

Issue 12 – July 16, 2024

Crop Report



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Weekly Provincial Summary

- Agro-Manitoba received variable amounts of precipitation over the past seven days. Once again, isolated heavy rains occurred in several regions. Precipitation for the past week ranged from 0 mm to 61.4 mm (Table 1). Fisherton (61.4 mm) received the most precipitation with almost 45 mm of rain in just two hours on July 13.

Table 1. Range of seven-day accumulated precipitation (July 8 – 14) in Manitoba’s Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location last Week	Driest Location last Week
Central	Elie (37.9 mm)	Several (0.0 mm)
Eastern	Prawda (30.2 mm)	Menisino, Dominion City (0.0 mm)
Interlake	Fisherton (61.4 mm)	Clarkleigh (1.1 mm)
Northwest	Swan Valley (25.7 mm)	Grandview, Keld (1.0 mm)
Southwest	Melita (37.3 mm)	Miniota (0.0 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to July 14 range from 132.3 mm to 220.2 mm (Table 2) and are based on 30-year historical data. With recent rainfall events, precipitation accumulation in most areas have exceeded 130% of normal precipitation since May 1.

Table 2. Summary of measurement of total accumulated precipitation in Manitoba’s Agricultural Regions

Region	Range of Normals (mm)	Number of Stations Above Normal	Wettest Location this Season (mm, % norm.)	Driest Location this Season (mm, % norm.)
Central	159.2 → 192.9	32 (all)	Winkler (340, 187%)	Baldur (226, 121%)
Eastern	180.4 → 220.2	23 (all)	Winnipeg (313, 173%)	Lac Du Bonnet (195, 102%)
Interlake	157.0 → 187.3	15	Woodlands (291, 160%)	Moosehorn (137, 84%)
Northwest	132.3 → 185.1	19	Pipe Lake (322, 186%)	Swan River (160, 92%)
Southwest	151.4 → 187.2	40 (all)	Shilo (327, 194%)	Mountainside (193, 118%)

- The majority of agro-Manitoba is showing wet or optimal soil moisture conditions at the surface depths based on the regional representation of soil moisture conditions for the top 30 cm on July 14, 2024 relative to field capacity.
- 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 – July 14, 2024. GDD accumulation is near or below 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](#).

Overview

Warmer conditions over the past week advanced crop growth. Fall rye and winter wheat are at the soft to hard dough stage with the most advanced fields ripening. Spring wheat ranges from flag to soft dough stages, with some lodging evident due to wind and rain events. Canola ranges from rosette to early podding. Fungicide applications in spring wheat and canola are continuing, and aerial applications are common with the wet field conditions. Field peas have reached the R1 to R3 stage, with some fungicide application occurring for mycosphaerella blight. Field peas continue to suffer in some regions with the extended wet conditions. The majority of soybeans are in the R1 stage.

Cereals

- Fall rye and winter wheat are at the soft to hard dough stages with the most advanced fields ripening.
- Grain corn growth stage ranges from V6 to V10
- Spring wheat is reported to be from flag to soft dough stage, with fungicide application for fusarium head blight still occurring. Some lodging occurred with heavy rains.
- Spring wheat quality is rated mostly fair to good with 5 to 10% 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%	-	-	15%
Good	45%	70%	90%	70%	50%
Fair	40%	5%	-	30%	30%
Poor	5%	5%	10%	-	5%
Very Poor	-	-	-	-	-

Oilseeds

- Canola growth stage ranges from the rosette to early podding. Fungicide applications for sclerotinia continuing.
- Sunflowers are at the R1 to R2 growth stages.
- Flax crops ranged from growth stage 5 to 7.

Pulses and Soybeans

- Field peas are in the R1 to R3 stage.
- Soybeans are in the R1 stage, with later seeded fields in the second to fourth trifoliate stage.
- Iron deficiency chlorosis continues to show up in some fields.
- The most advanced edible beans are approaching flowering.

Forages & Livestock

Forages

- Warm weather has allowed for strong growth in forage crops.
- Haying is underway and initial yields are reported to be normal to above average. Dry down has been difficult with continued rainfall and high humidity. Progress on first-cut harvest of hayfields is behind and producers are concerned about both the quantity and quality of harvested feed that will be available this winter. Producers have turned to bale wrapping to make silage bales as drying conditions have been difficult.
- Silage has been a good option for producers looking to shorten the period needed for drying hay, and some producers have switched from hay production to silage. Some farms have taken their first cut of alfalfa silage.
- Grasses have headed out except for big blue stem. Alfalfa fields are in mid to late bloom.
- Throughout the central to north Interlake, farmers are seeding greenfeed crops when possible.

Livestock

- Most pastures are in good to excellent condition, with lots of grass available for grazing. Continuously grazed pastures are starting to show reduced production.
- Bulls have been placed with cows.
- Increased insect pressure and fly control, potential for foot rot, and pinkeye are the main animal health issues. Cattle on pasture are in good condition with the increased chance of disease due to insect pressures.
- Dugouts and irrigation ponds are mostly recharged, with many rivers full.
- Water supplies remain in excellent condition.

Regional Comments

Southwest

Rain and hailstorms occurred over the past week, with rainfall varying from trace amounts to 37 mm in Melita and Shilo. Small creeks are flowing, and some of the deeper low spots have standing water. Hail was reported in Lyleton on Sunday night. Daytime highs ranged from 29°C to 32°C and average temperatures ranged from 19.8°C to 22.2°C. Hot and humid temperatures advanced crop growth and development.

Herbicide applications are complete. Many farmers have been using airplanes to spray fungicides; however, the recent drier weather has allowed for high clearance sprayers. Soybeans, corn, sunflowers, and dry beans have

advanced well with the onset of warmer conditions. Some cereal fields lodged after heavy rainfall on the weekend, mostly in the double seeded areas on headlands.

Canola is in early to late flower, with more than half of the crops having received fungicide applications. Peas are in mid to late flower (R3), and about 36 inches tall. Soybeans and dry beans are flowering at about 7 inches tall; Sunflowers are at R1 and corn is at the V10 stage. Spring wheat and oats are flowering, and barley is at heading to early milk stage. Winter wheat and fall rye are in the dough stage. Flax is at the stem extension to bud stage.

Reports of stripe rust in spring wheat in parts of the southwest have been noted. Bacterial blight, mycosphereilla, and powdery mildew in peas are present but in moderate amounts.

Northwest

A week of high temperatures along with scattered thunderstorms across the region. Highest temperature recorded at Ethelbert station at 34 °C. Precipitation ranged from 1 mm at Grandview and Keld to 25 mm at Swan Valley. Several thunderstorms brought heavy rain, hail, and strong winds. Storms resulted in crop lodging in the Roblin and Swan Valley/Benito area. The RM of Mossey River declared a state of agricultural disaster due to the effects of heavy rainfalls this year.

Earliest field peas are in the R3 stage, and the remainder of the crop is in R2. The majority of field peas look good, however there are fields affected by the excess moisture and doing poorly.

Most of the spring wheat is headed and flowering. Most advanced crops are in grain development stage with remainder of fields in the tillering stage. Fields affected by excess moisture are showing signs of stress and are yellowed and stunted. Many fields have been sprayed with fungicides for fusarium head blight.

Canola crops continue to be quite varied. Earliest seeded fields are flowering, and the remainder is in the bolting and rosette stages. Spraying is a challenge in some areas due to excess moisture. Some poorer fields across the region are bolting due to stress.

Soybean crops are headed into R1 and mostly looking good. Recent heat has helped and advanced the crops.

Winter wheat and Fall rye crops are in grain development stage and looking good in most areas not affected by excess moisture.

Central

Warmer temperatures this week allowed soils to dry, and water has mostly receded from low spots within fields. Rainfall varied greatly across the region with most receiving little rainfall. The north part of the central region received the most rainfall, with Elie receiving 37.5 mm. Quarter sized hail was reported in the St Claude area with some fields damaged.

Crops in low lying areas, many of which were under water for some time, are undergoing visible water stress, and there are dead spots in some fields. Warmer temperatures this week have promoted rapid development over the past few days.

Crop stage varies greatly at the local level across the region, with crops in the north at a younger developmental stage than those in the Pembina Valley. The most advanced spring wheat and barley fields are at the milk through

to soft dough stage, while some of the later planted cereals in the north of the region are at the flag leaf stage. Some lodging is present in barley and wheat fields. Fall rye and winter wheat are mostly in the soft to hard dough stages, with the most advanced fields ripening.

Field peas are mid to late flowering and around 36 inches high. Soybeans are beginning to flower (R1). Iron deficiency chlorosis (IDC) is prevalent this year due to the moist conditions. The most advanced edible beans are approaching flowering. Canola is in early to late flowering, with later planted fields bolting. Flax is between stage 5 (stem extension) to stage 7 (first flower). Sunflowers are at R1 to R2 stages. Silage and grain corn have developed rapidly this past week due to the warmer temperatures. Most of the crop is at V6 to V10, and more advanced in the south of the region.

Although many crops have now moved beyond the window for herbicide applications, spraying and inter row tillage is still taking place to control weeds at the desired growth stage. New flushes of weeds continue to appear as ample moisture has aided germination. Fungicide spraying is on-going in cereals and canola, often taking place via aircraft due to wet field conditions. Tan spot and stripe rust are present in cereal fields, and septoria has been reported in oats. Mycospharella, powdery mildew, bacterial blight and root rot are present in pea fields. Downy mildew is present in sunflower crops where there has been standing water.

Eastern

Rainfall amounts were highly variable and ranged from 2 mm to 43 mm with most the rain falling over the weekend in the form of thunder showers. Temperatures this past week were much warmer than previous weeks, and field crops that were not suffering from extended water stress had significant growth. Standing water is subsiding in areas that did not receive significant rain but is still an on-going issue. All crops continue to display yellowing in lower areas, and dead plants in field drains and areas under water for prolonged periods.

Fungicide applications on wheat and canola were ongoing this week as well as some herbicide applications in late seeded crops. The wet conditions are causing issues with field access, and fungicides continue to be applied by air. Producers remain concerned about weed growth stage and herbicide efficacy in later seeded fields.

Fall rye and winter wheat are in the dough stage. Early seeded spring cereals are finishing flowering and are moving to the milk stage. Lodging has occurred in many of the more advanced wheat fields as heavy rains moved through sporadic areas. Fungicide application on later seeded cereals is on-going and will continue this week as fields come into stage.

Corn stages ranged from V8 to V9 in fields not overly saturated. Areas that are saturated show stagey and yellowed corn plants. The warmer temperatures over the last week helped to advance the crop.

Soybeans are in the flowering stage (R1) in most fields. Rapid soybean development was noted this past week with the warm temperatures. However, some fields continue to be delayed with wet conditions. In general, the crop looks to be handling the excess moisture as good as can be expected. Second pass herbicide applications are wrapping up, but some areas still need drying days before field access will be possible.

Herbicide application continues on late seeded canola crop as field conditions allow. Early seeded canola is at full flower to podding stage with fungicide applications wrapping up.

Field peas continue to suffer with the extended wet conditions. Yellowing in saturated field areas continues to be evident, wilting plants and ample evidence of rot root was found in these fields. Dry conditions are needed to prevent root diseases from taking hold in large areas of fields.

Later seeded sunflowers continue to be in the vegetative growth stage, with a lot of variation due to planting date and water stressed conditions. Earlier seeded crops are coming into the budding stage.

Interlake

Rainfall continues to be variable with scattered thundershowers. Areas receiving the highest rainfall were Arborg, Gimli, and Fisherton with amounts ranging from 36 to 61 mm. Minor hail damage was reported in some areas. Temperatures were in the high 20°C to low 30°C range, with average temperatures around 21°C. Rapid crop advancement is evident with warm temperatures and high humidity. Field conditions continue to be variable.

Over the last few weeks some producers have been broadcasting fertilizer on cereals and canola fields where the seed was broadcast or where a minimum amount of fertilizer was applied at seeding. In the northern part of the Interlake producers have been spraying unseeded acres.

Most spring wheat is at the flag to full head emergence stage with fungicide application for fusarium head blight (FHB) nearing completion in some areas. Barley is fully headed and flowered, and panicles are fully emerged in most oat fields. Winter wheat and fall rye are at the soft dough stage. Lodging is evident in some cereal fields after the weekend rain and wind in concentrated areas.

Peas are looking good and are as advanced as R1 to R2 stage. Fungicide application occurring for mycosphaerella blight in some areas. Some producers have reported bacteria lesion in some pea fields.

Canola is highly variable; while the majority of fields are in full bloom, the earliest seeded fields are almost done flowering and are podding, and late seeded fields have bolted and are starting to flower.

Soybeans have seen tremendous growth with the recent heat and high humidity. Soybeans in general look good at second to fourth trifoliolate; the most advance fields are flowering in south parts of the region. Minimal signs of iron deficiency chlorosis (IDC) remain. Fields continue to show yellowing leaves as evidence of excess moisture. First pass herbicide applications are almost complete.

Sunflowers are as advanced as R1 to R2 stage; most have received herbicide application. Flax growth stages range from stage 5 to 7. Heat and moisture have been good for both grain and silage corn; all areas report rapid growth and stages range from V6 to V10.