

Alberta Crop Report



Crop Conditions as of June 1, 2021

Dry conditions prevailed over Alberta last week, with all of the areas south of Edmonton and the northern part of the Peace Region receiving three mm or less, (areas shaded in pink on Map). Conversely, the areas shaded orange, yellow and green received precipitation amounts ranging from five to 40 mm. The drier conditions have allowed Alberta producers to approach completion of spring planting. Provincial seeding of the 2021 crop (See Table 1) is at 99 per cent, up 10 per cent from last week. This is slightly ahead of last year and the five-year average of 93 per cent; and the ten-year average of 94 per cent. The remaining crops to be seeded are mainly feed grains (barley, oats, and mixed grain) for silage.

The growing conditions have allowed for good crop emergence in most areas of the province. Overall, 74 per cent of the crops are now above ground with 81 per cent of spring wheat, 82 per cent of durum, 70 per cent of barley, and 65 per cent of canola emerged.

Low accumulations of precipitation have had impacts on the surface soil moisture. Compared to last week the percentage rated good or excellent has dropped by seven percentage points to 75 per cent (See Table 2). The sub-soil moisture remains unchanged with 72 per cent rated good or excellent.

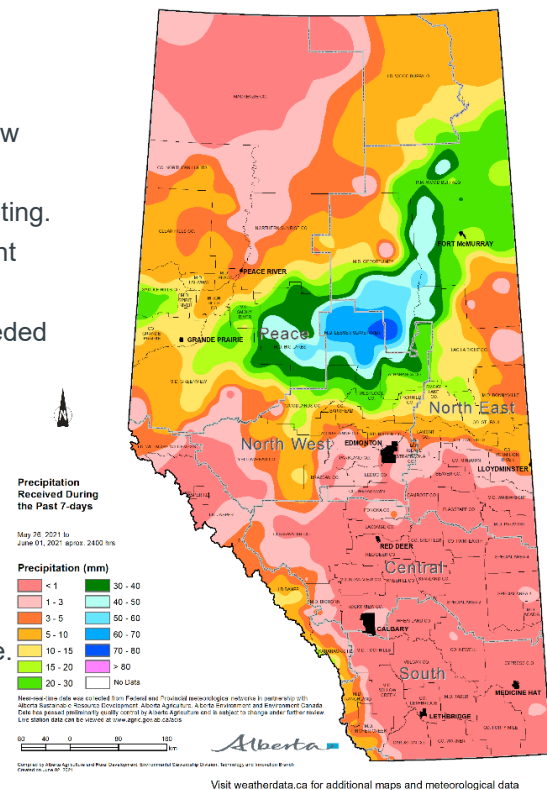


Table 1: Alberta Seeding Progress as of June 1, 2021

	% Seeded					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat*	99.8%	99.8%	100%	99.1%	98.9%	99.7%
Durum Wheat	99.9%	99.2%	---	---	---	99.8%
Barley*	99.4%	98.4%	92.0%	91.7%	98.1%	96.8%
Oats*	100%	94.4%	89.2%	90.2%	97.2%	92.7%
Canola*	99.8%	98.9%	99.4%	99.2%	98.7%	99.2%
Dry Peas*	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Mustard	99.3%	100%	---	---	---	99.5%
Flax	99.7%	100%	100%	---	---	99.7%
Potatoes	99.3%	100%	100%	90.7%	---	98.8%
Chickpeas	98.4%	100%	---	---	---	98.5%
Lentils	100%	100%	---	---	---	100%
Mixed Grain	100%	90.2%	99.0%	78.5%	---	88.9%
Average	99.7%	99.1%	98.7%	97.7%	98.8%	99.0%
Major Crops*	99.7%	99.1%	98.6%	97.8%	98.8%	98.9%
Last Year	99.4%	99.2%	94.2%	87.8%	71.9%	93.3%
5-year (2016-2020) Avg.	98.5%	96.1%	89.5%	91.3%	84.3%	93.2%
10-year (2011-2020) Avg.	97.3%	96.1%	91.8%	93.6%	90.5%	94.4%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey



Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen and staff of AFSC for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program. The climate map is compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Natural Resource Management Branch.



Table 2: Surface Soil Moisture Rating as of June 1, 2021

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	2.7%	32.4%	57.2%	7.7%	---
Central	4.0%	13.7%	61.3%	21.0%	---
North East	0.1%	11.5%	59.4%	28.3%	0.7%
North West	2.0%	15.4%	67.4%	14.0%	1.2%
Peace	5.3%	38.7%	50.6%	5.4%	---
Average	2.6%	22.4%	59.1%	15.6%	0.3%
5-year (2016-2020) Avg.	8.6%	18.5%	42.6%	25.7%	4.6%
10-year (2011-2020 Avg.)	9.3%	19.2%	41.5%	26.1%	3.9%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

While there was not a lot of precipitation in the last week, hay and pasture continue to benefit from the precipitation that has fallen in the last couple of weeks. Provincially, the percentage of pasture rating good or excellent has increased by 12 percentage points to 67 per cent, and the percentage of hay rating good or excellent has increased by nine percentage points to 65 per cent. The forecasted heat in upcoming days is expected to continue to help the forages.

Regional Assessments:

Region One: South (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)

- Wind and frost events in the past couple of weeks resulted in minimal reseeding, primarily sugar beets and canola. Seeding is virtually done with only a few feed acres left to be planted, and 78 per cent of crops have emerged.
- Spring seeded cereal crops are entering tillering stage and fall seeded cereals are at the end of flag leaf stage. Canola estimates show 59 per cent in the one to three leaf stage with peas at 62 per cent in one to three node stage.
- Post emergent spraying is underway with 12 per cent of acres now dosed. Pest infestations are minimal with only gophers being reported over threshold. However, flea beetle and wireworm activity is increasing.
- Surface soil moisture (sub-surface moisture in brackets) ratings are three (six) per cent poor, 32 (36) per cent fair, 57 (53) per cent good and eight (five) per cent excellent.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as two (two) per cent poor, 27 (29) per cent fair, 66 (63) per cent good, and five (six) per cent excellent.

Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)

- Seeding is essentially done with only a few feed acres left to be planted, and 73 per cent of crops have emerged.
- Spring seeded cereal crops are averaging three leaf stage and fall seeded cereals have entered stem elongation. Canola estimates show 62 per cent in the cotyledon stage with peas at 57 per cent in one to three node stage.
- Post emergent application has started with 10 per cent of acres now sprayed. Pest infestations are minimal with only gophers being reported over threshold. However, flea beetle activity is on the rise.
- Surface soil moisture (sub-surface moisture in brackets) ratings are four (eight) per cent poor, 14 (14) per cent fair, 61 (61) per cent good and 21 (17) per cent excellent.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as seven (five) per cent poor, 23 (20) per cent fair, 64 (63) per cent good, and six (12) per cent excellent.

Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)

- Seeding is practically done with only a few feed acres left to be planted, and 75 per cent of crops have emerged.
- Spring seeded cereal crops are averaging one leaf stage and fall seeded cereals are mid-boot stage. Canola estimates show 79 per cent in the cotyledon stage with peas at 76 per cent in one to three node stage.
- Post emergent spraying has just begun with three per cent of acres now dosed. Pest infestations are minimal with only gophers being reported over threshold, but flea beetle activity is increasing.
- Surface soil moisture (sub-surface moisture in brackets) ratings are 12 (two) per cent fair, 59 (37) per cent good and 28 (60) per cent excellent with one (one) per cent excessive.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as 11 (20) per cent poor, 41 (47) per cent fair, 45 (30) per cent good, and three (three) per cent excellent.

Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)

- Seeding is nearly done with only a few feed acres left to be planted, and 63 per cent of crops have emerged.
- Spring seeded cereal crops are averaging two leaf stage and fall seeded cereals are just entering tillering stage. Canola estimates show 61 per cent in the cotyledon stage with peas at 53 per cent in one to three node stage.
- Post emergent application has started with 10 per cent of acres now sprayed. There are no pest infestations of note to report at this time.
- Surface soil moisture (sub-surface moisture in brackets) ratings are two (one) per cent poor, 15 (25) per cent fair, 68 (72) per cent good and 14 (two) per cent excellent with one (none) reported as excessive.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as 18 (22) per cent fair, 78 (74) per cent good and four (four) per cent excellent.

Region Five: Peace (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)

- Seeding is almost done with only a few feed acres left to be planted, and 73 per cent of crops have emerged.
- Spring seeded cereal crops are averaging three leaf stage. Canola estimates show 88 per cent in the cotyledon stage with peas at 62 per cent in the cotyledon stage.
- Post emergent spraying is underway with nine per cent of acres now dosed. Pest infestations are minimal with none reported over threshold, but flea beetles, root maggots and wireworms are being monitored.
- Surface soil moisture (sub-surface moisture in brackets) ratings are five (two) per cent poor, 39 (39) per cent fair, 51 (51) per cent good and five (eight) per cent excellent.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as nine (nine) per cent poor, 24 (25) per cent fair, 58 (56) per cent good, and nine (10) per cent excellent.

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