

Release
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RESERVATION CROPS VALUED AT \$4,315,539.00

Irrigated lands of the Yakima Indian Reservation produced crops valued at \$41.25 per acre according to figures compiled by N. W. Irsfeld, Project Engineer. 104,560 acres farmed on the Wapato, Ahtenum and Toppenish-Simcoe Projects yielded crops having a total value of \$4,315,539, an increase of \$4.25 per acre amounting to three quarter million dollars total increase over the 1934 crop. The figure is second high since 1930, the crop of 1933 yielding \$48.03 per acre and that of 1930 showing a value of \$43.74 per acre. The highest figure of record is the crop of 1929 which was shown at \$82.44 per acre as against the lowest of record, the 1932 crop value of \$22.00 per acre.

WAPATO PROJECT HIGH

The Wapato Project, with an abundant supply of water during the growing season was highest in returns per acre, 98,598 acres being valued at \$42.18 per acre for a total of \$4,159,409 with the Ahtenum Project second, 4094 acres producing crops valued at \$109,123 for a per acre figure of \$26.65. The Toppenish-Simcoe Project with no highly developed orchards was lowest, 1868 acres with crops valued at \$25.17 per acre showing a total value of \$47,000.00.

APPLE CROP LARGE.

Comprising but 2% of the total cropped acreage of the Wapato Project, the 2215 acres of apples produced the largest per acre and total returns of all crops, 352 packed boxes per acre being valued at 95½ cents per box for a per acre value of \$339 as compared with the 1934 crop of 300 boxes per acre at 76 cents per box. The 12% damage by the early fall freeze was more than offset by a cleaner crop which averaged about 16% heavier than that of last year. The total value of the crop is placed at \$750,000.00.

POTATO PRICES INCREASES

Damaged more severely than any other crop, 1523 acres of potatoes were left in the ground after salvaging proved too expensive. The balance of the crop on 6029 acres was dug prior to the freeze, producing 8½ tons per acre for a total of 51,791 tons valued at \$13.38 per ton, or \$91.73 per acre, an increase of 80% over last year's figure. Holdings normally at 2000 cars at this time have been reduced by 650 cars frozen and some 350 cars moved on the November market which at one time reached \$40 per ton. Present prices on the less than 1000 cars in storage are \$26 for No. 1s, \$19 for No. 2s and \$4 per ton on culls. The total value of this year's crop was placed at \$692,764.00, the second largest amount for one crop.

HAY PRICES LOW

Alfalfa yielding 3.6 tons per acre at \$6.19 per ton stack price, returned \$22.23 per acre on 28,680 acres, the total of \$638,000.00 being third on the list for crop totals. The acreage represents about 30% of the Wapato Project. Last year's crop was moved at \$8.75 in the stack with a slightly smaller yield per acre.

GRAIN YIELDS IMPROVE

With a long, cold spring, and moderate weather during filling, all grains showed increased yields over the 1934 crop. Barley produced 40 bu. per acre, oats 56, and rye 45. Wheat, the second largest cropped acreage produced 37.4 bu. per acre at 67¢ per bu., or \$25.20 per acre, 17,700 acres having a total value of \$446,000.00. The 1934 crop of 34 bu. per acre was moved at 70¢. Corn grown on 2425 acres yielded 44.3 bu. per acre valued at 46-3/4¢ per bu., amounting to \$22.96 per acre, the total value being placed at \$55,690.00.

SOME HOPS UNPICKED

The 1935 hop crop was valued at \$240 per acre; 1550 lbs. per acre being priced at 15½¢ per lb. A lower market price than this offered little inducement for growing costs and picking, resulting in the leaving on the vines of some 250 tons for which contracts had not been made. The majority of the 823 tons which were picked had been sold on previous contracts at from 12¢ to 30¢, less than 400 ton of the 1935 crop being valued at 9¢ per lb. the present market price. The total value of the hop crop was placed at \$257,000.00.

TRUCK GARDENS DAMAGED

Carrots, squash and cabbage showed heavy frost damage, with cantaloupes, tomatoes and melons showing heavy loss from blight. Tomatoes, yielding 3-1/6 tons per acre averaged \$32.75 per ton, or \$103 per acre. Cantaloupes, with a yield of 4 tons per acre, one-third under the 1934 crop were moved at 82½¢ per crate, the per acre value being \$121.51 or \$25 under the 1934 figure. Onions produced 11-3/4 tons per acre at \$12.81 per ton; 1615 acres having a value of \$243,486.00 or \$150.77 per acre, which is \$50 per acre better than last year's crop.

BEET GROWING INCREASES STEADILY

Jumping to 1553 acres planted in 1935, sugar beets are gradually coming back to their own as a part of the crop rotation plan of Reservation farmers. Blight resisting seed has given good yields, and since the abandonment of the valley factories makes it necessary to ship beets out, the crop has now become large enough to tax the shipping facilities when cold weather makes immediate shipment necessary. This year's crop produced 9-1/3 tons per acre, valued at \$6.65 per ton, altho additional returns may reach \$7 per ton. At \$62.18 per acre, the total crop was valued at \$96,597.

SMALL PROJECTS LOW

Totally dependent on natural run-off, the Ahtanum Project received less than 1 acre foot of water after the middle of June for each acre farmed. This supply diminished the yield of all crops, grains and potatoes suffering most. Alfalfa

produced 2.9 tons per acre; wheat $25\frac{1}{2}$ bu. per acre; barley $27\frac{1}{2}$ bu. per acre; corn $42\frac{1}{2}$ bu. and oats $48\text{-}3/4$ bu. per acre. Orchards, with the water supply supplemented by pumping from deep wells produced 552 packed boxes of apples per acre, which sold for 66¢ per box for a per acre value of \$364.20; 86 acres were valued at \$31,321.

With a slightly better water supply, the Toppenish-Simcoe Project showed a yield of 3-1/2 tons of alfalfa per acre on 556 acres; 80 bu. of corn; 64 bu. of oats and 29.3 bu. of wheat per acre. Potatoes produced 7.3 tons per acre, the 131 acre crop being dug prior to the freeze, moved at \$15.42 per acre. The total crop was valued at \$11,259, second to the wheat crop which was valued at \$12,622.

TOTAL ACREAGE INCREASES

Figures for the past 7 years on Reservation lands show a gradual increase in farming since the 1929-30 slump, the completion of Pumping Units No. 1 and No. 2 coming during this period. The list follows:

1929	-	90,308	acres	at	\$82.44	per acre	-	\$7,444,716
1930	-	89,556	"	at	43.74	"	"	4,366,351
1931	-	96,467	"	at	37.96	"	"	3,662,045
1932	-	89,904	"	at	22.00	"	"	1,972,460
1933	-	92,754	"	at	48.03	"	"	4,454,659
1934	-	99,731	"	at	37.00	"	"	3,690,790
1935	-	104,560	"	at	41.25	"	"	4,315,539

Average, excluding 1929 - \$39.20 per acre.