Sugarbeet crop returns to Northern Ohio growers approached the $30 per ton level for the first time in history today with announcement of another payment for 1973 beets by the Northern Ohio Sugar Company.

The payment will average $4.50 per ton.

It will be mailed Sept. 6 and will bring total average returns for the 1973 crop to $28.65 per ton to date. That's $13.54 more per ton average than all payments for 1972 beets, an increase of nearly 90 percent. The figures include Sugar Act compliance payments financed by a federal tax on the sugar industry.

The September payment will be the fourth made this year by Northern Ohio Sugar to more than 700 growers who produced beets last year near Fremont, Findlay and Blissfield, Mich.

The record disbursement was announced in Fremont by Robert N. Sanborn, area agricultural director for Northern Ohio Sugar. He said the additional payment will be made to keep growers up to date on their share of higher net proceeds from sugar sales.

Under their participating contract, growers share in net sales of sugar and by-products throughout the marketing year which ends Sept. 30. As a result, Sanborn said, another payment will be made to growers in October in final settlement for their 1973 crop. He said the amount will depend on results of the entire marketing year.

Ordinarily, growers receive three payments for their crop--in December, in the spring, and the October settlement. This year, because of higher net returns on sugar sales, they received one extra payment last July and will now receive another on Sept. 6.

The September payment will add up to nearly $1.3 million, making total returns for the 1973 beet crop to date more than $8.5 million.