Growing Diverse Crops for Market

(Far left) Elwood Townsend dusts watermelon plants with insecticide. (Morgan County, 1922)

(Top right) Farmers load watermelons onto railcars for delivery to distant markets. (Georgia, 1928)

(Bottom right) H. W. Fitting of Lafayette plows his truck farm with a garden tractor made by the Walsh Tractor Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota. (Tippecanoe County, 1930)
(Top) Workers box cantaloupes in a packing shed at the C. M. Yates farm in Decker. (Knox County, 1920)

(Bottom) Picking cantaloupes on the Lane Farm in Decker (Knox County, 1917)
Horse-drawn wagons deliver cases of cantaloupes to the rail yard as part of a cooperative shipping program in Decker. (Knox County, 1922)

Handpicking strawberries (Indiana, 1931)

Edward Allen (right) and Joe Vandermark Jr. select the perfect pumpkin on a farm owned by Joe’s father. (Tippecanoe County, 1963)
Freshly picked strawberries in a carrier (Indiana, 1931)

A crew picks early blackberries on the Dan Moore farm in Evansville. Allen wrote, “Dan has already picked and sold 60 gallons from this patch, which is only a fraction of an acre, and they brought an average of 65 cents per gallon. He will have about 60 gallons more before the season closes, but the late ones will not sell quite so high.” (Vanderburgh County, 1925)

Picking red raspberries during harvest on the H. C. Myers farm (Tippecanoe County, 1927)

Men cut and pitch cabbages into a wagon on the farm of A. H. Hoeksema in Muscatine, Iowa. (Muscatine County, IA; 1929)
Chopping mint hay into a portable vat before transporting it to a mint still on the Van Johnston farm near North Judson (Starke County, 1957)

Bill Herdman harvests beets in a field owned by Schilling Greenhouse. (Indiana, 1938)

Boys weed a mint field by hand at the H. R. Stauffer farm in Nappanee. (Elkhart County, 1926)
Men pull soil up around plants to blanch celery. (Tippecanoe County, ca. 1915)

Japanese laborers hand-weed young celery plants on the farm of John C. Maurer and Sons in Stockton, California. (San Joaquin County, CA; 1932)
Memories of Life on the Farm

Workers grade and sort onions in the packing shed of Louis Ruderman in LaOtto, Noble County, 1929.

Sacks of onions on the farm of Theodore Kostas from Davenport, Iowa (Scott County, IA; 1929).

These workers load up crates of onions harvested from the Whit Gast farm in Akron, which produced an average of 1,600 bushels of onions per acre. (Fulton County, 1940)
Boys and girls sift dirt out of onion sets at the Wallace Piper farm in Racine, Wisconsin. They could pick and clean 25 bushels per day, earning eight cents per bushel. (Racine County, WI, 1922)