

MARKETING THE MICHIGAN GRAPE CROP  
A brief review of the 1946 Season  
by  
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The following summary is a compilation based on Market News reports issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Production and Marketing Administration, Fruit and Vegetable Branch, from August 25 to October 27, 1946 at Benton Harbor, Michigan.

National Situation

The United States production of grapes in 1946 was estimated by the Crop Reporting Board, Washington D. C. as of December 1, 1946 at 2,851,150 tons, and is second only to the 1943 record production of 2,972,900 tons, but is only slightly more than last year's crop of 2,791,650 tons. The 10-year (1935-44) average is 2,552,730 tons.

The California total of 2,641,000 tons is slightly less than last year's crop but 13% above average. Production for the State is 93% of the U. S. total -- about the usual proportion. Wine varieties are estimated at a total of 611,000 tons, table varieties at 542,000 tons and raisin grapes at 1,488,000 tons. Last year, wine, table and raisin varieties were 619,000 tons, 512,000 tons and 1,532,000 tons, respectively. Raisin production in 1946 is estimated at 182,000 tons - 24% less than in 1945 and 28% less than average.

For all States except California, the 1946 production totals 210,150 tons - 63% above the light crop in 1945 but 2% below average. The New York crop at 63,200 tons is about twice as large as last year and 8% above average.

Michigan Situation

The 1946 Michigan grape crop was estimated by the Crop Reporting Board, Washington, D. C. as of December 1, 1946 at 30,000 tons, more than twice the 13,500 tons in 1945 but 22% less than the 10-year (1935-44) average of 38,610 tons.

Despite spotted frost damage occurring in the Spring and to drought conditions during the Summer months, maturity was about average and quality and condition generally good. Practically all stock was harvested without damage from late frosts.

Marketing

Benton Harbor Cash Market

The weighted average price for all varieties and grades of grapes to growers over the Cash Market compared favorably with those of 1945. Demand was exceptionally good throughout the season, with no serious break in the market occurring at any time. The 1946 weighted average price for 12-qt baskets amounted to \$1.26, compared to \$1.43 in 1945, \$1.01 in 1944, and \$1.04 in 1943. 4-qt baskets, Fancy Table stock, averaged \$.53 this year, compared to \$.51 in 1945, \$.45 in 1944, and \$.43 in 1943. Prior to 1943, weighted averages prices of stock in both 12-qt and 4-qt baskets were half or slightly less than half of those recorded in the last four years. The 1946 seasonal range by varieties over the Market for U. S. No. 1 stock was as follows: Champions, 12-qt baskets \$.90-1.15, 4-qt \$.33-.47; Moore's Early 12-qt \$1.20-1.50, 4-qt \$.45-.60; Concord 12-qt \$1.20-1.95, 4-qt \$.45-.80, No. 2 stock 12-qt \$1.05-1.60.

The truck movement over the Benton Harbor Cash Market amounted to 489 carlot equivalents and compares to 147 carlot equivalents in 1945, 539 carlot equivalents in 1944, and 487 carlot equivalents in 1943. The all time record was established in 1932 with 2885 carlot equivalents.

Rail shipments amounted to 73 cars, compared to 38 cars for 1945. Records indicate practically all carlot shipments originated in Benton Harbor and were billed to 24 cities in 12 states.

Wineries and Processors

Total tonnage purchased by State wineries and Michigan processors amounted to 19,872 tons, compared to 8,506 tons in 1945 and 19,586 tons in 1944. Purchases by State wineries totaled 9,324 tons, compared to 4,184 tons in 1945 and 6,726 tons in 1944. Purchases by processors amounted to 10,048 tons compared to 4,322 tons in 1945 and 12,860 tons in 1944. The weighted average price amounted to \$143.64 for stock purchased by wineries and \$135.28 for purchases by commercial processors.

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

PRODUCTION OF GRAPES BY STATES 1946 SEASON

Crop report as of December 1, 1946. Production with comparisons. Released by Crop Reporting Board, Washington, D. C., December 17, 1946

STATE	Production 1/			STATE	Production 1/		
	Average : 1935-44	1945	1946		Average : 1935-44	1945	1946
Massachusetts	370	150	250	Florida	605	600	600
Rhode Island	205	100	200	Kentucky	1,980	1,100	2,000
Connecticut	1,170	400	1,000	Tennessee	2,250	1,900	2,100
New York	58,740	31,300	63,200	Alabama	1,240	1,500	1,300
New Jersey	2,530	900	2,400	Arkansas	8,470	5,200	10,400
Pennsylvania	17,620	6,000	18,700	Oklahoma	2,740	2,500	3,300
Ohio	22,570	6,400	15,400	Texas	2,280	2,100	2,500
Indiana	3,020	1,400	2,000	Idaho	515	450	500
Illinois	4,420	3,300	2,800	Colorado	510	600	150
MICHIGAN	38,610	13,500	30,000	New Mexico	1,050	1,100	900
Wisconsin	470	450	600	Arizona	990	1,000	1,300
Iowa	3,250	3,000	2,700	Utah	830	900	800
Missouri	7,220	6,500	5,900	Washington	10,720	19,400	19,400
Nebraska	1,570	1,700	600	Oregon	2,140	2,300	2,300
Kansas	2,700	4,500	3,500	Calif., all	2,338,100	2,663,000	2,641,000
Delaware	1,350	450	1,000	Wine var.	548,900	619,000	611,000
Maryland	380	100	250	Table var.	437,600	512,000	542,000
Virginia	1,840	250	1,400	Raisin var.	1,351,600	1,532,000	1,488,000
West Virginia	1,135	200	1,300	Raisins 2/	251,150	241,000	182,000
North Carolina	6,080	3,700	5,900	Not dried	347,000	568,000	760,000
South Carolina	1,310	1,400	1,300				
Georgia	1,750	2,300	2,200	UNITED STATES	2,552,730	2,791,650	2,851,150

1/ For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities unharvested on account of economic conditions. In 1945, the production estimate for California includes 12,000 tons (fresh weight) of raisin varieties lost on the drying trays because of rain damage.  
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
1946 State Wineries	9,824	\$143.64 per ton	\$2,770,415
Processors	10,048	135.28	
1945 State Wineries	4,184	144.45	1,020,091
Processors	4,322	127.00	
1944 State Wineries	6,726	97.82	1,751,005
Processors	12,860	85.00	
1943 State Wineries	5,960	85.00	2,112,050
Processors	21,406	75.00	
1942 State Wineries	5,835	55.00	1,339,918
Processors	18,336	55.57	
1941	15,457	50.00	772,850
1940	12,938	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	4,600	26.26	120,800
1934	5,700	28.00	159,600
	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 1946 MICHIGAN GRAPE CROP

	Tons
1. Fresh market sales over Benton Harbor Cash Market (489 cars moved over Market or 5,868 tons at 12 tons per car)	5,868
2. Reported sales to commercial processors	10,048
3. Winery purchases fresh stock (Reported by Mich. Liquor Control)	9,824
Concords	5,643
Niagaras	1,301
Delawares	276
Wordens	183
Elviras	9
Fredonias	6
Lucilles	6
Champions	96
Ontarios	1
TOTALS FOR WINE	7,521
Concords (Juice)	2,303
TOTAL GRAPES PURCHASED	9,824
4. Total carlot movement for season 73 cars, approximately 53 of these loaded from receipts tabulated over the Benton Harbor Cash Market. Estimated 20 cars loaded direct from farms to cars and not destined to processors. 20 cars @ 12 tons per car	240
5. Truck movement direct from farms to fresh market channels	(Unavailable)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,980</b>

DAILY CARLOT SHIPMENTS OF MICHIGAN GRAPES - 1946

Date	Cars	Date	Cars
Sept. 11	1	Sept. 29	1
12	3	30	1
13	4		
15	5	Total September	69
16	4		
17	9	Oct. 1	1
18	10	4	1
19	12	6	1
20	4	7	1
22	3	Total October	4
23	2		
24	2	Final Total for Season	73
25	7		
27	1		

MICHIGAN GRAPES DAILY TRUCK MOVEMENT - 1946 & 1945 SEASONS

(Truck movement over the Benton Harbor Cash Market, carlot equivalents are on a basis of 3,600 for 4-qt packages and 1,200 for 12-qt packages)

Benton Harbor Truck			Carlot Equivalents		
DATE	1946	1945	DATE	1946	1945
Aug. 29	11#	-	Sept. 18	24	1
30	1	-	19	27	1
31	Sat.	-	20	14	1
Sept. 1	Sun.	-	21	Sat.	1
2	3	-	22	24	Sat.
3	4	-	23	6	3
4	2	-	24	9	0
5	2	-	25	17	1
6	2	-	25	18	2
7	Sat.	-	27	13	10
8	2	Sat.	28	Sat.	4
9	1	1	29	14	Sat.
10	3	0	30	8	12
11	7	1	Oct. 1	14	5
12	10	0	2	11	3
13	8	0	3	6	13
14	Sat.	0	4	7	20
15	13	Sat.	5	Sat.	6
16	14	1	6	9	Sat.
17	24	0	7	1	13
			SEASON		
			TOTAL 489/ 147		
			(#) Total through 8/29/46.		
			(°) Total through end of season.		
			(/) Total includes 140 c/1 equiv. handled by few dealers and not shown in daily totals		

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 as indicated.

DATE	Champions		Moore's Early		Concords		
	12-qts No. 1	4-qts No. 1	12-qts No. 1	4-qts No. 1	12-qts No. 1	4-qts No. 1	12-qts No. 2
Aug. 25	\$1.10-1.15	\$.33-.40					
27	1.00-1.10	.40	\$1.25	\$.45-.50			
28	1.00-1.15	.45-.47		.50-.53			
29	1.00-1.15	.45					
30	1.10-1.15	.45	1.20	.47-.52			
Sept. 2	1.00-1.15	.42-.45	1.25	.50-.55			
3	.90-1.15			.50-.55			
4	1.00-1.15	.45	1.20-1.25	.50-.55			
5	1.10-1.15		1.25-1.35	.50-.52			
6	1.00-1.15		1.25-1.30	.50-.55			
7		.47					
8			1.25-1.35	.55-.60	\$1.25-1.35	\$.55-.60	
9			1.25-1.40	.52-.57	1.25-1.40	.52-.57	
10			1.25-1.50	.52-.56	1.25-1.50	.52-.56	
11				.52-.56	1.25-1.40	.52-.56	
12					1.25-1.45	.46-.52½	
13					1.30-1.50	.45-.50	
15					1.35-1.50	.45-.55	
16					1.40-1.45	.50-.57	
17					1.35-1.40	.48-.55	\$1.20-1.35
18					1.25-1.35	.50-.57	1.15-1.20
19					1.20-1.25	.50-.62	1.10-1.15
20					1.20-1.35	.50-.60	1.15-1.20
22					1.20-1.25	.50-.57	1.10-1.20
23					1.20-1.25	.50-.55	1.10-1.15
24					1.25-1.43	.51-.58½	1.05-1.20
25					1.20-1.30	.50-.55	1.15-1.20
26					1.20-1.30	.48-.56	1.10-1.15
27					1.20-1.30	.50-.62	1.10-1.15
29					1.25-1.35	.40-.60	1.00-1.20
30					1.25-1.35	.57-.63	1.10-1.20
Oct. 1					1.20-1.35	.56-.60	1.10-1.20
2					1.20-1.30	.55-.60	1.10-1.20
3					1.25-1.30	.50-.58	1.10-1.15
4					1.25-1.30	.53-.57	1.10-1.20
6					1.25-1.50	.58-.62	1.10-1.25
7					1.35-1.50	.58-.63	
8					1.40-1.50	.60-.62	1.20-1.30
9					1.30-1.40	.60-.65	1.20-1.25
10					1.35-1.40	.60-.64	1.20-1.30
11					1.40-1.50	.62-.66	1.25-1.35
13					1.50-1.65	.65-.75	1.25-1.40
14					1.50-1.60	.65-.70	1.25-1.45
15					1.55-1.65	.63-.68	1.30-1.45
16					1.60-1.85	.65-.69	1.35-1.50
17					1.75-1.90	.65-.80	1.50-1.60
18					1.65-1.75		
20					1.75-1.90	.69-.80	
21					1.85		
21					1.90-1.95	.75	
23					1.75		
24					1.50-1.60		
25					1.75-1.85		
27					1.75		

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
1945	147	1.43	.51	254,126
1946	489	1.26	.53	765,103

JOBGING 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	M I L W A U K E E		C H I C A G O		ST. LOUIS	CINCINNATI	KANSAS CITY
	12-qts	4-qts	12-qts	4-qts	12-qts	12-qts	12-qts
Sept. 10	\$1.60-1.75	\$.60					
11	1.75	.60					
13	1.50-1.65	.60-.65					
17	1.60-1.65	.65					
18	1.50-1.60	.60-.65					
24	1.40-1.50	.60-.65					
25	1.50	.62-.65					
26	1.50	.65					
27	1.35-1.50	.56-.65	\$1.35-1.50	\$.55-.60	\$1.60-1.65		
30	1.50	.53-.65	1.30-1.50	.55-.60	1.50-1.65	\$1.60-1.75	
Oct. 1	1.35-1.50	.63-.65	1.35-1.50	.55-.62½	1.50-1.75	1.60-1.65	\$1.50-1.75
2	1.40-1.50	.60-.70	1.40-1.50	.63	1.50-1.75	1.60-1.65	
3			1.35-1.50	.60-.65			
4	1.25-1.35	.63-.65	1.40-1.50	.60-.65		1.50-1.65	
7	1.40-1.60		1.35-1.50	.62-.66	1.15-1.65		1.25-1.65
8	1.50-1.60	.70		.66		1.60-1.65	
9	1.60	.70	1.35-1.50	.65-.67	1.25-1.65	1.60	
10	1.60	.68-.70	1.50-1.75	.70	1.50-1.75	1.60	
11	1.60	.68-.73	1.40-1.75	.70	1.75		
14			1.70-2.00	.70-.75			
15	1.85-1.90		1.75-1.85	.72-.73			
16			1.65-1.85	.75	2.00-2.25		
17			1.75-2.00	.73-.75	2.25		
18			1.85-2.00	.75-.80			
21			2.00-2.25	.75-.80			
22				.85			
23				.80-.85			

CARLOT DISTRIBUTION OF MICHIGAN GRAPE SHIPMENTS 1946 SEASON

State & City	Cars	State & City	Cars	SUMMARY BY STATES	
<u>Colorado</u>		<u>Missouri</u>			
Colorado Springs	1	Kansas City	1	Colorado	5
Denver	4			Illinois	3
Total	5	<u>North Dakota</u>		Iowa	1
<u>Illinois</u>		Devils Lake	2	Michigan	27
Blue Island	2	Jamestown	2	Minnesota	21
Chicago	1	Total	4	Missouri	1
Total	3	<u>Ohio</u>		North Dakota	4
<u>Iowa</u>		Sandusky	2	Ohio	2
Council Bluffs	1	<u>Pennsylvania</u>		Pennsylvania	1
<u>Michigan</u>		Dickson	1	South Carolina	1
Calumet	1	<u>South Carolina</u>		Wisconsin	6
Ishpeming	1	Deadwood	1	Wyoming	1
Niles	25			Total	73
Total	27	<u>Wisconsin</u>			
<u>Minnesota</u>		Appleton	2		
Brainard	1	Milwaukee	4		
Duck River	1	Total	6		
Duluth	1	<u>Wyoming</u>			
Mankato	1	Cheyenne	1		
Minneapolis	12				
St. Cloud	1				
St. Paul	4				
Total	21				

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