

# Alberta Crop Report

## Crop conditions as of May 20, 2025

Recent rainfall and cooler temperatures have brought much needed moisture, benefiting early crop growth. However, some farmers have reported seeding delays due these conditions. Provincial seeding for all crops stands at 73 per cent complete, ahead of the 5-year average of 59 per cent (see Table 1). Regionally, the South is furthest ahead at 87 per cent seeded, followed by the Central, North West, and North East. The Peace Region, with scattered rain, saw rapid progress, rising to 61 per cent seeded from 27 per cent last week. Among major crops provincially, dry peas and spring wheat lead at 90 and 87 per cent, respectively, while oat is at 47 per cent. Crop emergence is progressing well, with 32 per cent of all crops emerged, well above the 5-year average of 16 per cent. Emergence is furthest ahead in the South and Central regions among major crops, with over 45 per cent of spring wheat and peas having emerged. Barley is at 47 per cent in the South, while other regions, including the North East, North West and Peace, are below 20 per cent. Canola and oats remain under 30 per cent in all regions. Cooler conditions and frost in the North East and North West have delayed emergence, with many fields under 25 per cent. Fall-seeded crops are in good condition, with 70 per cent rated good to excellent provincially. As temperatures rise, farmers expect to make good progress and wrap up seeding by the end of May if weather conditions permit.

Table 1: Alberta Seeding Progress as of May 20, 2025

	% Seeded					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat *	89.3%	91.5%	84.3%	88.4%	81.1%	87.3%
Durum	90.7%	90.2%	-	-	-	90.6%
Barley *	88.1%	71.2%	55.0%	67.2%	52.0%	71.6%
Oats *	58.7%	46.3%	36.5%	52.5%	51.7%	47.0%
Canola *	78.9%	50.4%	46.8%	62.6%	50.2%	55.7%
Dry Peas *	95.6%	85.2%	98.2%	98.2%	73.2%	89.8%
Mustard	76.7%	35.0%	-	-	-	74.7%
Flax	59.7%	30.0%	0.0%	-	-	48.6%
Potatoes	99.5%	65.9%	-	48.1%	-	94.1%
Chickpeas	90.3%	45.0%	-	-	-	85.7%
Lentils	90.4%	50.7%	-	-	-	80.6%
Corn	90.0%	73.6%	-	70.0%	-	80.4%
All Crops, May 20	86.7%	72.3%	64.0%	72.2%	61.4%	73.1%
Major Crops (*), May 20	87.0%	72.7%	64.2%	72.5%	61.4%	72.1%
5-year All Crops (2020-24) Avg	74.2%	62.7%	51.0%	44.2%	44.8%	59.1%
10-year All Crops (2015-24) Avg	75.5%	61.3%	50.3%	47.8%	47.5%	59.6%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Scattered precipitation across the province has improved soil moisture in many areas. Some parts of the Central Region reported up to 3 inches of rain this week, which has enhanced surface soil moisture. While surface moisture conditions have improved across all regions, sub-surface soil moisture has also shown increases in most areas, suggesting that recent rainfall is starting to penetrate deeper into the soil. All regions have reported improved sub-surface moisture levels, except the Peace Region, where conditions have remained stable (see Figure 1). Provincially, surface (sub-surface) moisture conditions are rated 5 (6) per cent poor, 31 (35) per cent fair, 54 (53) per cent good, 10 (6) per cent excellent, and 0 (0) per cent excessive (see Table 2). Overall, soil moisture conditions are generally favorable for crop emergence and early growth across most areas.

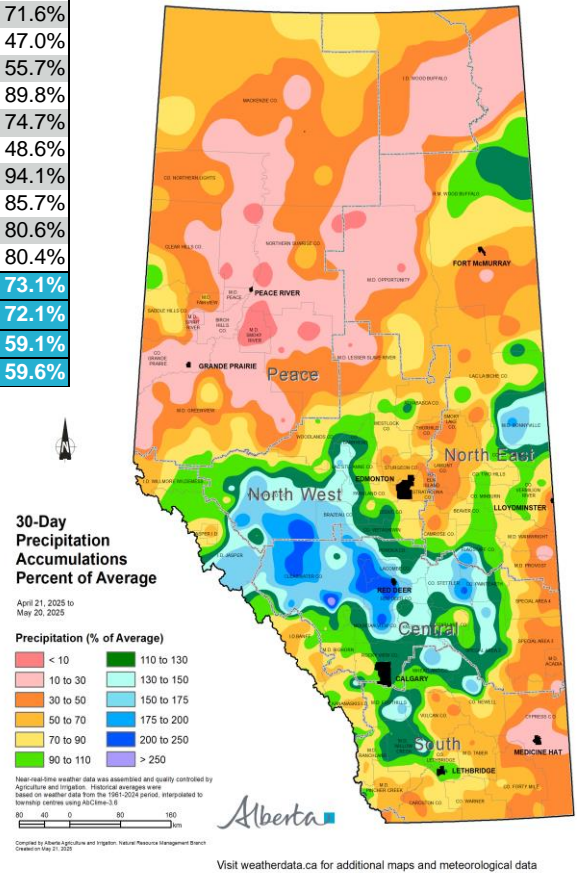


Figure 1: Surface and Sub-surface Moisture Conditions, May 13 and 20, 2025

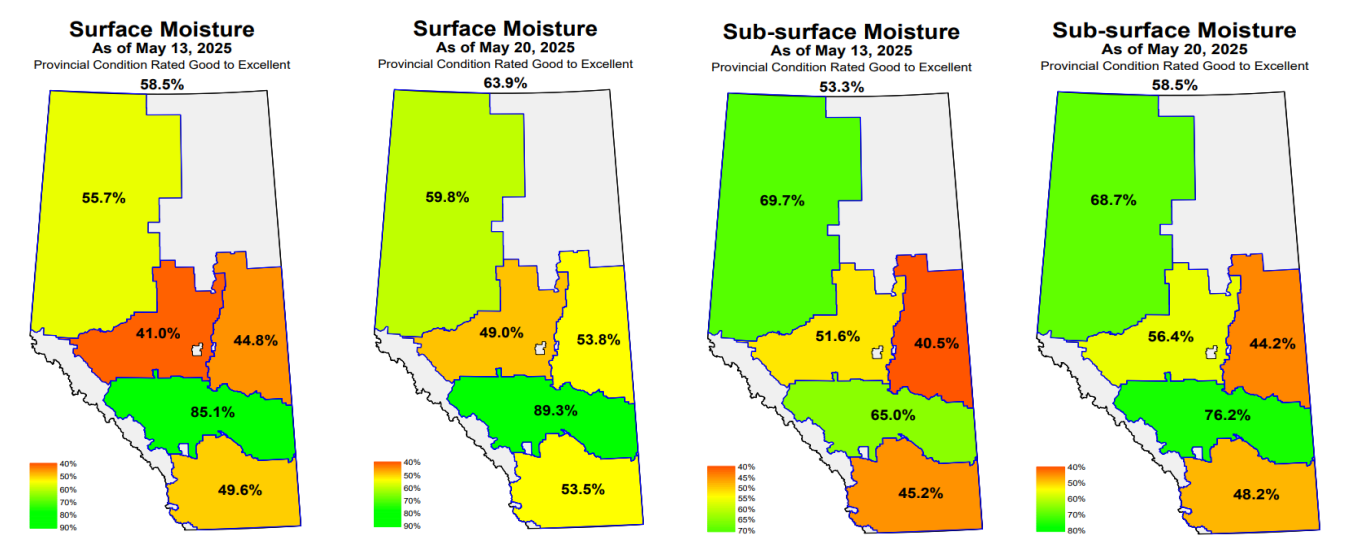


Table 2: Alberta Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of May 20, 2025

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	6.9%	39.1%	46.1%	7.4%	0.5%
Central	1.3%	9.4%	71.3%	18.0%	0.0%
North East	3.4%	42.6%	49.3%	4.5%	0.2%
North West	9.7%	41.3%	39.0%	10.0%	0.0%
Peace	8.7%	31.5%	57.0%	2.8%	0.0%
Alberta	5.2%	30.7%	54.3%	9.7%	0.2%
5-year (2020-24) Avg	11.5%	28.6%	46.3%	12.7%	0.9%
10-year (2015-24) Avg	12.0%	27.5%	42.6%	15.4%	2.6%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Following a slow start to the growing season due to dry conditions, recent precipitation has improved pastures and tame hay growth conditions across much of the province. Compared to early May, when many fields were off to a slow start, conditions have steadily improved. Reports show that pasture (tame hay) growth conditions are rated provincially as 7 (7) per cent poor, 28 (28) per cent fair, 59 (56) per cent good, and 5 (8) per cent excellent. Regionally, the Central Region is seeing the best good to excellent pasture growth rate (84 per cent), followed by North West (67 per cent), the South (54 per cent), North East (51 per cent) and Peace (43 per cent). Good to excellent condition ratings for pasture (tame hay) growth are 55 (55) per cent in the South, 84 (84) per cent in the Central, 51 (54) per cent in the North East, 67 (78) per cent in the North West, and 43 (41) per cent in the Peace. With continued good conditions, pastures and tame hay fields are likely to improve in the coming weeks.

Table 3: Pasture Growth Conditions as of May 20, 2025

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
South	11.0%	33.7%	50.8%	4.6%
Central	2.3%	14.2%	74.8%	8.8%
North East	6.0%	42.8%	49.3%	1.8%
North West	6.6%	26.5%	64.1%	2.8%
Peace	17.7%	38.8%	39.3%	4.1%
Alberta	7.4%	28.3%	59.0%	5.3%
5-year (2020-24) Avg	13.9%	33.2%	49.7%	3.3%
10-year (2015-24) Avg	14.5%	31.8%	47.7%	6.0%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

## Regional Assessments:

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

- Seeding for all crops is 87 per cent complete, ahead of 5- and 10-year averages of 74 and 76 per cent, though seeding in some fields was delayed by scattered winds.
- Surface moisture improved with cool, wet weather and is rated at 7 per cent poor, 39 per cent fair, 46 per cent good, 7 per cent excellent, and 1 per cent excessive. Sub-surface moisture remains steady.
- Pasture (tame hay) conditions have improved, with rates of 11 (11) per cent poor, 34 (34) per cent fair, 51 (50) per cent good and 5 (5) per cent excellent.

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

- Seeding for all crops (major crops) is 72 (73) per cent complete, ahead of the 5-year average of 63 per cent.
- Regular precipitation, with some areas receiving up to 3 inches, has improved soil moisture, with surface (sub-surface) moisture rated 89 (76) per cent good to excellent.
- Pasture (tame hay) condition is reported 2 (2) per cent poor, 14 (14) fair, 75 (71) per cent good, and 9 (13) per cent excellent.
- Fall-seeded crops are rated 1 per cent poor, 4 per cent fair, 74 per cent good and 22 per cent excellent.

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

- Seeding for all crops is 64 per cent complete, up from 6 per cent in the first week, and above the 5- and 10-year averages.
- Moisture conditions are favourable, with surface (sub-surface) moisture rated 3 (10) per cent poor, 43 (46) per cent fair, 49 (43) per cent good, 5 (1) per cent excellent, and 0 (0) per cent excessive.
- Pasture (tame hay) conditions are reported as 6 (6) per cent poor, 43 (41) per cent fair, 49 (49) per cent good, and 2 (5) per cent excellent.
- Fall-seeded crops are rated 2 per cent poor, 57 per cent fair, 40 per cent good, and 1 per cent excellent.

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

- Seeding for all crops (major crops) are progressing well with 72 (73) per cent complete, ahead of the 5-year average of 44 per cent.
- Surface (sub-surface) soil moisture is rated 10 (10) per cent poor, 41 (34) per cent fair, 39 (40) per cent good, 10 (16) per cent excellent, and 0 (0) per cent excessive.
- Pastures (tame hay) need warmth to improve growth. Conditions are rated 7 (1) per cent poor, 27 (21) per cent fair, 64 (66) per cent good, and 3 (12) per cent excellent.
- Fall-seeded crops are performing well with 0 per cent poor, 24 per cent fair, 59 per cent good, and 17 per cent excellent.

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

- Seeding for all crops progressed to 61 per cent complete and is 16 per cent above the 5-year average.
- Surface (sub-surface) soil moisture conditions are rated 9 (3) per cent poor, 32 (28) per cent fair, 57 (63) per cent good, 3 (6) per cent excellent, and 0 (0) per cent excessive.
- Pasture (tame hay) conditions are reported as 18 (19) per cent poor, 39 (40) per cent fair, 39 (37) per cent good, and 4 (4) per cent excellent.

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