

CROP REPORT

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Weekly Provincial Summary

- Parts of the Southwest and Central regions saw storms over the past week with heavy rainfall, strong winds, and hail. Assessments of crop damage are on going.
- Warm temperatures and rainfall over the past week have resulted in crops that are advancing quickly. Dry conditions continue to be a concern in some areas.
- Herbicide applications continue as fields allow. Fungicide applications for management of fusarium head blight are on going in winter cereals.
- First cut haying operations continue.

Table 1: Seeding progress in 2018 compared to 2017 and the 5 year average.

Seeding Date	This Year	Last Year	5 year average
Week/Month	2018	2017	2013-2017
<5	1%	2%	7%
1:05	26%	30%	27%
2:05	55%	59%	51%
3:05	80%	80%	72%
4:05	94%	95%	88%
1:06	99%	99%	96%
2:06	99%	100%	99%
3:06	100%	100%	100%
4:06	-	100%	100%
>6	-	100%	100%

Source: 2018 seeding progression from Regional Crop Reporters, 2017 and 5 year average seeding progression from MASC Seeded Acreage Reports.

Southwest Region

Major weather events over the past week in parts of the Southwest region. Hail and high winds in the Elgin, Minto, Waskada, and Ninette areas resulted in severe hail damage to crops and property damage. Producers are planning for reseeded after MASC assessments. Precipitation ranged from 10 to 55 mm throughout most

of the region, Brandon and Neepawa areas received less precipitation.

Winter wheat and fall rye are at the early heading stage and producers are planning for fungicide applications where risk warrants. Cereal crops are progressing well, some early seeded crops are close

to flag leaf stage. Early seeded canola is cabbaging and covering the ground. Later seeded and reseeded canola is benefitting from the recent rains.

Soybeans are in the V1 (first trifoliolate) to V2 (second trifoliolate) stage. Corn is in the 3 to 7 leaf stage. Peas are in the 7 to 8th node

stage and are starting to show tendrils. Some root rot is showing up in low lying areas.

Herbicide applications are about 70% complete. Weed control is mostly complete in spring cereals and most soybeans have received their first pass.

Diamond back moth and bertha armyworm counts are low. Flea beetle is not a major issue at this stage.

Dugouts are about 70% full and pastures are benefitting from the recent rains. Producers are getting ready to take first cut.

Northwest Region

Generally, good growing conditions through most of the region and crops are advancing nicely. Limited precipitation this week in many parts of the region, although Swan River received 4 to 10 mm of rain, southeast of Roblin received 20 mm, and The Pas received 15 to 20 mm. Soil moisture conditions are variable with most of the region's soil moisture rated as adequate however areas around Ste. Rose are dry and soils are wet around The Pas and parts of Roblin.

Seeding through most of the region is complete with the exception of The Pas where seeding is still wrapping up due to wet conditions. Spring wheat is in the seedling/tillering stage. Canola is emerged with 80% in the seedling stage and 20% in the rosette stage. Soybeans and field peas are emerged with 75% of the soybeans and 100% of the peas in the vegetative stage. Some wheat and pea fields in the Roblin area are starting to yellow due to excess soil moisture. Crop condition is generally the same throughout the region with 80% of crops evaluated as good.

Windy conditions through the middle of the week were a challenge for

pesticide applications and field operations caused ruts in wet fields.

There are reports of flea beetle activity in later seeded canola in Swan River and The Pas. Diamondback and bertha armyworm trap counts remain low although there were reports of diamondback activity in one area northwest of Bowsman.

With dry conditions remaining in the eastern side of the region, adequate rainfall is needed soon to replenish pastures and continue hay growth. The Rorketon region is one of the more severely affected areas. Dugouts are currently adequate areas but rain is required to refill supplies. Where sufficient rainfall has occurred, pasture conditions are good. Producers targeting high quality hay have begun haying operations. Projected first cut hay yields will be below average to average depending on age of stand, fertility program and moisture conditions.

Central Region

A severe weather system affected the region bringing strong winds, intense rain and hail on Thursday. Precipitation varied from 4 in the Plumas area to 50 mm in the Portage area. Some of the highest amounts were on the escarpment in the south western side of the region with of 48 mm in the Somerset area. Large hail stones, some baseball sized, affected a west to east strip that more or less followed highway #23 causing severe crop damage along the way. Hail damage is reported from the Killarney to Morden area with the most severe damage in the Ninette to Baldur to Manitou and Darlingford areas. Fields are being assessed for damage, and some are expected to be reseeded when conditions allow.

With this last storm event, the precipitation received caused some

field erosion and temporary localized flooding but is helping to replenish topsoil and subsoil moisture reserves. Water is ponding in the low lying areas of fields where the precipitation was most abundant.

Seeding was considered complete in the region but with the recent hail damage, numerous fields above the escarpment are expected to be reseeded.

Winter wheat and fall rye are flowering and fungicides for fusarium head blight are being applied where conditions warrant. Wheat, oats, and barley are in the five leaf to boot stage. Corn is in the 4 to 7 leaf stage. Supplemental nitrogen application has started for corn in the Carman area.

Reseeded canola is emerging well. Most canola fields are advanced enough that flea beetle pressure is no longer an establishment factor. Canola development varies but most fields are in the 5-7 leaf stage and covering the ground rapidly. The earliest planted canola fields in the Red River Valley are bolting and some have started to flower. Diamondback moth in the late larval and pupal stage was found in some fields in north of Portage.

Soybean fields are in the second to 4th trifoliolate leaf stage and most advanced in the Red River Valley. Some fields are showing symptoms of iron deficiency chlorosis. The first weed control pass is done and the second is expected shortly as the crop develops and conditions allow. Edible bean fields are showing good growth. Fusarium root rot symptoms were found in some Portage area fields.

Potato fields are growing well with irrigation applied where moisture conditions require. Minor seed rot was noticed in some spots. Some

tillage has continued between rows to keep weeds in check.

Weed control operations are wrapping up. Cereals are growing rapidly and the crop canopy is closing well. Windy conditions have been a challenge for spraying operations. Crops and weeds are growing well resulting in good effectiveness of weed control measures applied. First pass herbicide applications have been done on canola, soybeans and corn. A second pass will follow within days.

Pasture conditions are rated as fair but range from poor to good and improved with the recent rains. First cut of alfalfa is underway for dairy quality forage. Hay yields are expected to be below normal due to the dry conditions at the start of the season. Greenfeed is being grown for extra feed. Lack of rainfall to sustain forage growth was a concern but the recent rains are helping to stimulate growth. Cattle are out onto pastures as growth has improved. Livestock water supply is adequate at this time.

Eastern Region

Rainfall amounts varied across the Eastern Region with areas receiving 23 to 52 mm. Overall, soil moisture in the region is rated as adequate.

Crops showed a noticeable jump in growth with the rain and heat of the past week. Winter wheat is at the anthesis stage. Spring cereals are at the flag leaf stage with heads starting to emerge from the boot. Canola is in the rosette stage to early bolt stage. Soybeans are in the 2nd to early 4th trifoliolate leaf. Sunflowers are V3 to early V5. Corn is in the V4-6 stage.

First pass spraying was largely completed this past week. Some canola acres have received second

pass herbicide applications with more second pass acres planned for corn and soybean in the coming week. FHB fungicide applications will begin this week on the winter wheat.

Crops in general are looking very good, the rain and heat have helped considerably. There is some standing water in low spots but it is dissipating quickly. Some yellowing in soybeans fields has been noted, but fields are starting to green up.

Hay and pasture moisture conditions were rated at 80% adequate and 20% short. Hay condition is rated as rated at 60% good and 40% fair. Pasture condition is rated as rated as 50% good and 50% fair. Hay crops and pastures have picked up and producers are rotating between paddocks. Dairy producers have finished their 1st cut while beef producers are hoping to start in a week or so. First cut yields have been below average. Some hay fields are still being fertilized this past week. Dugouts are at 100% full with the past weeks rain.

Interlake Region

Rainfall for most of the region was 12 mm or less; only a southern band including Selkirk, Stonewall and Woodlands received amounts in the 25 to 40mm range. The northwest Interlake continues to miss the rains - Moosehorn area recorded .6 mm. All areas of the Interlake are looking for more rain; the majority of the region has seen less than 60% normal precipitation. Although adequate for most at present, soil moisture levels are declining, and all areas are looking for rain.

Seeding is complete in the Interlake region. Germination has been stagey in many cereal and canola

fields; rains in most areas has aided in filling in the gaps. Seed is stranded in dry soil in a handful of fields that have not received sufficient rainfall.

Crops have advanced noticeably in the last week in most areas, although some growth is slow due to lack of moisture. Cereals range from four to six leaf and tillering; stem elongation has begun and flag leaf stage is not far away for the most advanced fields. Some spring wheat is receiving top up 28-0-0 applications. Fall rye is heading. Corn is as advanced as V3. Canola ranges from three leaf to rosette. The odd canola field has been reseeded due to a combination of stresses – poor germination, flea beetle injury, cutworm damage. Most soybeans are in the first to third trifoliolate stage; some interveinal deficiency chlorosis is evident. Pea fields are looking very good.

Good progress has been made with herbicide applications, when conditions have allowed. Windy conditions have made some herbicide applications a challenge. The majority of cereal fields have been treated. Most canola and soybean fields have seen one application; second applications have begun.

Warmer temperatures have brought on some of the warm season weeds; green and yellow foxtail and redroot pigweed are abundant. Herbicide control to date has been quite effective.

Canola is generally advanced enough to withstand flea beetle pressure. Diamondback moth trap counts are increasing; numbers are relatively low and monitoring continues. No bertha armyworm moths trapped to date. Scattered patches of cutworm damage has been noted.



Monitoring for alfalfa weevil larvae continues. Damage is variable, and control measures are being taken where economic.

Alfalfa is starting to flower, with standing relative feed values in the 150 to 180 range. First cut dairy hay has started, as well as newer alfalfa stands; yields are reported as

average to poor. Most pastures are currently providing enough forage for summer grazing requirements. Dugouts are less than half-full.