Issue 16 – August 13, 2024

Crop Report

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Weekly Provincial Summary

- Agro-Manitoba received variable amounts of precipitation over the past seven days. Precipitation for the past week ranged from 0 to 44.6 mm (Table 1) with the Northwest and Interlake regions accumulating the largest amounts of precipitation. Moosehorn (44.6 mm) received the most precipitation.

Table 1. Range of seven-day accumulated precipitation (August 5 - 11) in Manitoba's Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location last Week	Driest Location last Week
Central	Portage (17.5 mm)	*Several* (0.0 mm)
Eastern	Stead (14.9 mm)	*Several* (0.0 mm)
Interlake	Moosehorn (44.6 mm)	Stonewall (0.0 mm)
Northwest	Rorketon (42.5 mm)	The Pas (3.1 mm)
Southwest	Waskada (13.3 mm)	*Several* (0.0 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to August 11 range from 186.4 mm to 281.0 mm and are based on 30-year historical data. Precipitation accumulation in most areas has exceeded 100% of normal precipitation since May 1.

- Soil Moisture 0 - 30 cm shows a regional representation of soil moisture conditions for the top 30 cm on August 11, 2024 relative to field capacity. The majority of agro-Manitoba is showing optimal or dry soil moisture conditions at the surface depths. Some localized areas are showing very dry conditions.

- Percent Normal Accumulated Growing Degree Days represents the variation of accumulated Growing Degree Days (GDD) from the historical record over a 30-year period from May 1 – August 11, 2024. GDD Accumulation is between 95% and 100% of normal for the majority of agro-Manitoba.

- To find interactive soil temperature/moisture and air temperature information see Agri-Maps Current Weather [viewer.](#)

Report compiled by Manitoba Agriculture
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Manitoba

Table 2: Percentage of Harvest Completion by Crop and Region to August 13, 2024

Crop	Southwest	Northwest	Central	Eastern	Interlake	MB AVG
Winter Wheat	25%	-	25%	5%	5%	17%
Fall Rye	40%	-	50%	80%	30%	39%
Spring Wheat	1%	-	1%	-	-	<1%
Barley	5%	-	10%	-	-	5%
Oats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Field Pea	2%	-	-	-	-	<1%
Canola	-	-	-	-	-	-
Potatoes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regional AVG	1%	-	1%	1%	-	1%

Crops still unharvested, or negligible acres displayed as – or omitted from this table.

Overview

Harvest continues in fall rye and winter wheat, and has started in spring wheat, barley, and peas. Yield reports are preliminary at this stage. Most spring cereals are at hard dough to physiological maturity. Corn fields range from silking to milk stage, with the latest fields at tasseling. The earliest seeded canola crops are well into ripening and seed colour change, with some swathing and pre-harvest applications occurring. Sunflowers range from R4 (inflorescence beginning to open) to R5.9 (90% flower), with the earliest fields completed flowering and starting seed development. The earliest peas are at physiological maturity, and harvest has started. Soybeans are in the R3 (beginning pod) to R5 (beginning seed) stages, with the majority at R4 (full pod).

Cereals

- Fall rye and winter wheat are drying down with most fields at physiological maturity. Harvest has started and early yield reports range from 90 to 120 bu/acre for fall rye, and 40 to 110 bu/acre for winter wheat in the central and eastern regions.
- Most corn fields range from the silking to milk growth stages, with the latest fields at tassel.
- Most spring cereals range from hard dough to physiological maturity. Later seeded spring cereals are in the soft dough stage. Harvest has started in barley and spring wheat. Pre-harvest applications continue.
- Spring wheat quality is rated mostly good with 5% of the crop being reported as poor in the Southwest, Northwest, Central, and Interlake regions (Table 3).

Table 3: Spring Wheat Quality Rating by Region

	Southwest	Northwest	Central	Eastern	Interlake
Excellent	10%	20%	20%	-	20%
Good	55%	60%	65%	70%	65%
Fair	30%	15%	10%	30%	10%
Poor	5%	5%	5%	-	5%
Very Poor	-	-	-	-	-

Oilseeds

- The earliest seeded canola is in the pod fill to early ripening stage, with some swathing and pre-harvest applications occurring. The last fields seeded are at the end of flowering and the beginning of pod fill.
- The earliest seeded sunflowers have completed flowering and reached R6 (seed development), with later seeded fields ranging from late R4 to R5.9 (90% flower).
- Most flax fields range from growth stage 10 to 11.

Pulses and Soybeans

- The earliest field peas are at R7 (physiological maturity), with pre-harvest applications mostly complete and harvest starting. Later seeded field peas are in the R5 to R6 stage.
- Soybeans are in the R3 to R5 stage, with the majority in R4 (full pod).

Forages & Livestock

Forages

- Good progress has been made putting up hay and silage. First cut of most tame forages is complete and work on native stands continues.
- Dairy producers have completed second cut of alfalfa fields and are reporting good yields.
- The majority of first cut beef hay harvest is complete, and producers are continuing with second cut of tame hay. Second cut growth could use additional moisture.
- The high humidity and heavy morning dew has made it difficult for hay to dry, which will lower quality. More producers than typical have opted to use grass intended for hay as bale silage.
- Cereal silage is about half done and yields look to be average to above average. Yields in the northwest region reported to be 8 tons/acre.

Livestock

- Pastures are slowing due to recent heat and dry conditions, with rotationally grazed pastures performing best in the drier conditions. Pasture management practices are making a difference, but limited soil moisture reserves are affecting pastures.
- In the eastern region cattle on pasture are in excellent condition.
- Producers are attempting to control fly numbers on pasture and are looking for pink eye and foot rot where conditions remain wet underfoot.
- Dugouts are at 80% of normal capacity, and water supplies on pasture are reported to be adequate.

Regional Comments

Southwest

The Southwest region has experienced normal temperatures throughout the week, with very little to no rain. Crops are beginning to show the effects of these dry conditions. Rainfall at this stage would be beneficial for later seeded crops and soybeans, corn, and sunflowers.

Winter cereal harvest has started with 25% of the winter wheat and 40% of the fall rye crop estimated as complete. Spring cereals, including wheat, barley, and oats, are maturing quickly with most of the crops in the hard dough stage. Crops are developing well without major issues. Early seeded wheat is receiving preharvest applications and some fields have been harvested. Barley is ripening rapidly due to the hot weather, and harvest is estimated at 5% complete.

Canola is in the pod fill stage. Sclerotinia and aster yellows are starting to become more noticeable in fields but levels are low.

Soybean crops are at the R4 to R5 stage of development, with the majority in the R4 stage. A rainfall in the next week to 10 days would help with pod fill and development.

Flax fields are in the green capsule stage. Sunflowers are in the late R4 to early R 5.5. Corn is advancing well and benefiting from the hot weather, though it still needs adequate moisture. Most corn is in the R1 stage.

Northwest

A cooler and wet week for most of the region, with warmer conditions towards the weekend. Most areas received precipitation with The Pas station receiving the least at 3 mm and Rorketon receiving the most with 43 mm. The lowest overnight temperature was 3.8 degrees at Ruthenia station.

Winter wheat and fall rye crops are moving towards grain ripening. Spring wheat is in the dough development stage, with most of the crop in the soft and hard dough stages. Later seeded fields continue to catch up. Some advanced fields have received pre-harvest glyphosate.

Most field peas are in the R5 to R6 stage with the remainder of the crop closely behind. Earliest fields have reached the stage of desiccation with harvest beginning on a few fields.

The majority of the canola crop has completed flowering. Some later seeded crops in the Dauphin area continue to wrap up flowering.

Soybeans are in the R3 to R5 stage and looking good. Recent heat has helped advanced the crops quickly, and recent rain helped with pod fill. Crops in Dauphin region are at younger developmental stages.

Central

Most of the Central region was warm and dry this week. Portage (17.5 mm) and Elie (13.7 mm) received modest rainfall, but most locations received little or no rainfall. Fields have dried since the high rainfall earlier in the year, but dead spots in low lying areas from wet conditions can be seen from excess moisture earlier in the season. It is likely that the moist conditions in the spring have limited root growth in many crops. This is starting to become a challenge as water becomes depleted in the top layers of the soil. Many producers are now hoping for rainfall for their longer season crops including corn, sunflowers, and soybean. On lighter soils there are reports of moisture stress in later planted corn and soybeans.

Fall rye and winter wheat are at physiological maturity and are drying down or ready to harvest. Harvest is underway with approximately 50% of fall rye and 25% of winter wheat harvested. If conditions persist, most of the

winter cereal crop will be harvested over the coming week. Early yield reports are in the 90 to 120 bu/acre range for fall rye and 90 to 110 bu/acre range for winter wheat.

Most spring wheat is between hard dough and physiological maturity, with pre harvest applications continuing to be applied this week. A small proportion of spring wheat fields (1%) have been harvested, with much progress expected over the coming week. Most oats and barley are at hard dough to physiological maturity. Barley harvest is approximately 10% complete, although progress varies greatly across the region. Later seeded spring cereals are in the soft to mid dough stages. Some lodging is present in barley and wheat fields due to high winds and rainfall earlier in the season, but much of the early season lodging has recovered. Many farms have reported increased root rot this year some fields that received rainfall at anthesis have elevated levels of ergot bodies around field edges. Producers are considering harvesting these areas separately.

Field peas are at R7 (physiological maturity), with a few still at R6 (mid maturity). Desiccation is complete, and harvest is approaching. Harvest may be difficult for some due to many pea crops ripening unevenly, with areas of the field previously saturated maturing more rapidly than freer draining areas of the field.

Soybeans are between full pod (R4) and beginning seed (R5). A small number of soybean fields were planted after MASC insurance deadline, and these are at earlier stages.

Canola is at pod fill, with only a few of the latest fields at the end of flowering. The earliest fields are at physiological maturity, with reports of a few fields swathed. More farmers are expected to begin swathing and desiccating within the next 10 days. Warm conditions at flowering have led to increased incidence of heat blast in some fields.

Flax is mostly at stage 10 (green capsule), with the earliest fields approaching stage 11 (brown capsule).

The earliest sunflower fields have completed flowering and have reached R6 (seed development), however most are somewhere in the mid R5 stages (flowering).

Silage and grain corn growth has progressed rapidly over the past weeks, with warmer temperatures greatly improving the look of fields. Most corn fields are between silking and blister, but the earliest fields are at milk.

Eastern

Rainfall accumulations across the Eastern region ranged from trace amounts to 15 mm. A few isolated but intense thunderstorms and hailstorms occurred causing low to moderate levels of crop damage, particularly in some central districts. In some central and southern districts, moisture stress symptoms have been noted in later planted corn and soybean stands, particularly those on lighter textured soils or in situations where excess moisture impeded good root development. Late August rains in these areas would be viewed as beneficial to maintain yield. Daytime and nighttime temperatures dipped to below normal levels by mid-week but returned to normal levels by the end of the weekend.

Harvest of fall rye is ongoing and is expected to wrap up this week. Winter wheat harvest had begun in earnest over the weekend with widespread progress expected this week if weather allows. Early yield estimates ranged from 40 to 90 bu/acre with an average of 75 bu/acre. Pre-harvest herbicide applications and/or swathing are expected to become widespread this week on the earlier seeded spring cereals. The latest fields of spring cereals seeded ranged from soft dough to early hard dough.

Corn ranges from blister to milk growth stages in earlier seeded fields that had not been overly saturated by rainfall. Very late seeded crops and field areas that suffered significant soil saturation remain delayed in their development. Growers hope for continued warm temperatures and adequate soil moisture to ensure further improvements with this crop.

Soybean growth stage generally ranged from early R3 (beginning pod) to early R5 (beginning seed) with most fields at R4 (full pod) and many producers and agronomists noting that soybean crops are more variable in their development from field to field than in past years. While soybean aphids, green cloverworms and grasshoppers in the crop have been noted, pest numbers and/or the amount of crop defoliation found have been below economic thresholds. Producers and agronomists will continue to monitor their fields given they are still in susceptible growth stages. Crop condition was generally rated as good.

The earliest seeded canola crops are well into seed colour change with some pre-harvest herbicide applications and/or swathing possible this week. The last fields seeded had dropped all or most of their flowers and are well into pod filling.

Most field pea stands are at the R7 (physiological maturity) growth stage and pre-harvest herbicide applications are mostly complete. There is a lot of variability across fields. Crop in previously saturated field areas is already fully dried down due to root rot infections. In severely affected field areas, pod shatter has started to occur. Harvest timing and management will present some challenges for growers given the unevenness of the crop.

A lot of developmental variation remains within and across sunflower fields. Early seeded fields that were less affected by excess moisture have completed flowering and are at early R6 (seed development) although ray flowers have not begun to wilt. The last seeded fields vary from some plants being at very late R4 (inflorescence opening) to most plants being between R5.3 (30% flower) and R5.9 (90% flower). Overall crop condition is considered good at this point.

Over the last week, flax demonstrated an ongoing transition of plants from growth stage 10 (white capsule) to growth stage 11 (green capsule) with stem and leaf colour change from green to tan and brown becoming very evident. Overall crop condition is rated as good.

Interlake

Weather conditions across the Interlake region this past week were generally rainy with trace and localized heavy rainfall. Precipitation was variable with strong winds and thunderstorms. Rainfall accumulation ranged from 0 to 44.6 mm. Temperatures reached 26.6°C last week, with average temperatures of 15.5°C to 16.4°C.

Winter wheat and fall rye growth stages range from hard dough to physiological maturity with no major issues. Fall rye harvest has started in the South Interlake area but no yield reports yet.

Spring wheat, barley, and oats are at the hard dough stage. Pre-harvest applications are ongoing in spring cereals. The majority of spring wheat is rated as good across the region. Most of the grain corn is at the tassel to milk growth stages.

Most peas are at R4 to R5 stage and starting to turn. Soybeans continue to flower. The most advanced fields are R2 to R4, with the majority at the R3 growth stage. Minimal signs of iron deficiency chlorosis (IDC) remain.

The earliest seeded canola fields are in full pod to early ripening stages. Later seeded fields are still flowering. Sunflowers range from the R3 to R5 stage, with the earliest seeded fields approaching early R5.5. Flax is at growth stage 10.