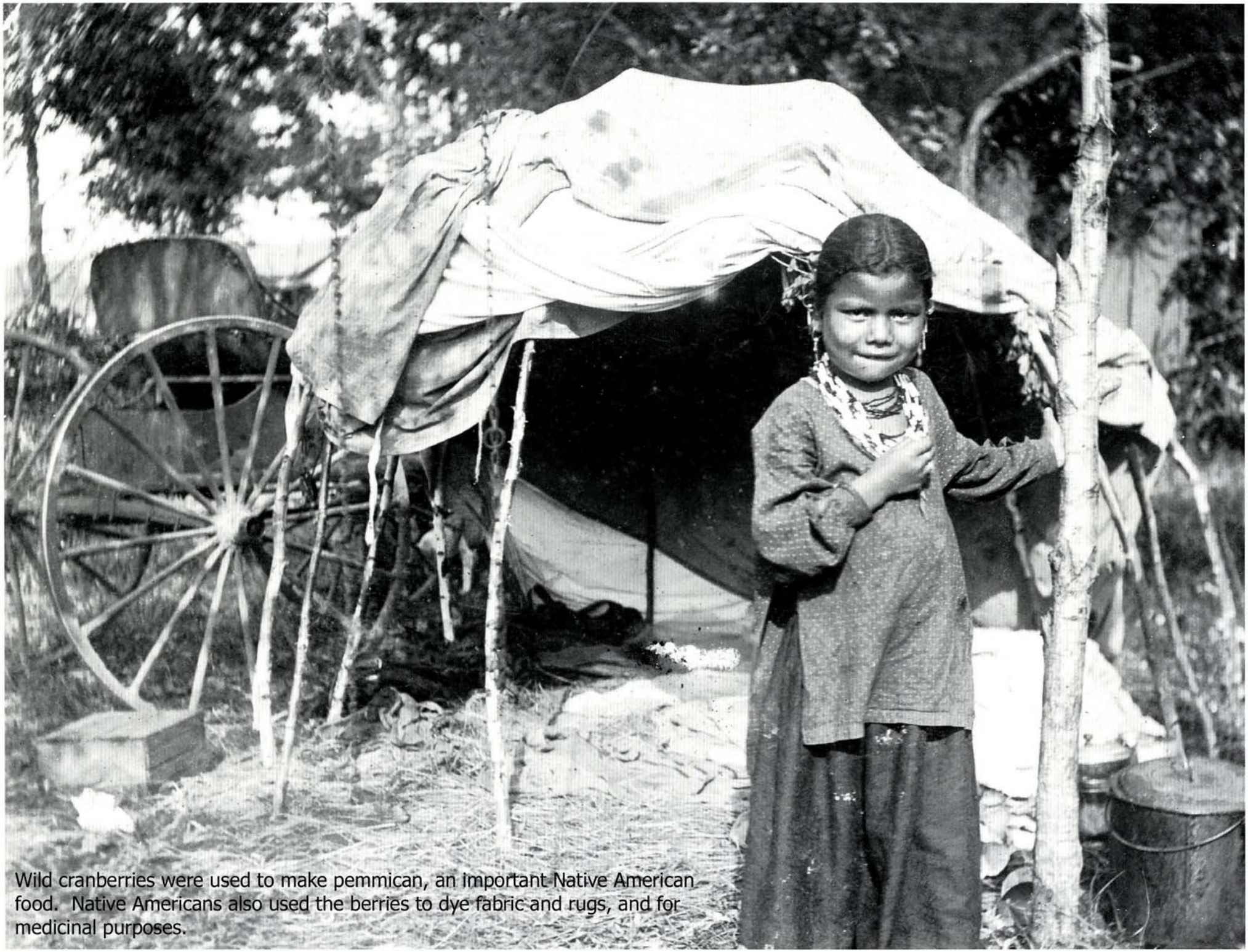
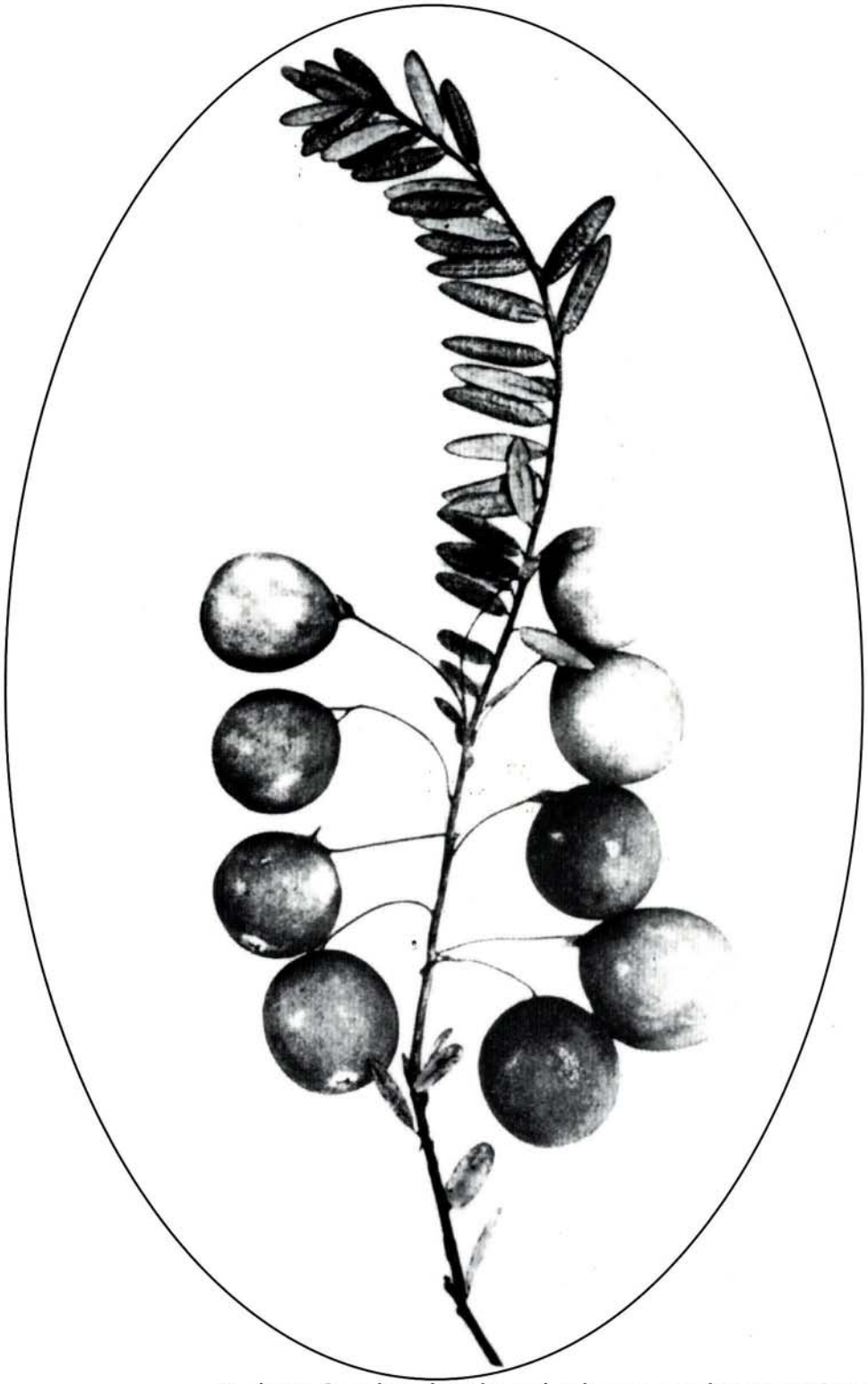


Wild cranberries were used to make pemmican, an important Native American food. Native Americans also used the berries to dye fabric and rugs, and for medicinal purposes.

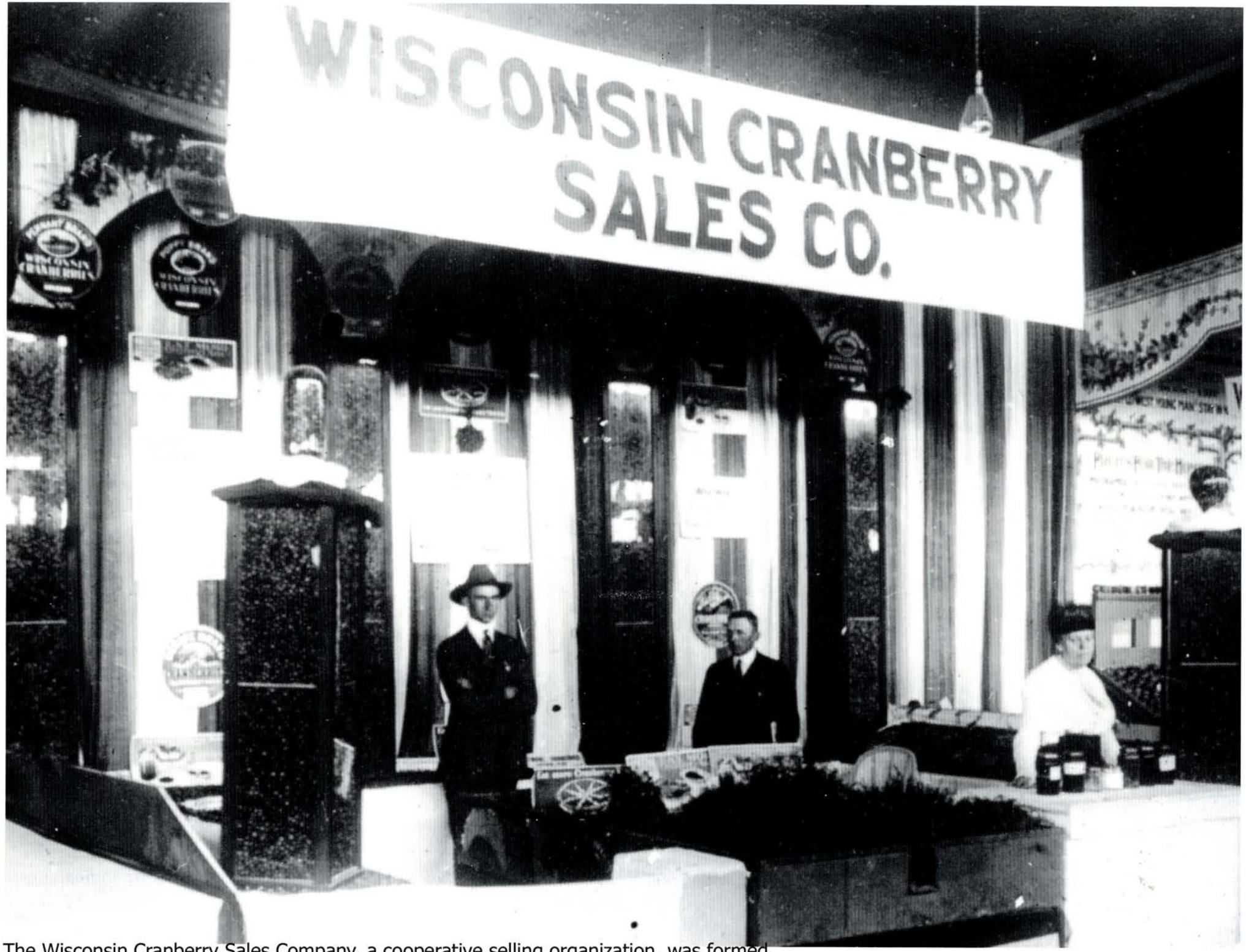
Early settlers named the fruit, "crane berry" because the flower resembles the head and neck of a Sandhill Crane.

The first commercially grown cranberries are planted, grown and harvested in Berlin, Wisconsin, in Green Lake County.



Andrew Searles developed a large cranberry variety, called the "Searles Jumbo," from a native Wisconsin berry.

A national standard for cranberries was established at 100 pounds per barrel.



The Wisconsin Cranberry Sales Company, a cooperative selling organization, was formed.

The flooding of marshes began to aid in the harvesting of cranberries.

Robert Case developed the first mechanical picker, meaning harvesting no longer needed to be done by hand.

Cranberry growers begin operations in Northern Wisconsin.

Sprinklers were introduced as a method of frost protection.

Electronic alarm systems for frost protection are developed. This technology helps the growers become more efficient and can result in less damage to the crops. Integrated Pest Management, or IPS, are also developed and put into practice. This program encourages pest management with minimal impact on the environment.