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USDA AUGUST CROP REPORT—

Michigan Bean Crop Estimate Is 5,947,000 Bags

Many early planted fields of beans in Michigan got off to a good start — as did this one — in the more fortunate areas of the State blessed by timely showers. Many others were not so fortunate, as the crop report on this page indicates. Consequently, the average yield prospects are the lowest in many years. The Saginaw County farmer pictured above is giving his beans — in the runner stage — a final cultivation.

DROUGHT CUTS PRODUCTION 27% FROM JULY REPORT

The U. S. Department of Agriculture estimated the Michigan bean crop at 5,947,000 bags in its August crop report, reflecting conditions as of August 1.

This estimate was 27% or 2,191,000 bags under the July estimate of 8,138,000 bags, indicating the severity of the prolonged summer drought in Michigan.

Production in 1964 was estimated at 7,450,000 bags, based on a yield of 1250 pounds per acre from 596,000 acres.

The August 1 crop report covering the 1965 crop indicated an average yield of only 950 pounds (slightly less than 16 bushels) from 626,000 acres for harvest. A month earlier, the July crop report indicated an average yield of 1300 pounds (about 21.7 bushels) per acre.

If the 1965 crop materializes as indicated, it would be the smallest crop since 1958 when an average yield of 975 pounds from 536,000 acres produced only 5,226,000 bags.

While the USDA did not give a variety breakdown in its August report, we would estimate that approximately 500,000 bags of the 5,947,000-bag crop would be colored varieties, leaving a Navy bean crop of 5,447,000 bags.

Despite the severe reduction in Michigan crop prospects, conditions in the rest of the country were generally favorable and total U. S. bean production on August 1 was estimated at 18,662,000 bags, up from the 1964 crop of 17,809,000 bags.

A tabulation of the August bean crop report by States with comparisons to July and to 1964 is shown in the adjoining column.

BEAN PRODUCTION ESTIMATES, AUGUST 1965

Listed below are the USDA bean production and yield estimates as of August 1, 1965, with comparisons to the July estimates and the final 1964 results. Note: yield shown in pounds per acre; production shown in 100-lbs. bags, clean basis.)

State	August 1965 Yield	August 1965 Production	July 1965 Yield	July 1965 Production	Final 1964 Yield	Final 1964 Production
MICHIGAN	950	5,947,000	1300	8,138,000	1250	7,450,000
New York	1250	1,212,000	1200	1,212,000	1100	1,166,000
Minnesota	1150	115,000	1150	115,000	650	39,000
N. Dakota	1500	330,000	1500	330,000	610	104,000
Nebraska	1600	1,216,000	1600	1,216,000	1550	1,116,000
Kansas	1100	121,000	1100	121,000	1100	77,000
Montana	1650	198,000	1650	198,000	1620	178,000
Idaho	1900	2,755,000	1950	2,828,000	1570	1,821,000
Wyoming	1500	750,000	1400	700,000	1370	685,000
Colorado	920	2,208,000	880	2,112,000	780	1,747,000
New Mexico	750	52,000	750	52,000	700	42,000
Utah	650	52,000	500	40,000	300	30,000
Washington	1890	397,000	1850	388,000	1830	384,000
Calif. Large Lima	1700	782,000	1700	782,000	1614	678,000
" Baby Lima	1750	245,000	1750	245,000	1528	275,000
" Other	1375	2,282,000	1350	2,241,000	1293	2,017,000
UNITED STATES	1200	18,662,000	1332	20,718,000	1221	17,809,000

BEAN MARKET COMMENTS

The curtain will ring down on the marketing year for the 1964 crop in a matter of a few days—August 31, to be exact.

When the date arrives the 1964 crop will be history. There will be little if any carryover from this large crop, and one of the most difficult to market in many years. Weather damage at harvest time last fall created a color problem in the white Navy beans, causing some early misgivings about quality and the ability to market the crop.

Statistically, this is how marketing of the 1964 crop shaped up as of July 31 on the basis of recorded official shipments through that date:

6,435,000 bags — Navy bean production 1964 crop
- 300,000 bags — for seed and home use

6,135,000 bags — available supply, Sept. 1, 1964
-5,635,000 bags — inspected shipments through July 31, 1965

500,000 bags — remaining August 1
- 300,000 bags — est. remaining CCC inventory of price support takeover 8-1-65

200,000 bags — commercially available August 1

While we don't know at this writing what August shipments will be, we know that in most recent years, the volume shipped during August would exceed the 200,000 bags as shown available by the statistics above.

We suspect that there are more beans available than the figures above would indicate, probably as a result of a slight underestimation of the 1964 crop. At any rate, it appears that there will be no carry-over in contrast to the record-breaking 1963 crop when more than 600,000 bags were carried over into the 1964 crop year.

With no carry-over and with less than rosy prospects for total 1965-crop production, the conditions would indicate a rather firm foundation for the 1965-crop market.

The August crop report indicates a Navy bean crop of about 5,400,000 bags of which about 5,100,000 would be available for market after deducting 300,000 bags for seed and normal disappearance. Domestic consumption is generally about 4,200,000 bags annually. This means that, if the crop turns out as predicted, we would have less than 1,000,000 bags available above domestic requirements and for export.

If export demand continues as strong as it has in each of the past four years, we would not have enough Navy beans to meet demand.

Canned Bean Output Shows Steady Rise

A substantial increase in the canning of dry beans, primarily baked beans, is indicated in preliminary data from the 1963 Census of Manufacturers just released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The 1963 canned bean pack totalled 70,160,000 cases (basis, 24 cans of No. 303 cans per case), up 20% from the 58,261,000 cases canned in 1958 and up 37% from the 51,152,000 cases canned in 1954.

Pork and beans (almost entirely Navy beans) accounted for 65% of the 1963 pack, according to USDA, with 7% vegetarian beans in sauce and the remainder, 28%, canned in brine or miscellaneous pack.

The 1963 pack of 70.1 million cases of canned beans utilized 5,800,000 cwt. bags of dry beans, according to USDA conversion factors. This is up from the 4,800,000 bags used in 1958 and 4,200,000 bags used in 1954.

USDA DISTRIBUTES BEANS FOR DOMESTIC RELIEF

In June, the USDA accepted bids to package 8,801,760 pounds of government-owned beans in 2-lb. packages for domestic donation through welfare outlets. The beans were Navy and Red Kidney beans acquired through price support operations.

This month USDA solicited bids to package 11,922,384 pounds of Navy, Great Northern and/or Red Kidney beans in 2-lb. packages from government-owned stocks. These beans are for delivery from the packager's plant in September and October.

USDA acquired 500,000 bags of Navies, 100,000 bags of Red Kidneys and about 35,000 bags of Northerns under the 1964-crop price support program.

CONSUMER INCOME AND SPENDING

Spurred by increased employment and higher earnings in the second quarter, seasonally adjusted personal income rose $8.3 billion from the first quarter to $519.9 billion at annual rates. Increases in wage and salary disbursements, and farm proprietors' income, accounted for most of the rise.

ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT

R. G. DODGE

The Wickes Corporation announced this month that Robert G. Dodge, divisional manager of Michigan Bean and Saginaw Grain divisions, had been elected an officer of the Corporation—Vice President responsible for Michigan Bean, Saginaw Grain and Marine Terminal, now combined as one agricultural division.

Mr. Dodge, who has been with Michigan Bean for 18 years, was manager of the bulk bean trading department from 1952 until 1960 when he was named assistant general manager.

He was named divisional manager in July of 1962, and in August, 1962, he was named divisional manager of Saginaw Grain Company, then operated as a separate division, in addition to his Michigan Bean responsibilities.

NEW MDA OFFICIAL

Appointment of John Calkins, Manistee, to the position of executive aide in the Michigan Department of Agriculture was announced by George S. McIntyre, director. Calkins, a veteran journalist-photographer in the field of natural resources, will reside in Lansing and head the Department's public information program as well as serve as executive aide to the director.

Prior to assuming the Department of Agriculture post, Calkins was for eight years forestry information administrator for Packaging Corporation of America at Filer City. Previous to that he was five-state district manager for American Forest Products Industries, Inc., Washington, D. C.

Calkins is a member of the Soil Conservation Society of America and treasurer of the Michigan Outdoor Writers Association. His articles and photographs have been published in many national magazines. He is a native of Michigan and grew up on a farm in Oakland County.

BEAN SANDWICH STILL POPULAR

Ever eaten a bean sandwich? If not, you've a surprise treat ahead and what better time than now!

Much can be said for the traditional New England staple of baked beans with brown bread. Beans like other legumes are unique in the amount of protein they offer though it does not rate as high as the animal proteins in eggs, milk, meat and cheese.

SNAPPY BEAN SANDWICH

½ cup dry Michigan Navy beans
1 quart water
½ teaspoon salt
½ cup chopped sweet pickle
2 tablespoons chili sauce
1 teaspoon horseradish
2 tablespoons spicy French dressing

Soak beans in the water overnight. Cook in the soaking water till tender. *Drain well and add in all other ingredients. Mix thoroughly and mash slightly. Makes enough filling for 6 sandwiches.

*QUICK METHOD which does not require overnight soaking: Bring beans to a boil and cook 2 minutes. Remove pot from heat and let beans stand 1 hour. Then simmer till beans are tender.

HOT BAKED BEAN SANDWICH

1½ cups canned baked beans
½ pound sliced American or Swiss cheese
6 slices bacon, fried crisp
6 slices of bread, plain buttered or toasted

Heat beans thoroughly and mash slightly. Spread beans on 6 slices of bread and top each with slice of cheese. Place on foil under low broiler flame till cheese begins to melt. Top with strip of bacon for open face sandwiches. Serve with pickle and olive.

OTHER COMBINATIONS: Baked beans with sliced olives, chopped egg, celery or dill pickles, piccalilli, catsup or chili sauce all make excellent fillings.

HORTICULTURIST NEW HEAD OF EXPERIMENT STATION

A Michigan State University horticulturist with an international reputation in scientific research and teaching has been named director of the University's Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dr. Sylvan H. Wittwer, a native of Utah, assumed his new duties Aug. 1. He will be an assistant dean in the MSU College of Agriculture and retain his title as professor of horticulture.

Dr. Wittwer succeeds Dr. Lloyd M. Turk who requested assignment to other duties for health reasons. Dr. Turk will serve as associate director of the Experiment Station. He has been director since 1953.

The new head of MSU's agricultural research division joined the Michigan State staff in 1946 and since 1951 has been a professor in the Department of Horticulture. He will direct a program with a staff of more than 200 scientists and an annual budget of more than $5 million. The Experiment Station has nearly 400 research investigations in progress.

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THOMAS D. KENNEDY ..... Editor

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PLASTIC MOUNTED BEETLES HELP CONTROL GRAIN PEST

Michigan farmers and 4-H'ers are rattling the chains they hope will restrain the cereal leaf beetle, a serious grain pest, and keep it from spreading further.

The "chains" are key chains. They're not large—but neither are the beetles, mounted in plastic, that adorn them.

"The plastic mounts are designed to help farmers and others make positive and immediate identification of the unwanted pests," reports John Newman, Michigan State University entomologist. "This, in turn, should help scientists keep track of the insect's movement and aid in its control."

BULLETIN BOARD

Victor "Vic" Van Daele is the new manager of the Emmett branch, Michigan Bean Division of The Wickes Corporation. Vic succeeds Frank Vedrode who will become assistant superintendent of the Michigan Bean terminal elevator in Saginaw. Vic has been associated with the feed, seed, fertilizer and farm supply business since 1934 and was formerly co-owner of Armada Grain Company.

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CROP state headquarters in Lansing recently received a "thank you" letter from Kola Ndote hospital in Shinyanga, Tanzania, upon receipt of a shipment of CROP Michigan navy beans contributed from funds collected from Michigan rural people in 1964. The beans were shipped for CROP by Michigan Bean Company on October 29, 1964. The hospital is a treatment center for lepers who, according to the hospital officials, were most appreciative for the added food in this food-short area of the world.

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An article from an Australian newspaper sent to us by a good friend in Melbourne tells of the boom in convenience foods "Down Under." The article says that a lot of new convenience foods have been launched in Australia in the last few years "but one of the oldest of them all, canned BAKED BEANS, had an 8.9 percent rise to the equivalent of 30.5 million 16 oz. cans, in the 10 months to April. The rise was on top of last year's big 25.9 percent increase in canned baked bean production."

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Recent visitors to the Michigan Bean plants and offices in Saginaw included a group of 16 seed technologists visiting the United States under AID (Aid for International Development) sponsorship. These visitors hailed from Afganistan, Ethiopia, India, Iraq, Morocco, Pakistan, and Thailand. A second group of visitors was made up of 16 exchange students from Nigeria who were in

(Continued on Page 4)

MICHIGAN WHEAT, CORN PRODUCTION ARE DOWN

While a severely dry summer is taking a serious toll of Michigan corn production this year, a severe winter took a heavy toll of the Michigan wheat crop.

The August 1 crop report issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture estimated the 1965 wheat crop in Michigan as 27,588,000 bushels, down almost a million bushels from the July estimate and almost 12,000,000 bushels below the crop of 39,273,000 bushels harvested last year.

Despite the serious reduction in Michigan's wheat crop, production in the United States as a whole was estimated to be up slightly over last year—1,376,276,000 bushels in 1965 compared to 1,290,468,000 bushels harvested last year.

The Michigan corn crop on August 1 was estimated to be 91,408,000 bushels, compared to the July estimate of 100,864,000 bushels and to 101,804,000 bushels harvested last year.

Here again, Michigan was bucking the national trend with total U. S. corn production estimated at 4,095,960,000 bushels compared to 3,548,604,000 bushels harvested last year.

Michigan soybean production was estimated on August 1 to be up about 600,000 bushels over 1964, while national production was estimated to be about 150,000,000 bushels above 1964.

What's In A Bean?

What's in a bean, nutrition-wise?

You may be interested to know that a little white Navy bean, not much bigger than the tip of your little finger, contains an amazing array of constituents.

Household Economics Research Branch, U. S. Department of Agriculture, states that a 100 gram portion of dry raw Navy beans contains the following:

Protein, 21.4 gm.; fat, 1.6 gm.; carbohydrates, 61.6 gm.; ash 3.9 gm.; calcium, 163 mg.; phosphorus, 437 mg.; iron, 6.9 mg.; Vitamin B values—thiamine, 0.67 mg.; riboflavin, 023 mg., niacin, 2.2 mg., ascorbic acid 2 mg., and food energy, 338 cal. Water content will vary with the relative dryness of the beans.

A serving of cooked Navy beans, ¾-cup size, will provide 20% of the daily protein requirement for a moderately active man; 10% of the calcium, 30% of the iron, 20% of the thiamine, 10% of the riboflavin, 20% of the niacin.

Dry beans and their close cousins, the dry peas and lentils, are food bargains, budget-wise and nutrition-wise, according to USDA.

SILOS RATE EQUAL IN HAYLAGE STORAGE

Haylage from a cement stave silo can be as good as that kept in a gastight silo, if proper storage and removal methods are used, according to a Michigan State University chemist.

Benny A. Brent pointed to his recent experiment which showed that "quite acceptable haylage" can be produced by using either storage method.

Price Support Rates, Dates For 1965 Crop

Bean price support warehouse loans will be available in Michigan from harvest through March 31, 1966, at the following support rates:

Navy beans	$6.90 CHP Grade
Dark Red Kidney beans	8.26 No. 1 Grade
Light Red Kidney beans	8.70 No. 1 Grade
Michigan Pinto beans	6.07 No. 1 Grade
Pink beans	7.32 No. 1 Grade
Small Red beans	7.42 No. 1 Grade

The above rates are for cleaned and bagged beans of the grade specified with all charges paid through the announced maturity date of April 30, 1966.

Growers desiring to participate in the price support program must file an application for price support not later than March 31, 1966, and those who have an approved application on file may obtain price support loans through March 31, 1966. This is a change from past years when growers had to apply on or before January 31.

BULLETIN BOARD —

(Continued from Page 3)

Michigan under sponsorship of Michigan State University.

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Michigan Bean Shippers Association will be represented next month at the ANUGA International Food Show at Cologne, Germany, September 25-October 3, as part of the U.S. Trade Display section at the Fair. Samples of European canned baked beans using Michigan Navy beans will be distributed, along with German-language recipes.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT —

Treat Beans Gently With Careful Combining

Michigan bean growers have earned an international reputation for their ability to produce abundant supplies of uniform, high quality beans. Too frequently a quality crop is carried through the growing season right up to the moment the bean vines start moving up the throat of the harvesting machine.

Here, too often, our quality reputation takes a beating at the same time that careless combining is giving the beans themselves a physical beating.

A chronic and increasing complaint on the part of our canner customers, both in the United States and abroad, is that Michigan Navy beans contain too many beans with broken, cracked or checked skin coats.

The canners object to damaged skin coats because the skin coat quite frequently separates from the bean in the canning process and floats on top of the can, making an unappetizing product in the eyes of the consumer. The canner—who is the major customer for Michigan Navy beans—is constantly striving to improve his finished product to better please his customer—the housewives and consumers.

To maintain a strong and expanding bean industry in Michigan, it is important that we turn out the kind of a product that our customers want.

Proper and careful harvesting can eliminate much of the cracked skin-coat problem.

There are many excellent kinds of combines and special harvesters on the market for the threshing of dry edible beans.

This equipment, in most cases, will do an excellent job of threshing beans if the time is taken to properly adjust and operate the machinery. Speed and adjustments should be carefully coordinated with the condition of the bean crop to be harvested. Failure to do so can result in costly losses to the grower—losses in both quality and quantity.

When adjusting the combine for optimum results, one must take into consideration the moisture content (relative "toughness") of the bean itself as well as of the vines, and the fact that moisture can change from day to day and within the day itself.

The moisture content of the bean itself is the best guide to follow in adjusting combines. Beans with a moisture content of 18% to 19% can be split and checked with an improperly set combine. It goes without saying that beans with a lower moisture content can be damaged much easier and consequently require more careful and gentle handling.

Frequent checks of the beans going into the combine hopper will tell you whether and when adjustments are necessary.

Primary points to watch are these: 1. Speed of rotary pick-up attachment; 2. Cylinder speed; 3. Concave setting; 4. Tailing and grain augers. Speed, clearance, depth of teeth, and worn parts are the critical areas for adjustments.

Good harvesting is a combination of the best in man and machine. The machine can do only as good a job as the operator permits.

KEEP CLOSE WATCH FOR GLASS IN FIELD

Nothing gives a food processor the "shakes" quicker than the thought of glass particles getting into the finished food product. Despite the most elaborate, modern and scientific quality control methods employed, this happens occasionally. When it does, it is most damaging and embarrassing to the canning firm or food processor involved.

Bean canners from time to time report the finding of glass particles in raw dry beans they unload at their plants.

Because of the serious nature of this complaint, Michigan Bean elevator personnel are under standing orders to maintain constant vigilance in the elevators to minimize the possibility of glass or other foreign material getting into beans as they go through the elevator. Pop bottles or any types of glass bottles are forbidden in the elevator area. Burned out light bulbs are to be removed and taken to the office for disposition. Broken windows are to be immediately swept up and disposed of in trash receptacles provided.

Glass is frequently picked up in the bean field during harvest as a result of carelessly tossed pop or beer bottles by a highway litterbug.

You can effectively help the bean industry and make a better market for your own beans by watching your fields carefully for any glass bottles that might be picked up in combining and, after breaking, leave glass particles in the beans.

FATAL FARM ACCIDENTS

Although the number of fatal accidents on farms declined during the 1954-63 period, the rate per 100,000 farm people increased, according to a report by USDA's Economic Research Service. The report tabulates the annual number and rate of farm fatalities from accidents between 1949-63. Included are figures on farm population, age groups, kinds of accidents, and regional accident rates.

GOVERNMENT DEMAND

Government purchases of goods and services, which have averaged about 20 percent of the Gross National Product in recent years, increased in the second quarter to $133.6 billion at annual rates. This compares with $131.0 billion in the previous quarter and $129.6 billion in the second quarter of 1964.

OUR BUSINESS IS

BEANS

• **BUYING**	Top market prices; in the market every day for all types of beans.
• **SELLING**	World-wide bean marketing organization working every day to serve you.
• **PROCESSING**	Electric-eye sorting equipment to meet most exacting requirements of both domestic and foreign customers.
• **PACKAGING**	Most extensive packaging operations in the industry, packing 26 kinds of beans, peas, lentils, barley and popcorn for nationwide distribution.
• **SHIPPING**	By the truckload, carload or boatload, MICHIGAN BEAN is one of the world's largest shippers of beans.
• **STORING**	Modern, bonded, sanitary storage facilities are available for farmer-customers who desire to store their beans in safe commercial storage.
• **PRICE SUPPORT**	Our warehouses are bonded and approved for storage of government-loan beans for customers who desire price support.
• **DRYING**	Wet or dry, we are equipped to handle your beans . . . at harvest time and all through the year.

Make these MICHIGAN BEAN Elevators your Harvest Headquarters

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Dick White, Manager

BIRCH RUN
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BLANCHARD
Kale Bradley, Manager

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"WHERE YOU CAN TRADE WITH CONFIDENCE"

Jack Rabbit

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WICKES
ESTABLISHED 1854