

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
and
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Foods & Standards Cooperating

MARKET NEWS SERVICE ON FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

MARKETING THE MICHIGAN PEACH CROP

Brief Review of the 1940 Season

by
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Market reports on peaches were issued from Benton Harbor, Michigan for the period August 22 to September 25, 1940.

National Situation

The total peach crop for the United States was estimated December 1 by the Agricultural Marketing Service, Crop Reporting Board at 52,772,000 bushels, which was 14% smaller than the unusually large crop of 61,072,000 bushels produced in 1939, but slightly larger than the 10-year average (1929-38) of 52,723,000 bushels. Production was lighter in the southeastern group of states due to spring frosts at blossom time, especially in Georgia and North Carolina. The crop in the Northeastern group of states was above average, while in the North Central group of states was a partial failure due to blasting of buds from low temperatures during the winter. Above average peach crops were produced in the Western group of states. Total United States rail shipments through October 12 amounted to 20,265 cars compared to final shipments of 20,041 cars in 1939 and 23,005 cars in 1939.

Michigan Situation

The 1940 Michigan peach crop was estimated by the Agricultural Marketing Service, Crop Reporting Section at 1,682,000 bushels. This was 40% less than the bumper harvest in 1939 of 2,760,000 bushels but slightly above the 10-year average (1929-38) of 1,568,000 bushels. The reduction in volume from last year can be attributed largely to winter freeze damage which blasted buds in orchards located back away from the protecting influence, Lake Michigan, in the southern section of the fruit belt. Producing sections south of Michigan suffered severe losses from this cold. Both the Southern Illinois and Indiana crops were near failures with only slightly better conditions existing in Kentucky and Tennessee. It appeared prior to harvest that a gap in competitive supplies would occur from this damage and react very favorable in improving the prices for Michigan fruit. However, the supplies were not so short as anticipated because of the bumper crops in Pennsylvania and Colorado. Ordinarily the Colorado Elberta crop matures in late August with peak movement coming in September around or after Labor Day. This season, the Colorado crop was early and Elbertas started moving by Mid-August and reached their peak the latter part of August, which is about the normal period for Southern Illinois deal around Centralia to market their peaches. Pennsylvania was late and the movement from there was heavy the latter part of August. Even then, supplies of peaches would not have been at all burdensome, and would have moved very readily at good values if quality and condition had been up to standard.

Rainfall was heavy and general during the latter part of August and the first half of September. South Havens and Hale Havens moved the last of August and the first week in September, and Elbertas the first three weeks in September with peak harvesting period at about the same time as some of the heavy rains. Harvesting was difficult due to wet orchards and rapid maturity. Condition and carrying quality was impaired as there was too much water in the fruit. Also, the excessive rain spread brown rot, which further reduced condition of the fruit.

While supplies were not at all burdensome, generally offerings of such stock in poor condition and carrying quality was depressing. Maturity was much behind that of last season and of normal. Usually Labor Day is about the peak of the Elberta movement. The bulk of the South Haven and Hale Haven movement came from August 25 to September 5, with the peak day coming September 2, with 84 cars reported as moving over the Benton Harbor Cash Market. Elbertas moved mostly from September 2 to 20, with the peak day coming September 15 when 94 cars were reported moving over the Market.

Distribution, as has been the case for the past decade, was almost entirely by truck. The truck movement over the Market totaled 1,349 cars and compares to 2,583 cars in 1939. Truck movement direct from Associations and shippers of Central packs amounted to 863 cars. Rail movement amounted to 13 cars. The combined truck and rail movement totalled 2,270 cars compared to 4,184 cars in 1939. No record is available on truck movement direct from farms to market.

F.o.b. values for the 1940 crop were quite irregular due mostly to the condition of the stock, with the best stock making good returns and many lots of poor condition bringing fair to poor prices, but as a seasonal average, were much better than a year ago. The weighted average seasonal price of all stock sold over the Benton Harbor Cash Market was placed at \$1.25 and compares to \$.68 a year ago. F.o.b. sales of warehouse packed stock U. S. No. 1 2-inch minimum ranged as follows: South Havens \$1.10-1.50, Hale Havens \$1.25-1.70, and Elbertas \$.75-1.75. Sales over the Market on a cash to grower basis, where both quality and condition were more variable ranged as follows for U. S. No. 1 stock in bushel baskets:

Variety	Size	Period	Range
Golden Jubilees	2" & 2 1/4" min.	August 16 - 30	\$.60-1.75
Hale Havens	2" & 2 1/4" min.	August 23 - September 11	1.00-2.00
Rochesters	1 3/4" & 2" min.	August 15 - September 5	.50-1.75
South Havens	2" min.	August 23 - September 10	.60-1.65
" "	2 1/4" min.	August 23 - September 10	.60-1.80
" "	1 3/4" min.	August 23 - September 10	.60-1.25
Elbertas	2" min.	September 4 - October 11	.75-1.85
"	2 1/4" min.	September 4 - October 11	.75-2.00
"	1 3/4" min.	September 4 - October 11	.60-1.50
Hales	2 1/4" min.	September 8 - September 20	1.25-2.15
"	2 1/2" min.	" "	1.10-1.25
Gold Drops	1 1/2 - 2" min.	September 23 - October 6	.60-1.25

PEACHES: PRODUCTION BY STATES, AVERAGE 1929-38, ANNUAL 1939-40 1/

State	Average	1939	1940
	1929-38	1939	1940
	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels
New Hampshire.....	18	17	10
Massachusetts.....	110	74	76
Rhode Island.....	26	12	18
Connecticut.....	164	84	130
New York.....	1,368	1,722	1,380
New Jersey.....	1,307	1,435	1,494
Pennsylvania.....	1,666	2,460	2,356
Ohio.....	788	1,212	443
Indiana.....	408	378	58
Illinois.....	1,553	1,800	255
MICHIGAN.....	1,568	2,760	1,682
Iowa.....	79	110	93
Missouri.....	782	1,140	538
Nebraska.....	41	70	58
Kansas.....	125	154	183
Delaware.....	299	422	437
Maryland.....	371	427	440
Virginia.....	906	1,025	1,392
West Virginia.....	284	315	446
North Carolina.....	1,922	1,305	1,344
South Carolina.....	1,141	1,636	1,915
Georgia.....	5,029	3,800	4,154
Florida.....	60	33	66
Kentucky.....	517	562	258
Tennessee.....	1,209	1,470	264
Alabama.....	1,335	1,705	700
Mississippi.....	798	1,034	420
Arkansas.....	1,718	2,615	2,040
Louisiana.....	269	409	442
Oklahoma.....	526	615	434
Texas.....	1,200	1,972	2,036
Idaho.....	133	136	207
Colorado.....	1,159	1,575	2,000
New Mexico.....	71	73	120
Arizona.....	58	51	50
Utah.....	439	564	574
Nevada.....	5	6	5
Washington.....	1,079	1,210	1,494
Oregon.....	276	391	352
California.....	21,914	24,293	22,418
UNITED STATES	52,723	61,072	52,772

Compiled from reports of Agricultural Marketing Service.
 1/ For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities unharvested on account of marketing conditions. In 1939 and 1940, estimates of such quantities were as follows (1,000 bu.): 1939, N. Y., 120; Utah, 32; Calif. clingstone, 542; 1940 Calif. clingstone, 625.

DISTRIBUTION OF MICHIGAN PEACH RAIL SHIPMENTS, 1940 SEASON

(Commercial)

State and City	Cars	State and City	Cars
Minnesota		Wisconsin (Cont'd)	
Minneapolis	2	Manitowoc	1
		Milwaukee	3
Wisconsin		Total	11
Appleton	1		
Green Bay	6	TOTAL.....	13

DAILY F.O.B. PEACH PRICES AT WESTERN MICHIGAN SHIPPING POINTS - 1940

Basis of sales: Truckloads f.o.b. cash at shipping point, warehouse packed stock, in BUSHEL

BASKETS & BOXES, U. S. No. 1.

HALE HAVENS				SOUTH HAVENS			
DATE	1 3/4" min.	2" & 2 1/4" min.	DATE	2" min.	1 3/4" min.		
Aug. 28		\$1.75	Aug. 28	\$1.40-1.50			
29		1.40-1.60	29	1.25-1.35			
30		1.25-1.35					
Sept. 2		1.35-1.60	Sept. 2	1.10-1.25		\$.90-1.00	
3	\$.90-1.00	1.30-1.50	3	1.00-1.25		.80-1.00	
4		1.40-1.65	4	1.40			
5	1.25	1.60-1.70	5	1.10			
6	1.00-1.15	1.30-1.60	6	1.10-1.15		.90-1.00	
8	1.00		8	1.30-1.50		1.00	
9		1.25	9	1.15			
ELBERTAS							
Sept. 10	\$1.25-1.35	\$1.65-1.75					
11	1.25-1.30	1.50-1.65					
12	1.00-1.25	1.25-1.50					
13	1.00-1.20	1.35-1.50					
15	1.25-1.30	1.40-1.60					
16	1.10-1.25	1.40-1.50					
17	.85-1.10	1.40-1.50					
18	.80-1.10	1.00-1.35					
19	.70-.85	.85-1.15					
20	.60-.80	.75-1.15					
22	.70-.80	.90-1.20					

BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET ON PEACHES, 1940 SEASON

Price range is for truckloads cash to growers, Bushel Baskets, U. S. No. 1, sizes as indicated.

		ORIOLES		ROCHESTERS		GOLDEN JUBILEES	
DATE	1 1/2" & 2" min.	1 3/4" & 2" min.	DATE	2" & 2 1/4" min.			
Aug.	12	\$.75-1.30					
	14	.85-1.25					
	15	1.00-1.25	\$1.50				
	16	.75-1.10	.85-1.35	Aug.	16	\$1.35	
	18		1.25-1.75		18	1.00-1.50	
	19	.75-1.10	1.00-1.50		19	1.00-1.50	
	20	.60-1.15	1.00-1.50		20	1.00-1.50	
	21	.90-1.25	1.00-1.65		21	.90-1.50	
	22	1.00-1.50	.85-1.60		22	1.40-1.75	
	23		1.00-1.75		23	1.00-1.60	
	25	.80-1.00	1.00-1.75		25	1.00-1.75	
	26	1.25-1.50	1.00-1.75		26	1.50-1.75	
	27	1.15	1.10-1.75		27	1.40-1.65	
	28		.75-1.50		28	1.00-1.40	
	29		.75-1.20		29	1.10-1.35	
	30		.50-.85		30	.60-1.00	
Sept.	2		.75-1.25				
	3		.75-.90				
	4		1.00-1.15				
	5		1.00-1.25				
		HALE HAVENS		SOUTH HAVENS			
		2" & 2 1/4" min.		2 1/4" min.		1 3/4" min.	
Aug.	23	\$1.60-1.75		\$1.30-1.50		\$1.00-1.25	
	25	1.40-2.00		1.40-1.75		1.25	
	26	1.50-2.00		1.50-1.75			
	27	1.50-1.90	\$1.35-1.65	1.35-1.80		1.10-1.25	
	28	1.50-1.85	1.00-1.50	1.25-1.75			
	29	1.25-1.75	.90-1.25	1.10-1.35		.60-1.00	
	30	1.00-1.35	.60-1.00	.60-1.00			
Sept.	2	1.10-1.75	1.00-1.35			.75-.90	
	3	1.20-1.60	1.00-1.25	1.00-1.30			
	4	1.35-1.75	1.10-1.50	1.10-1.50		.90-1.00	
	5	1.40-1.75	1.20-1.50			1.00-1.10	
	6	1.25-1.65	1.20-1.50	1.20-1.50			
	8	1.10-1.70	1.00-1.35	1.00-1.35		.85-1.15	
	9	1.25-1.50	1.10-1.35				
	10	1.20-1.30	1.00-1.15				
	11	1.20					
		HALES		HALES		ELBERTAS	
		2 1/4" min.		2 1/2" min.		2" min.	
Sept.	4			\$1.50			
	6			1.70-1.75			
	8	\$1.75		1.40-1.85	\$1.55-2.00	\$1.10-1.50	
	9	2.00-2.10		1.50-1.75	1.60-1.75	1.20-1.35	
	10		\$2.00-2.25	1.50-1.75	1.50-1.75	1.10-1.35	
	11	1.90-2.00	2.00-2.25	1.25-1.65	1.35-1.65	1.00-1.30	
	12	1.25-1.50	1.50-1.75	1.25-1.35	1.25-1.35		
	13		1.75-2.25	1.15-1.45	1.15-1.45	.90-1.15	
	15	1.50-2.15	1.90-2.50	1.25-1.50	1.25-1.50	1.00-1.25	
	16		1.85-2.00	1.20-1.50		1.00-1.25	
	17	1.25-1.50	1.75-2.25	1.20-1.45	1.20-1.45	.85-1.10	
	18		1.65-2.10	1.00-1.50	1.00-1.50	.75-1.10	
	19		1.10-1.50	.75-1.15	.75-1.15	.70-.95	
	20	1.25-1.75	1.25-1.75	.75-1.05	.75-1.05	.60-.85	
		GOLD DROPS					
		1 1/2" to 2"					
	22			1.00-1.30		.60-1.10	
	23	\$.70-.80		1.25-1.60		.70-1.25	
	24	.75-1.00		1.00-1.65		.70-1.10	
	25	.90-1.10		1.25-1.75	1.25-1.75		
	26	.90-1.25		1.20-1.50		.75-1.20	
	27	.90-1.15		1.00-1.50		.75-1.25	
	29	.75-1.00		1.10-1.50		1.00	
	30			1.10-1.30		.80	
Oct.	1	.90		1.50			
	2	1.05		1.25-1.60			
	3	.75		1.10-1.20			
	4			1.10-1.60			
	6	.60-.85		.85-1.50			
	7			1.10-1.25			
	8			.80-1.15			
	10			1.00-1.50			
	11			1.00-1.40			

SUMMARY OF PEACH MOVEMENT AND AVERAGE PRICE ON BENTON HARBOR CASH MARKET

(Season)	(Carlot Equivalents)	(Value per bushel)	(Total Value)
1931	1,170	\$.70	\$336,000
1932	1,665	.42	557,980
1933	91	1.79	65,425
1934	801	1.63	524,478
1935	1,692	.92	625,874
1936	1,668	1.61	1,073,976
1937	2,587	1.08	1,117,445
1938	1,286	1.35	694,532
1939	2,583	.68	702,660
1940	1,394	1.25	697,052

MICHIGAN PEACHES DAILY TRUCK MOVEMENT 1939 & 1940 SEASONS

(Truck carlot equivalents are on a basis of 400 bushels per carload. Truck movement over the Benton Harbor Cash Market.)

Benton Harbor Truck Carlot Equivalent			Benton Harbor Truck Carlot Equivalent		
DATE	1941	1940	DATE	1941	1940
Aug. 1		23*	Sept. 8	54	109
2		3.	9	53	Sat.
3		4.	10	46	106
4		3.	11	64	68
5	20**	Sat.	12	66	49
6	0	6	13	53	50
7	1	6	14	Sat.	36
8	2	7	15	94	10
9	1	12	16	58	Sat.
10	Sat.	18	17	75	12
11	2	14	18	72	6
12	2	Sat.	19	56	8
13	1	29	20	32	6
14	1	29	21	Sat.	6
15	3	45	22	36	3
16	4	49	23	12	Sat.
17	Sat.	65	24	9	9
18	6	61	25	10	3
19	10	Sat.	26	10	5
20	9	47	27	6	2
21	6	82	28	Sat.	4
22	10	88	29	11	1
23	13	50	30	3	Sat.
24	Sat.	52	Oct. 1	4	3
25	18	38	2	2	1
26	11	Sat.	3	2	1
27	33	81	4	1	1
28	61	65	5	Sat.	1
29	55	111	6	4	0
30	57	136	7	2	Sat.
31	Sat.	150	8	1	0
Sept. 1	--	135	9	2	0
2	84	Sat.	10	1	0
3	55	--	TOTAL.....	1,394*	2,583°
4	47	203	(*) Total through August 1, 1939.		
5	50	147	(**) Total through August 5, 1940.		
6	43	153	(°) Total through October 10, 1939.		
7	Sat.	145	(°°) Total through October 10, 1940.		

DAILY PRICE RANGE JOBBING SALES MICHIGAN PEACHES 1940 IN IMPORTANT MARKETS

C H I C A G O

Date	SOUTH HAVENS		HALE HAVENS		ROCHESTERS		
	2" min.	2" min.	2" & 2 1/4" min.	2" min.	2" min.	2" min.	
Aug. 26	\$1.90-2.00		\$1.75				
28	1.25-1.50		1.75-2.00		\$1.50		
29	1.00-1.50		1.50		1.00-1.50		
30	1.00-1.25				1.00-1.25		
Sept. 3	.90-1.50		1.40-2.00		1.00		
4	1.00-1.75						
5	1.50		1.85-2.00		1.10-1.15		
6			1.50-2.15				
H A L E S							
2 1/4" min.		1 3/4" min.		2" min.		2 1/4" min.	
Sept. 9				\$1.50-2.00			
10				1.40-1.90		\$1.50-1.70	
11				1.50-1.75		1.50-1.85	
12	\$1.75-2.00			1.40-1.75		1.50-1.85	
13				1.25-1.75		1.50-1.65	
16				1.25-1.60		1.25-1.75	
17			\$1.25	1.00-1.60		1.25-1.65	
18			1.00-1.25	1.00-1.50		1.00-1.35	
19	1.50		.65-.85	.85-1.25			
20	1.50		.50-.80	.70-1.35			
23				1.00-1.40			
24				1.25-1.50			
25			1.10-1.25	1.50-1.60			

S T. L O U I S

Date	SOUTH HAVENS		HALE HAVENS		ELBERTAS	
	2" min.	2" min.	2" min.	2" min.	2" min.	2" min.
Sept. 3	\$1.45-1.75		\$1.50-1.80			
4	1.50-1.90		1.50-1.90			
5	1.50-1.90		1.50-1.90			
10			1.50-1.90			
11					\$1.75-2.15	
12					1.80-2.25	
13					1.75-2.00	
16					1.75-2.00	
17					1.75-1.90	
18					1.40-1.75	
19					1.25-1.75	
20					1.25-1.60	
23					1.50-1.65	
24					1.75	
25					2.00	

DAILY PRICE RANGE JOBBING SALES MICHIGAN PEACHES 1940 IN IMPORTANT MARKETS

		CINCINNATI:		ELBERTAS:		KANSAS CITY:	
		SOUTH HAVENS	HALE HAVENS	ELBERTAS		ELBERTAS	
DATE		2" min.	2" min.	2" min.	2" min.	2" & 2 1/2" min.	
Sept.	3	\$1.30-1.50					
	4	1.30-1.50					
	6		\$1.90-2.00				
	9		1.75		\$2.15		
	12				1.75-1.90		\$2.15
	13				1.65-1.75		2.00-2.15
	16				1.60-1.75		1.50-1.75
	17				1.65		2.10-2.15
	18				1.50-1.65		2.00-2.10
	19				1.60		2.25-3.00
	20				1.60-1.75		1.50-1.75

		MILWAUKEE:		ELBERTAS:		MINNEAPOLIS:	
		HALE HAVENS	HALE HAVENS	ELBERTAS		ELBERTAS	
DATE		2" min.	2" min.	1 3/4" min.	2" min.		
Aug.	28	\$1.50-1.85					
	29	1.50-1.75					
	30	1.50-1.65					
Sept.	3	1.50					
	4	1.25-1.90					
	5	1.25-1.90					
	6	1.60-1.75					
	9	1.50-1.75	\$1.50-2.00		\$1.50		
	10	1.75	1.75-2.00				
	11	1.50	1.50-2.00				
	12		1.35-1.85				
	13		1.50-1.75				
	16		1.30-1.75		1.30		\$1.75
	17		1.50-1.75		1.40		
	18		1.25-1.50				
	19		1.35-1.40		1.10		1.75
	20		1.00-1.20				1.75
	23		1.15-1.40		1.05		1.00-1.50
	24		1.25-1.50				1.25-1.50
	25		1.25-1.50				

		DETROIT:	
		SOUTH HAVENS	HALE HAVENS
DATE		2" min.	2" min.
Aug.	28	\$1.75	
	29	1.50-2.00	
	30	.75-1.00	
Sept.	3	1.10-1.50	\$1.50-1.75
	4		1.50
	5		1.50
	6		1.25-1.50
	9		1.15
	10		1.15
	13		1.45

		HALES		ELBERTAS	
		2 1/2" min.	2 1/4" min.	2" min.	2 1/4" min.
Sept.	10			\$1.50	\$1.75
	11			1.40-1.50	1.50-1.65
	12	\$2.00-2.25	\$2.00-2.25	1.40-1.50	1.50-1.65
	13			1.40-1.50	1.50-1.65
	16	2.50	1.85-2.25	1.40-1.50	1.50-1.60
	17	2.25-2.50	2.15-2.25	1.40	1.50-1.60
	18		1.75-2.15	1.25-1.35	1.35-1.40
	19		1.50-1.75	1.25-1.37 1/2	
	20			1.10-1.25	
	23			1.25-1.35	

WEEKLY CARLOT PEACH SHIPMENTS FROM MICHIGAN AND PRINCIPAL COMPETING STATES 1940 SEASON

Week Ending:	Calif.	Colo.	Ida.	Md.	MICH.	N.Y.	Ore.	Pa.	Utah	Va.	Wash.	WVa.	TOTAL U.S.
Aug. 24	717	1439	76	23	0	0	16	2	47	150	228	0	2735
31	380	439	18	51	0	0	17	0	150	76	176	17	1428
Sept. 7	48	220	0	75	0	0	2	128	27	102	139	95	912
14	11	37	1	8	1	0	3	175	2	0	50	6	294
21	0	8	0	0	2	9	1	23	1	0	10	0	54
28	0	9	0	0	10	23	2	3	0	0	3	0	50
Oct. 5	0	0	0	0	0	13	1	2	0	0	0	0	16

TRUCK MOVEMENT OF 1937, 1938, 1939 & 1940 WESTERN MICHIGAN PEACH HARVEST FROM PRINCIPAL PACKING HOUSES OF SHIPPERS, ASSOCIATIONS, AND COLD STORAGE PLANTS:

PEACHES:	1937*	1938*	1939*	1940#
Bushels.....	243,988	256,700	536,700	345,080
Carlot Equivalents..... (basis 400 bushels to a car)	610	642	1,342	863

COMBINED TOTALS 1937, 1938, 1939 & 1940 HARVEST OF MICHIGAN PEACH SHIPMENTS:

PEACHES:	1937	1938	1939	1940
Carlot Shipments (rail).....	133 cars	6 cars	259 cars	13 cars
Truck movement from Ass'ns & packing houses.....	610 "	642 "	1,342 "	863 "
Movement over Benton Harbor Cash Market going out by truck (figures reduced to carlot equivalents, basis 400 bushels per car).....	2,587 "	1,286 "	2,583 "	1,394 "
TOTAL CARS...	3,330	1,934	4,184	2,270

Notes: * count taken from 22 West Michigan warehouses, # count taken from 17 West Michigan warehouses.