24				.41-.46	.85-1.00	.75-.85	1.00
25				.43-.48	.90-1.00	.80-1.00	1.10
26				.48-.50	.90-1.05	.80-.90	
27				.42-.46	.90-1.05	.80-.90	
28				.43-.48	.90-1.00	.75-.85	1.10
29				.45-.50	.90-1.10	.75-.95	
Oct. 1				.47-.48	.90-1.10		
2					1.05-1.20	.90-1.20	1.10-1.15
3				.50	1.05-1.20	.90-1.10	
4				.50-.55	1.10-1.20	1.00-1.20	
5				.50-.56	1.00-1.20	.90-1.10	
6				.45-.51	1.00-1.20		
8				.48-.52	1.10-1.25	.90-1.25	
10				.48-.55	1.15-1.30	.90-1.15	
11				.55	1.15-1.25	.90-1.10	
12				.56	1.35-1.50	1.00-1.20	
13				.53-.55	1.30-1.35	1.00-1.20	
14				.56	1.30-1.35	1.10-1.15	
16				.55-.57	1.35-1.45	1.00-1.15	
17				.53-.55	1.15-1.25	.90-1.10	
18				.55	1.10-1.15		
19					1.00-1.15		
20					1.00-1.15		
21					1.00-1.15		
22					1.00-1.15		
23					1.00-1.20		
24					1.10		
25					1.10		
					1.00		

JOBING SALES OF MICHIGAN GRAPES IN IMPORTANT MARKETS

Prices for 4-qt. climax baskets are Fancy Table grade; 12-qt. climax baskets are Michigan No.1's unless otherwise stated.

DATE	CHICAGO				MILWAUKEE	
	Moore's Early 4 qts.	Champions 12 qts.	Concords 12 qts.	Concords 4 qts.	Concords 12 qts.	Concords 4 qts.
Aug. 23		1.50-1.75	1.00			
24			1.00-1.25			
25		1.50-1.75	1.15-1.25			
29	.45-.50		1.00-1.25			
Sept. 1	.35					
13			.48-.50	1.00-1.25	.45-.48	1.15-1.25
18			.47 ¹ / ₂ -.50	1.10-1.25	.50-.55	1.25-1.30
19					.50-.55	1.10-1.25
20			.40-.50	1.00-1.25	.55-.60	1.25-1.30
21			.45-.50	1.00-1.15	.50-.60	1.15-1.30
22			.45-.50	1.00-1.15	.51	1.05-1.15
25			.50	1.00-1.25	.55	1.25
26			.50-.55	1.00-1.10	.51-.60	1.10-1.30
27			.50	1.00-1.15	.55-.60	1.25
28			.50	1.15-1.25	.48-.55	1.00-1.15
29			.50-.55	1.15-1.25		1.20-1.25
Oct. 2			.55	1.10-1.25	.57-.60	1.20-1.50
3			.60	1.10-1.35		
4			.60	1.30-1.40		
5			.60	1.25-1.40	.60	1.30-1.40
6			.55-.65	1.25-1.40		
9			.52 ¹ / ₂ -.60	1.35	.55-.65	1.15-1.50
10			.55-.60	1.25-1.35		
11			.58-.60	1.25-1.50		
12			.58-.60	1.50-1.60		
13			.60-.65	1.50		1.35-1.40
16			.60-.63	1.40-1.65		
17			.60-.61	1.40-1.50		
18			.60-.65	1.50-1.65		
19			.60	1.65		1.25
27				1.15-1.25		

DATE	ST. LOUIS		PITTSBURGH		MINNEAPOLIS	
	Concords 4 qts.	Concords 12 qts.	Concords 4 qts.	Concords 12 qts.	Concords 4 qts.	Concords 12 qts.
Sept. 19		1.25-1.40				1.25-1.65
20		1.25-1.50				1.25-1.60
21		1.35-1.50				1.15-1.50
22	.55-.60	1.25-1.35				1.20-1.65
25		1.25-1.40				1.15-1.60
26		1.30-1.35				1.20-1.50
27		1.25-1.50		1.30-1.35		1.20-1.50
28		1.25-1.40		1.25		1.20-1.50
29		1.25		1.15-1.25		1.10-1.40
Oct. 2		1.35-1.50		1.25-1.35	.59	1.20-1.50
3		1.30-1.40		1.15-1.25		1.25-1.65
4		1.30-1.40				1.25-1.65
5		1.25-1.40				
6		1.40-1.50				
9		1.40-1.65				1.25-1.65
10					.67	1.25-1.65
11		1.50-1.65		1.15-1.25	.67	1.25-1.65
12	.70	1.60-1.65		1.15-1.25	.67	1.25-1.65
13		1.60-1.65				
17		1.50-1.75				
18		1.50-1.65				
19		1.50-1.70				

CARLOT DISTRIBUTION OF MICHIGAN GRAPE SHIPMENTS, 1944 SEASON
(Through October 6, 1944)

State & City	Cars	State & City	Cars	State & City	Cars	SUMMARY BY STATES:	Cars
Alabama		Minnesota		Oklahoma		Alabama	1
Mobile	1	Alexandria	2	Enid	4	Colorado	9
Colorado		Duluth	8	Oklahoma City	1	Florida	2
Denver	9	Foley	1	Total	5	Illinois	9
Florida		Mankato	1	Pennsylvania		Iowa	6
Jacksonville	1	Marshall	2	Pittsburgh	3	Kansas	15
Tampa	1	Minneapolis	68	South Dakota		Michigan	5
Total	1/2	Thief River Falls	2	Brookings	1	Minnesota	97
Illinois		St. Cloud	2	Deadwood	1	Missouri	6
Blue Island	6	St. Paul	9	Total	1/2	Montana	1
Chicago	2	Wilmar	2			Nebraska	3
Moline	1	Total	97	Tennessee		North Dakota	13
Total	9	Kansas City	1	Memphis	1	Ohio	2
Iowa		St. Louis	5	Texas		Oklahoma	5
Estherville	1	Total	6	Dallas	2	Pennsylvania	3
Sioux City	5	Montana		Ft. Worth	1	South Dakota	2
Total	6	Billings	1	Total	3	Tennessee	1
Kansas		Nebraska		Wisconsin		Texas	3
Emporia	3	Hastings	3	Dressen Jct.	1	Wisconsin	8
Great Bend	1	North Dakota		Green Bay	2	Wyoming	2
Hays	1	Bismarck	3	Manitowoc	1	GRAND TOTAL	193
Liberal	1	Devils Lake	2	Milwaukee	4		
Pittsburgh	3	Fargo	3	Total	8		
Salina	2	Minot	1	Wyoming			
Wichita	4	Sioux Falls	1	Casper	2		
Total	15	Wellington	1	GRAND TOTAL	193		
Michigan		Willston	1				
Calumet	2	Wishek	1				
Detroit	1	Total	13				
Ishpeming	1	Ohio					
Niles	1	Cincinnati	2				
Total	5						