

Issue 17 – August 20, 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 mm to 54.8 mm (Table 1) with the southern areas of the Central and East regions accumulating the largest amounts of precipitation. Kane (54.8 mm) received the most precipitation.

Table 1. Range of seven-day accumulated precipitation (August 12 - 18) in Manitoba's Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location last Week	Driest Location last Week
Central	Kane (54.8 mm)	Lakeland (2.9 mm)
Eastern	Zhoda (43.5 mm)	Stead (12.7 mm)
Interlake	Stonewall (24.7 mm)	Severai (0.0 mm)
Northwest	Grandview (41.8 mm)	Swan Valley (0.0 mm)
Southwest	Reston (47.7 mm)	Newdale (2.4 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to August 18 range from 205.3 mm to 296.8 mm and are based on 30-year historical data. Precipitation accumulation in most areas have exceeded 100% of normal precipitation since May 1. Much of the Central region has accumulated more than 120% compared to the 30-year average.
- Soil Moisture 0 - 30 cm shows a regional representation of soil moisture conditions for the top 30 cm on August 18, 2024 relative to field capacity. Soil moisture is variable across agro-Manitoba with the majority showing optimal or wet soil moisture conditions at the surface depths. Some localized areas are showing very dry conditions. Southern areas of the Central and Eastern region are showing wet 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 18, 2024. GDD accumulation is between 95% and 105% of normal for the majority of agro-Manitoba.
- To find interactive soil temperature/moisture and air temperature information see Agri-Maps Current Weather [viewer](#).

Table 2: Percentage of Harvest Completion by Crop and Region to August 19, 2024

Crop	Southwest	Northwest	Central	Eastern	Interlake	MB AVG
Winter Wheat	70%	5%	80%	95%	25%	60%
Fall Rye	80%	5%	95%	95%	60%	72%
Spring Wheat	1%	1%	7%	1%	2%	3%
Barley	5%	-	40%	-	-	15%
Oats	-	-	10%	1%	-	3%
Field Pea	20%	5%	40%	-	5%	21%
Canola	-	-	1%	-	-	-
Potatoes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regional AVG	2%	-	6%	1%	1%	3%

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

Overview

Harvest continues in winter cereals, spring cereals, and peas. Over the past week harvest has started in canola. Yield reports are preliminary at this stage but range from 40-110 bu/acre for fall rye and winter wheat. Pre-harvest herbicide applications and swathing in spring cereals and canola continue as stages are reached. The latest spring wheat is in the soft dough stage, and the latest canola ranges from flowering to pod fill. Corn fields range from silking to milk stage, with the latest fields at tasseling. The earliest sunflowers have completed flowering and are in the R6 (seed development) stage. Most flax is in the brown capsule stage. Soybeans range from the R4 (full pod) to R6 (full seed) stage.

Cereals

- Harvest continues in fall rye and winter wheat. Early yield estimates are 80 to 110 bu/acre in the Central region and an average of 75 bu/acre in the Eastern region.
- Spring cereal harvest has started, with 3% of spring wheat and oats, and 15% of barley estimated as complete. Pre-harvest herbicides continue as stages are reached. The latest spring wheat is in the soft to hard dough stage.
- Corn ranges from the R1 (silking) to R3 (milk) stage.
- Spring wheat quality is rated mostly good with 5% of the crop being reported as poor in the Southwest, Northwest, and Central regions (Table 3).

Table 3: Spring Wheat Quality Rating by Region

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

Oilseeds

- Canola harvest has started in the Central region. Swathing and pre-harvest applications are ongoing throughout the province. Latest seeded fields range from flowering to pod-fill.
- The earliest seeded sunflowers have completed flowering and reached R6 (seed development), with later seeded fields in the R5 stage (flowering).
- Most flax fields are in growth stage 11 (brown capsule), with later fields at growth stage 10.

Pulses and Soybeans

- Field pea harvest is ongoing. In the Central region, yield estimates are 30 to 55 bu/acre. Yields are reported as average in the Southwest region. Later seeded fields are in the R6 to R7 stage with harvest expected to begin shortly.
- Soybeans in the Southwest, Northwest, and Interlake regions are mostly in the R4 to R5 stage. In the Central and Eastern regions soybeans are at R5 to R6.

Forages & Livestock

Forages

- Warm weather and rainfall in the areas that received it have improved forage growth. Moisture is welcome to replenish root reserves for winter.
- Good progress has been made putting up hay and silage. First cut of tame forage is complete and work on native stands and slough hay continues.
- Dairy producers have completed second cut of alfalfa fields and are reporting good yields, many have completed a third cut in the Central region.
- First cut beef hay harvest is complete, and producers are continuing with second cut of tame hay. In some areas second cut of tame hay is complete. Yields are being reported as very good in the Eastern region.
- 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 continues and yields look to be average to above average.
- When contemplating harvesting alfalfa, producers need to be mindful of the critical harvest fall period ([critical harvest fall period for alfalfa](#)).

Livestock

- Pastures have improved in areas that received rainfall over the past week.
- Pastures are slowing due to recent hot and dry conditions, with rotationally grazed pastures performing best in the drier conditions. Pasture management practices are making a difference, but recent rains may not help overgrazed 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 70% of normal capacity, and water supplies are reported to be adequate.

Regional Comments

Southwest

The Southwest region received rainfall throughout the week and temperatures were cooler. Rainfall was beneficial for later seeded crops, especially soybeans, corn and sunflowers.

Winter wheat and fall rye are being harvested with average to above average yields being reported in fall rye and average yields being reported in winter wheat. Spring cereals are maturing quickly, and most crops are developing well without major issues. Fusarium head blight is appearing, particularly in unsprayed fields of spring wheat, but the incidence is low at this stage. Most of the wheat crop is receiving preharvest applications and harvest may begin later in the week. Barley is ripening rapidly due to the hot weather and some fields have been harvested. Early barley yield estimates look to be average. .

Canola is in the pod fill to seed color change stage. Sclerotinia is starting to become more noticeable, especially fields that did not have fungicide application. Blackleg has also become more noticeable.

Producers have started pea harvest with yields reported to be average so far.

Soybean crops are at the late R4 to R5 stage of development, with most of the crop in the R5 stage. Recent rainfall was well timed to help in pod fill and development.

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

Northwest

Warm temperatures with scattered showers across most of the region mid-week. Grandview received the most precipitation at 42 mm. Temperatures were in mid to high 20's with Birch River station recording highest daytime temperature of 29.3 degrees. Lowest overnight temperature was at Ruthenia station at 6.8 degrees.

Harvest has begun on winter wheat and fall rye crops. Yield estimates are not available at this time.

Most field peas are in the R6-R7 stage, with a few later fields in the R5 stage. Earliest fields have been harvested with the remainder being desiccated and awaiting the appropriate pre-harvest interval and dry down. Crop desiccation will continue as proper stages are reached.

Most spring wheat in dough development stage with earliest seeded fields moving towards maturity. Later seeded fields continue to catch up. Pre-harvest glyphosate is occurring as stages are reached. A small start to spring wheat harvest so far..

Majority of canola crop has completed flowering and continues in pod development and maturity. A small start to swathing/desiccation has begun on earliest maturing fields.

Soybean crops are in the R4-R5 stage and are looking good. Recent heat has helped advance the crops quickly. Recent rain has helped with pod fill.

Central

Most of the Central Region received rain this week, with Kane (54.8 mm), Windy Gates (50.5 mm), and Emerson (48.2 mm) receiving the most. This rainfall was well received by producers with longer season crops including corn, sunflowers, and soybean. The only locations to receive less than 20 mm were in the Northwest of the Central Region, with Lakeland (2.9 mm), Plumas (3.7 mm), Gladstone (5.4 mm) and Austin (11.8 mm) receiving the least.

Harvest is underway for fall rye and winter wheat, with the remaining crop at physiological maturity and drying down. Winter wheat harvest is 80% complete and fall rye harvest is 95% complete. Early yield estimates for fall rye and winter wheat are 80 to 110 bu/acre.

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 (7%) have been harvested, with much progress expected over the coming week. Early yields are in the range of 70 to 90 bu/acre. Many farms have reported increased root rot this year, and some fields which received rainfall at anthesis have elevated levels of ergot bodies around field edges. Producers are considering harvesting these areas separately. Levels of fusarium head blight (FHB) vary greatly from field to field with some having very little and others having more substantial issues with FHB.

Most barley is at hard dough to physiological maturity. Barley harvest is approximately 40% complete, although progress varies greatly across the region. Preliminary yields are in the range of 90 -115 bu/acre, however the highest yielding crops are as high as 130 bu/acre. Most oats are at hard dough to physiological maturity with the earliest fields being swathed and harvested, with early yields reported in the range of 110 – 180 bu/acre. There is a greater volume of straw being reported on many farms this year.

Field pea harvest is underway, with approximately 40% of peas harvested and preliminary yields in the range of 30 to 55 bu/acre. Peas not yet harvested are at R7 (physiological maturity) and are drying down with desiccation complete. Harvest has been difficult for some due to pea crops ripening unevenly, with areas of the field previously saturated maturing more rapidly than freer draining areas of the field. This has been compounded due to higher levels of stem and root diseases this year.

Soybeans are at R5 (beginning seed), with a small number at R6 (full seed). Some fields have high levels of soybean aphid, but levels vary greatly within the field.

Canola is at pod fill, with the earliest fields at physiological maturity. Several of the most advanced fields have been swathed and a very small number have been harvested. Warm conditions at flowering have led to increased incidence of heat blast in some fields. Sclerotinia and aster yellows are being observed in crops.

Flax is at stage 11 (brown capsule). The earliest sunflowers have reached R6 (seed development), however most are in the late R5 stages (flowering). Most corn fields are from blister (R2) to milk (R3), but some of the later planted fields are still silking (R1).

Eastern

Rainfall accumulations across the Eastern region ranged from 13 to 44 mm. Central and southern districts received higher amounts of rain with 30 mm or more, while northern districts experienced less than 20 mm at most locations. The rain was welcomed by most producers since long season crops like corn and soybeans were starting to show moisture stress symptoms. Given the long planting season this spring, all growers hope for favourable harvest weather over the coming weeks.

Harvest of fall rye and winter wheat is almost complete. Yield estimates range from 40 to 90 bu/acre with an average of 75 bu/acre with good quality. Pre-harvest herbicide applications and/or swathing became widespread on earlier seeded spring cereals. A few fields of spring wheat and oats have been harvested but not enough progress was made to establish yield or quality data. Harvesting and pre-harvest applications will continue this week. The last fields of spring cereals seeded ranged from soft dough to hard dough depending on planting date.

Corn ranges from late blister to milk growth stages in earlier seeded fields. Very late seeded crops and field areas that suffered significant soil saturation remained delayed in their development.

Soybeans range from the R5 (beginning seed) to R6 (full seed) growth stages, with the majority at the R5 stage. While soybean aphids, green cloverworms and grasshoppers in the crop have been noted, pest numbers and/or the amount of crop defoliation found have usually been below economic thresholds and instances of insecticide application have been rare. Producers and agronomists will continue to monitor fields; however, moving into the R6 growth stage will start to alleviate pest concerns over the coming weeks. Crop condition is rated as good.

Pre-harvest herbicide applications and swathing are ongoing in the earlier seeded canola crops. The last fields seeded are well into pod filling with some demonstrating straw colour change.

Field peas are at the R7 (full maturity) growth stage and drying down. Pre-harvest herbicide applications were completed last week and harvest is expected shortly. Harvest timing and management will continue to present some challenges given the uneven dry down of the crop and the tendency of diseased plants to have pods shatter.

Early seeded sunflower fields that were less affected by excess moisture are at the R6 (seed development) growth stage with ray flowers well wilted. Later seeded fields are generally in the later stages of R5 (flowering). Overall crop condition is considered good and crop development is proceeding rapidly in favourable weather.

Over the last week most flax fields transitioned to growth stage 11 (brown capsule) with seeds becoming light brown and plant stems and leaves starting to dry down. Overall crop condition was rated as good, aside from previously flooded and saturated field areas.

Interlake

Precipitation was variable across the Interlake region. The south Interlake region including Stonewall, Petersfield, Selkirk and Woodlands received 14 to 25 mm of rain. Further North, Inwood, Riverton, Moosehorn, Narcisse and Arborg received trace to no rainfall. Later maturing crops such as corn, soybeans, and sunflowers benefited from the rain.

Harvesting of winter cereals continues, with minimal delays following recent showers in the Interlake region. Harvest progress varies across the region, on average 25% of winter wheat and 60% of fall rye harvest is complete.

Most spring wheat has reached physiological maturity and is close to harvest, with desiccation starting in the earliest fields. Some spring wheat harvest has started, with 2% of acres estimated as complete. Spring wheat quality is rated as good across the region. Barley and oats are at physiological maturity. Most grain corn is in the milk stage, with later seeded fields tasseling.

Harvest has started on the earliest pea fields, with progress estimated at 5% complete. Soybeans continue to flower; fields range from growth stage R3 to R5, with most fields in the R4 stage.

Swathing and pre-harvest applications have started in canola. Later seeded fields are still flowering and starting pod fill. Sunflowers are as advanced as the R6 stage. Flax is at growth stage 10 to 11.