

Issue 25 – October 16, 2024

Crop Report



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Weekly Provincial Summary

- Agro-Manitoba received variable amounts of precipitation over the past eight days. Precipitation for the past eight days ranged from 0 mm to 15.1 mm (Table 1) with most regions receiving less than 8 mm. Vivian (15.1 mm) received the most precipitation.

Table 1. Eight-day accumulated precipitation (October 7 – October 14) in Manitoba's Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location	Driest Location
Central	Morris (10.6 mm)	Pilot Mound, Windygates (0.0 mm)
Eastern	Vivian (15.1 mm)	Prawda (5.0 mm)
Interlake	Selkirk (7.0 mm)	Narcisse (2.1 mm)
Northwest	Ste. Rose (8.1 mm)	The Pas (0.0 mm)
Southwest	Eden (2.2 mm)	Several (0.0 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to October 14 range from 291.1 mm to 416.8 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 and Eastern regions have accumulated more than 100% compared to the 30-year average.
- Soil Moisture at the 0 - 30 cm depth shows a regional representation of soil moisture conditions for the top 30 cm on October 14, 2024 relative to field capacity. Soil moisture is variable across agro-Manitoba with the majority showing optimal to dry soil moisture conditions at the surface depths.
- 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 – October 14, 2024. GDD Accumulation is between 105% and 115% 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 October 15, 2024

Crop	Southwest	Northwest	Central	Eastern	Interlake	MB AVG
Winter Wheat	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Fall Rye	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Spring Wheat	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Barley	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Oats	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Field Pea	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Canola	100%	92%	99%	99%	99%	98%
Flax	80%	80%	100%	100%	90%	89%
Soybean	95%	85%	99%	85%	90%	93%
Dry Bean	99%	-	99%	-	-	99%
Sunflower	20%	-	35%	10%	10%	22%
Corn (grain)	40%	-	50%	45%	60%	39%
Regional AVG	90%	86%	98%	91%	88%	93%

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

Overview

Canola harvest is nearing completion and is estimated to be 98% complete across the province. Soybean harvest progressed rapidly throughout the week, with 93% estimated as complete across the province. Flax harvest is complete in the Central and Eastern regions, with 89% complete across the province. Corn harvest has started in the Central and Eastern regions. Progress has been made on fall field work including tillage and ditching. Fall herbicide and fertilizer applications continues.

Cereals

- Spring cereal harvest is complete in most regions of the province.
- Spring wheat yield estimates range from 40 to 95 bu/acre. Protein ranges from 10 to 15%.
- Oat yield estimates range from 110 to 180 bu/acre.
- Barley yield estimates range from 80 to 120 bu/acre.
- Corn harvest has started, and the preliminary yield reports range from 140 to 240 bu/acre.

Oilseeds

- Canola harvest is estimated to be 98% complete across the province. Canola yields range from 25 to 65 bu/acre, with averages ranging from 30 to 45 bu/acre.
- Flax harvest is estimated as 89% complete across the province, with yields ranging from 20 to 40 bu/acre.
- Sunflower harvest has started in the central region with approximately 35% complete. Preliminary yield results for black oilseed sunflowers are around 2200 lbs/acre.

Pulses and Soybeans

- Dry bean harvest is approximately 99% complete. Average yields estimated at 1700 to 2000 lbs/acre.
- Soybean harvest continues with yields ranging from 35 to 60 bu/acre, and an average of 40 to 45 bu/acre.

Forages & Livestock

Forages

- Corn silage harvest in Eastern Manitoba is complete. Beef cattle producers are wrapping-up harvest of remaining tame and native hayfields.
- Corn silage harvest is near complete. Corn silage is underway and is 75% complete, with dryland yields at 6 to 10 tonnes. High plant moisture and kernel integrity were the concerns raised for this year's crop.
- Alfalfa is looking good with plenty of green material available to overwinter.
- Some herds are being hauled off pasture including community pastures to stockpiled forages or fall grazing sites. Corn silage harvest is still ongoing with good yields being reported.
- Producers should consider nitrates in feed and sprayer cleanouts in preparation for potential frost.
- When contemplating harvesting alfalfa, producers need to be mindful of the critical harvest fall period ([critical harvest fall period for alfalfa](#)).

Livestock

- Pasture growth is very slow as daylength shortens and temperatures cool. However, pastures rarely look this well in October due to warm and moist fall. Overall forage and pasture growth is more than last year due to the early season moisture.
- Several beef operations are bringing cattle in for weaning and fall marketing of calves. Calves are reported to be coming off pasture in good condition. Some producers are choosing to supplement animals with hay on pasture, although grass continues to look good for this time of year.
- Cattle roundup has begun with cattle starting to come off pasture, calves are being weaned and either backgrounded or sold. Freshly weaned cattle are passing through auction marts. Producers are feeding cattle with hay on pasture or have moved cattle to stockpiled fields for grazing. Feed and straw are being hauled to winter storage areas. Manure is being spread on fields as producers clean their corrals. Dugouts are mostly full.

Regional Comments

Southwest

There was no significant rain in the region last week, allowing producers a good opportunity to finish the harvest. Daytime highs varied between 24°C and 28°C, while overnight lows dropped to between -1.7°C and -6.3°C, resulting in heavy frost across most areas. This frost will aid in drying down the longer-season crops. Average daily temperatures ranged from 7.0°C to 11.4°C.

Harvesting continues this week, with overall progress estimated at 90% to 95% complete in the southwest region. Producers are busy with fall work, including fertilizing, harrowing, and tilling. Soil moisture levels are good at this stage, but additional rain before freeze-up will help maintain seedbed moisture for next year.

The spring wheat harvest is nearly complete for many in the region, with overall progress estimated at 100%. Yields have been generally good, and straw has been baled immediately after the cereal harvest; most straw has been picked up, allowing for fall tillage operations. Both the oats and barley harvest are also at 100% complete. The canola harvest is estimated to be 95% to 100% complete. Early yield reports range from 30 to 45 bu/acre, with average yields expected to be in the 35 to 40 bu/acre range.

Soybean harvest progress is estimated at 90% to 95% complete. Soybean yields range from 30 to 45 bu/acre.

Grain corn moisture levels are about 16% to 26%, and the harvest is 40% to 45% complete, though no yield numbers are available yet. Sunflowers are in the R8 to R9 growth stage for some varieties and are drying down, with fields reaching the desiccation stage. Sunflower harvest has also begun in some areas, with 20% complete. Flax harvest is approximately 80% complete as the weather cooperates for a successful run.

Northwest

It was generally a good week of October weather to help move harvest progress closer to completion in many areas. Precipitation in some areas over the weekend briefly slowed harvest and field work. Highest precipitation was recorded by the Reedy Creek station with 8 mm. Temperatures reached the 20's by afternoon for most of the week. Overnight temperatures cooled off, with most areas receiving frost. Laurier station recorded the highest daytime and lowest overnight temperature for the region, reporting 27.8°C for the high and -4.4°C for the low.

Spring wheat harvest nears completion at 99% complete. Lodging have made for some slow progress in some fields. Average reported yield is approximately 65-70 bushels/acre. With some fields averaging less at 40 to 50 bu/acre and some going 80 bu/acre plus.

Canola harvest made good progress again this week and is approximately 92% complete across the region. Progress nears completion in the Swan Valley and The Pas while Dauphin/Ste. Rose continues behind due to many challenges this spring. Reported yields so far have been quite varied based on crop conditions throughout the season as well as disease pressure, but generally lower than average. Average yields so far have been approximately 30 to 40 bu/acre.

Soybean harvest is approximately 85% complete across the region and more advanced in the Swan Valley area, while Dauphin/Ste. Rose area continue behind. Early reports of yields are 35 to 40 bu/acre and 50 to 55 bu/acre in some higher yielding fields.

Central

Little precipitation fell past week in the Central region, with the most falling in the west around Morris (10.6 mm), Carman (8.3 mm), and Elie (7.6 mm). Windygates and Pilot Mound received no rainfall. Highs were mostly between 24 – 27 °C depending on location. Lows were mostly between -2 and -3 °C. Baldur received both the highest temperature (28.9 °C) and the lowest (-5.2 °C) in the central region this week. Progress continues with fall field activities with producers applying fall fertilizers and conducting drainage and residue management operations. Producers are preparing to winterize their equipment and yards.

Winter cereals and fall cover crops are developing well and have benefited from fall rains and the warm conditions. Their growth is slowing with frost events and shortening days.

Soybean harvest is near complete. Harvest progressed rapidly over the past weeks given the dry and windy conditions. Yields have been good for most producers ranging between 35 to 60 bu/acre, with averages close to 45 bu/acre.

Dry beans harvest is near complete. Like many of the crops this year, there is a large range in dry bean yield. Dry beans reported yield range from 500 to 3,500 lbs/acre, with an average around 1,700 to 2,000 lbs/acre. There were some quality issues due to rainfall at harvest.

Canola harvest is near complete. Yields varied greatly from 25 to 65 bu/acre, with an average of 45 bu/acre. Canola harvest stretched longer than normal due to a wide variation in planting date resulting from spring conditions. Crops varied greatly in appearance.

Flax harvest is complete, and producers have mostly finished baling straw. Yields were around 35 to 40 bu/acre, but fields which had standing water early in the season had yields as low as 25 bu/acre.

Sunflowers harvest is underway with pre-harvest herbicides and desiccants applied. There are more diseases and head rot this year due to the recent wet conditions, and some producers have reported midge damage. Preliminary yield results for black oilseed sunflowers are around 2200 lbs/acre.

Corn harvest is underway. Preliminary yields have ranged 140 to 240 bu/acre. Most yield in the range of 150 to 180 bu/acre, but closer to 170 to 210 bu/acre in the southern Red River Valley. Moisture has been between 15 to 24%, with an average around 20%. Recent heavy winds have contributed to some stem breakage, corn harvest is predicted to continue efficiently given the weather forecast.

Eastern

During the reporting period, 5 to 15 mm of rainfall accumulation occurred across the region with most of the rain falling on Saturday of last week. Day and nighttime temperatures started the week by being above seasonal before retreating to seasonal levels over the weekend. Repeated moderate to killing frosts occurred during the latter half of the week. Producers continued to make significant progress on harvest and field work during the week with the rainfall over the weekend having a very limited effect on progress. Field access in areas that had previously received excessive amounts of rainfall continued to improve. Some growers have now completed harvest and field work for this year with everyone else hoping conditions remain dry so they can wrap up their 2024 cropping season.

Corn harvest continued last week with about 45% of acres combined so far. Yield reports range from 120-170 bu/acre with moistures ranging from 18 to 22% and high test weights (60 lbs/bu). Harvesting will continue this week if weather allows.

Soybean harvest continued with about 85% of the crop in the bin. Yields continued to range from 35 to 60 bu/acre with good quality and an overall average of about 43 bu/acre.

Canola harvest was near completion with reported yields ranging from 16 to 50+ bu/acre with good quality and an overall average yield of about 40 bu/acre.

Sunflower fields were at the R9 growth stage (physiological maturity) with most fields dried down and harvesting had started. Given the limited acres of the crop in the region, harvest is expected to proceed quickly if weather allows.

Interlake

Harvest continues, with good progress regardless of spotty showers in the Interlake region. Rainfall amounts ranged from 2.1-7.0 mm. Daytime high temperatures ranged from low teens to low 20s. Overnight lows dropped well below 0°C, down to -8.1°C at Narcisse, with few reports of frost injury in some areas in the Interlake region. Average daily temperatures range from 7.7°C to 9.3°C. Frosts have aided crop dry-down in mature crops.

Spring wheat harvest is complete, with yield reports ranging from 50 to 85 bu/acre. Oat harvest is complete, with yields ranging from 120 to 145 bu/acre. Barley harvest is complete, with yields ranging from 80 to 100 bu/acre.

Corn harvest has started and is estimated at 60% complete. Yields are reported to be very good this year, ranging 140-180 bu/acre. Corn moisture content ranges from 17-25%. Corn silage chopping wrapping up in most areas. Yields are variable, dependent on rainfall amounts through the growing season.

Soybean harvest is estimated at 90% complete with early yield reports in the 35 to 50 bu/acre range and an average of 40 to 45 bu/acre. Yields are average to slightly above average, except where there was excessive moisture during the growing season.

Canola harvest is estimated at 99% complete. Yield reports are in the 30 to 45 bu/acre range with good quality.

Sunflower harvest began this week in some parts of the region. Sunflower harvest is estimated at 10% complete. Lates-seeded sunflowers are nearing the R9 growth stage, and some fields have been desiccated. Flax harvest is 90% complete.

Fall herbicide, fertilizer, and tillage operations continue. Fall rye and winter wheat are growing well with even germination. Some anhydrous applications have started.