

# Alberta Crop Report



## Crop Conditions as of June 21, 2022 (Abbreviated Report)

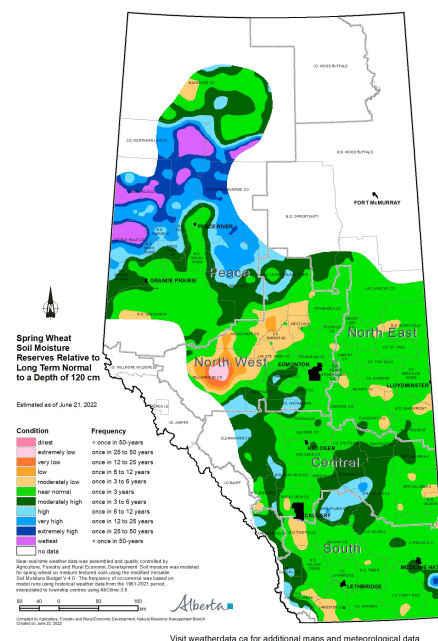
Last week's precipitation across the province ended the prolonged 2021 dry conditions, with prevailing wet weather throughout many areas. While the moisture has mostly been welcome, there are many reports of localized overland flooding. More rain is in the forecast to provide additional moisture in the central parts of the province and lesser, but still appreciated moisture to the southern areas. Spraying has been delayed in some areas, due to excessive rain.

Crop conditions continue to improve, with 78 per cent of crops in Alberta now rated in good or excellent condition, close to the 5-year average of 79 per cent and the 10-year average of 77 per cent (See Table 1). Regional growing condition ratings improved from a week ago in all regions. Compared to the regional 5-year averages, crop conditions are better than normal in the Central, North West and Peace Regions and are still below normal in the South and North East Regions.

**Table 1: Regional Crop Condition Ratings as of June 21, 2022**

	Per cent rated in Good to Excellent Condition					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	65.5%	88.9%	91.0%	93.9%	84.2%	83.7%
Barley	57.9%	90.2%	87.1%	90.6%	77.9%	78.3%
Oats	74.9%	81.9%	86.8%	93.7%	78.7%	85.6%
Canola	56.0%	86.4%	72.5%	67.0%	80.2%	73.1%
Dry Peas	70.4%	78.2%	86.0%	92.9%	76.2%	77.6%
<b>Major Crops, June 21</b>	<b>61.6%</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	<b>82.3%</b>	<b>81.9%</b>	<b>80.6%</b>	<b>78.3%</b>
<b>Major Crops, June 14</b>	<b>60.1%</b>	<b>82.8%</b>	<b>79.1%</b>	<b>80.6%</b>	<b>78.8%</b>	<b>75.6%</b>
<b>Major Crops, Last Year</b>	<b>63.5%</b>	<b>85.8%</b>	<b>88.7%</b>	<b>90.3%</b>	<b>75.8%</b>	<b>80.4%</b>
<b>5-year (2017-2021) Avg</b>	<b>72.0%</b>	<b>83.1%</b>	<b>86.0%</b>	<b>74.4%</b>	<b>71.2%</b>	<b>78.6%</b>
<b>10-year (2012-2021) Avg</b>	<b>74.5%</b>	<b>76.4%</b>	<b>81.9%</b>	<b>75.0%</b>	<b>71.8%</b>	<b>76.7%</b>

Source: AFRED/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey



Sub-surface soil moisture reserves, which were significantly depleted, now continue to build. Generally, both surface and subsurface soil moisture reserves improved from a week ago, by five and 12 per cent, respectively. Some fields had flooding, while others could still stand a little more rain. Compared to the long-term normal, soil moisture is still near normal or moderately higher than normal in most parts of the province (see the map). Soil moisture is high in the foothills, east of Calgary and the northern parts of the Peace Region (blue areas on the map), and low in some parts of the North West Region, with some localized areas in the South and North East Regions (orange areas on the map). Provincially, surface soil moisture (sub-surface soil moisture ratings shown in brackets) are now rated as 3 (7) per cent poor, 17 (29) per cent fair, 40 (45) per cent good and 37 (18) per cent excellent, with 3 (1) per cent excessive (see Table 2).

**Table 2: Alberta Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of June 21, 2022**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	7.1%	28.8%	17.9%	44.3%	1.9%
Central	3.5%	14.4%	36.8%	39.6%	5.7%
North East	0.0%	13.4%	61.7%	24.3%	0.6%
North West	0.3%	3.9%	56.9%	35.4%	3.5%
Peace	0.0%	5.4%	58.8%	35.4%	0.5%
Province	3.3%	16.7%	39.9%	37.3%	2.7%
5-year (2017-2021) Avg	5.8%	19.7%	49.0%	21.5%	4.1%
10-year (2012-2021) Avg	7.2%	18.1%	44.4%	26.5%	3.8%

Source: AFRED/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Pasture and tame hay growing conditions improved from the previous report (conditions as of June 14) across the province. Pasture (tame hay ratings shown in brackets) conditions across the province are now reported as 10 (8) per cent poor, 40 (33) per cent fair, 41 (46) per cent good and 9 (13) per cent excellent.

## Regional Assessments:

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

- Precipitation over the past week helped out with crop growth and replenishing soil moisture, although some rain was locally excessive. Crops are progressing slowly, but are green and healthy. Warmer weather and some more rain is forecast for next week and is expected to benefit crop development and pasture growth.
- About 57 per cent of crops in the region are now rated in good condition with another five per cent rated as excellent. Most spring seeded cereals are in the stem elongation stage of development, slightly behind normal.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture reserves improved by four and 12 per cent, respectively from a week ago. Sub-surface soil moisture is rated at 9 per cent poor, 55 per cent fair, 33 per cent good and 3 per cent excellent.
- Pastures and dryland hay fields are still showing symptoms from the dry conditions of the early spring, but improved from a week ago by nine and eight per cent, respectively. Pasture growing conditions (tame hay shown in parentheses) are reported as 18 (16) per cent poor, 62 (59) per cent fair and 20 (25) per cent good.

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

- More rain over the past week improved crop growing conditions, but have caused some crops in low lying areas to be waterlogged.
- About 63 per cent of crops in the region are now rated in good condition with 25 per cent rated as excellent. Most spring seeded cereals are either at the end of the tillering stage of development or beginning of the stem elongation stage, almost on par with normal.
- Soil moisture reserves are variable across the region but compared to a week prior, surface and sub-surface soil moisture reserves improved by nine and eight per cent, respectively. Sub-surface soil moisture is now rated at 3 per cent poor, 19 per cent fair, 38 per cent good and 38 per cent excellent, with 2 per cent excessive.
- All forages are progressing nicely with the great amount of moisture they have recently received, although there are fields that were set back by previous dry conditions. Pasture growing conditions (tame hay shown in parentheses) are reported as 6 (5) per cent poor, 24 (15) per cent fair, 50 (48) per cent good and 20 (32) per cent excellent.

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

- Recent rains have resulted in good to excellent moisture conditions for spring seeded crops, pasture and hay fields, however there is standing water in some low lying areas. Warmer temperatures are now needed for sustainable crop development.
- About 72 per cent of crops in the region are rated in good condition, with another 11 per cent rated as excellent. Most spring seeded cereals are at the tillering stage of development, slightly behind normal.
- Surface and sub-surface soil moisture reserves improved by one and 13 per cent from a week ago. Sub-surface soil moisture is rated at 18 per cent poor, 18 per cent fair, 52 per cent good and 12 per cent excellent.
- Pasture and forage fields are generally looking good. Pasture growing conditions (tame hay shown in parentheses) are reported as 6 (10) per cent poor, 34 (38) per cent fair, 54 (50) per cent good and 6 (2) per cent excellent.

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

- Varying amounts of moisture have been received throughout the region, which significantly boosted crop growth and development. However, some crops on flatter lands are yellowing due to excessive moisture. While some fields are being re-seeded due to pest and disease damage, there are reports of fields that are unlikely to be re-seeded this season due to abundant moisture.
- About 65 per cent of crops in the region are rated in good condition, with another 17 per cent rated as excellent, which is better than normal conditions. Spring seeded crops are mostly in the tillering stage of development, slightly behind normal.
- While surface soil moisture remained unchanged from a week ago, sub-surface soil moisture reserves improved by 23 per cent. Sub-surface soil moisture is now rated at 12 per cent fair, 72 per cent good and 15 per cent excellent, with 1 per cent excessive.
- Hay and pasture field are looking good. Pasture growing conditions (tame hay shown in parentheses) are reported as 2 (1) per cent poor, 28 (25) per cent fair, 50 (57) per cent good and 20 (17) per cent excellent.

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

- Precipitation over the past week ranged from 15 to 50 mm in the region. Some of the drowned out acres and areas that had the seed washed away as a result of last week's heavy rain are not likely to be re-seeded this season.
- About 73 per cent of crops in the region are rated in good condition, with another 7 per cent rated as excellent, above normal condition. Spring seeded cereals are almost a week behind, still in the beginning of the tillering stage of development.
- Moisture received in the region improved both surface and sub-surface soil moisture reserves by five and six per cent, respectively. Sub-surface soil moisture is rated at 1 per cent poor, 14 per cent fair, 58 per cent good and 27 per cent excellent.
- Pasture growing conditions (tame hay shown in parentheses) are reported as 9 (11) per cent poor, 35 (37) per cent fair, 54 (50) per cent good and 2 (2) per cent excellent.

## **Contact**

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