

Issue 9 – June 25, 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, and severe storms occurred in several regions. Precipitation for the past seven days ranged from 0 mm to 79.8 mm (Table 1). Southwest, Central, and Interlake regions accumulated the most precipitation between June 17 and June 23. Austin (79.8 mm) received the most precipitation.

Table 1. Range of seven-day accumulated precipitation (June 17 to 23) in Manitoba’s Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location	Driest Location
Central	Austin (79.8 mm)	Clearwater (19.8 mm)
Eastern	St. Pierre (40.5 mm)	Dugald (17.5 mm)
Interlake	Woodlands (67.3 mm)	Moosehorn (3.6 mm)
Northwest	Ashville (45.2 mm)	The Pas (0 mm)
Southwest	Carberry EC (64.8 mm)	Kola (8.8 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to June 23 range from 81.3 mm to 141.8 mm (Table 2) and are based on 30-year historical data. Total accumulated rainfall was variable across agro-Manitoba with the Central and Southwestern regions accumulating the most precipitation so far this season. With recent rainfall events, precipitation accumulation in most areas has exceeded 150% 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	104.6 → 131.0	34 (all)	Austin (251, 226%)	Emerson (163, 132%)
Eastern	121.3 → 141.8	23 (all)	Winnipeg (205, 163%)	Elma (142, 109%)
Interlake	100.8 → 124.9	17 of 18	Woodlands (217, 173%)	Moosehorn (100, 87%)
Northwest	81.3 → 123.4	22 (all)	Pipe Lake (224, 196%)	Swan River (111, 106%)
Southwest	99.3 → 131.0	42 (all)	Carberry EC (229, 218%)	Deloraine (131, 124%)

- 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 – June 23, 2024. GDD accumulation is near or below normal for the majority of Agro-Manitoba. To find interactive soil temperature/moisture and air temperature information see Agri-Maps Current Weather [viewer](#).

Overview

Crop progression was noted in all regions over the last week. Fall rye stands are at the soft dough stage. In winter wheat, heads have fully emerged and flowered. Rapid advancement in winter cereal crop development continues and crop conditions are rated as good. Spring cereals continue to advance with earliest planted fields at flag leaf stage, with some barley and spring wheat heading out. Soybean and dry bean crops are progressing at a slower pace given the cooler conditions. Growth staging for both crops reported at cotyledon to second trifoliate stage. Weed control has been acceptable in these crops. Field peas are at the 8 to 10 node stage, with some flowering in the Central region.

Cereals

- Fall rye stands are at the soft dough stage. In winter wheat, heads have fully emerged and flowered with fungicide applications for Fusarium head blight complete. Rapid advancement in winter cereal crop development continues to be noted and crop conditions are rated as good.
- Oats/spring wheat are at 3 leaves to stem elongation, with barley at three leaves to awns emerging. Central region reporting cereals are at flag leaf stage, with some barley and spring wheat heading out.
- Grain corn growth stage ranges from V4 to V6.

Oilseeds

- Canola growth stage ranges from the rosette stage to bolting stages, but the earliest fields began flowering early last week in the Central region. Growth stages ranging from cotyledon to rosette/cabbaging have been reported in the Interlake and Eastern regions.
- Sunflowers are at the V6 to V8 growth stage. Flax crops ranged from growth stage 4 to 5.

Pulses and Soybeans

- Field peas are at the 8 to 10 node stage, with some flowering in the Central region.
- Soybean growth stage ranges from cotyledon to second trifoliate stage. Overall crop development is delayed with producers looking for warmer conditions to drive the crop forward.
- Iron deficiency chlorosis has started to show in some fields.
- Dry beans are in first to second trifoliate stage.

Forages & Livestock

Forages

- Roughly 60% of dairy producers in the Eastern region have completed first-cut harvest of alfalfa fields. Beef producers are hoping to follow suit as soon as the weather allows. Hay stands are maturing quickly, however daily rain showers are making field access difficult and do not allow for sufficient drying time of cut forages.
- There may be a significant amount of feed harvested as round bale silage this year given that weather conditions are making it difficult to put up good quality dry hay. Several producers in the Eastern region are concerned about the quantity and quality of harvested feed that will be available for the upcoming winter.
- There has been a small start to haying in the Swan Valley area. Hay harvest will be difficult due to heavy to excessive moisture throughout the region.

- Grass and forages are growing well but would benefit from warmer weather to make the most of the moisture. Bromes and ryegrasses are heading, and alfalfa is mid flowering. Most dairy farms have taken their first cut of alfalfa silage. Silage has been a good option for producers to shorten the period needed for drying hay, and some producers have switched from hay production to silage.

Livestock

- Cattle on pasture are in excellent condition and the grass is growing well. There is some concern that cattle may damage low-lying areas of pastures that are significantly wet.
- Cattle are turned out on pasture making the most of strong growth due to the moist soil conditions. Farms which are still calving may be supplementing on smaller paddocks close to the yard. Producers are attempting to control fly numbers on pasture and are looking for pink eye and foot rot where conditions remain wet underfoot.
- Pastures are in excellent condition, with alfalfa thriving and grasses having headed out, except for big blue stem and little blue stem varieties. Rye grasses and bromes are in full head, promising a good hay crop ahead, provided rains allow for cutting without difficulty accessing wet spots.
- Cow-calf pairs are in good health, with ample grazing grass available, and bulls are being introduced to cows.
- Dugouts and irrigation ponds are mostly recharged, with many rivers full, and some ditches with standing water in them.

Regional Comments

Southwest

Rains accompanied by heavy winds and hailstorms occurred in various areas of the region. The Carberry and Minto areas received the most precipitation, totaling 60-65mm, with significant moisture reported in all other areas. Hail ranging from nickel to golf ball size was reported at Pierson, causing some crop and vehicle damage in those areas. Other instances of hail were observed in and around Brandon. Unseasonably cool temperatures persist due to stormy weather, which could affect crop growth.

No reports of any major unseeded acres. Cool-season crops, including winter cereals and canola, appear to be performing well. Sunflowers are also looking decent. Early spring cereals are thriving, but later crops are lagging and require warmer weather to catch up. Warm season crops such as soybeans, dry beans, and corn, are experiencing slower growth this year.

Crop progress varies. Canola ranges from two leaves to pre-bolt stage, and peas are 12 inches tall with 8-10 nodes. Soybeans/dry beans are at the first trifoliate stage and growing slowly due to cooler conditions. Sunflowers are at stages V4-V6, corn at V5, oats/spring wheat at 3 leaves to stem elongation, barley at three leaves to awns emerging, winter wheat at head emergence nearing anthesis, and rye has completed anthesis.

Few pest issues have been reported, though alfalfa weevils, Colorado potato beetles, and some flea beetles are still present. Weeds such as Canada thistle, red root pigweed, and lamb's quarters have shown late flushes, while kochia has proven resistant to group 2 herbicides in trials. Foxtail barley, mostly below the canopy, is expected to head out soon, while downy brome has already gone to seed. The risk of cutworms is currently low.

Northwest

Generally a better week of weather conditions. With the seeding deadline for coverage approaching, most seeding that can be completed were finalized. There are areas that remain unseeded due to excess moisture. The weekend brought precipitation to most of the region, with some localized amounts being quite heavy. Areas receiving the most precipitation were already saturated. Highest precipitation was at the Ashville and Keld stations at 45mm. No precipitation was reported at The Pas station. Overnight temperatures remained cool for most of the week.

Recent precipitation has added to existing moisture stress in some areas. The challenges include unseeded acres, standing water in crops, and inability to apply pesticides. Frequent high winds have also hampered pesticide applications.

Field peas are continuing in the vegetative stage and are looking good for the most part. Majority of spring wheat is in the tillering stage and is looking good so far. Canola crops continue to be quite varied. While some reseeded/late seeded canola is just emerging, earliest seeded canola is in pre-bolt stage. Flea beetle pressure continues and is requiring multiple insecticide applications. Herbicide applications are ongoing as stages are reached however, wind and wet conditions continue to challenge timely applications. Soybean crops are mostly in the first trifoliate stage. Winter wheat and fall rye crops are advancing and headed out.

Central

The week was windy with scattered thunderstorms, bringing localized hail and lodging damage, particularly on hill tops and light land. The northwest of the region received the most rainfall around Austin, Cypress River, and Holland. The southeast of the region received the least.

Planting has wrapped up, with herbicide and fungicide applications being the focus. There is water in low spots, with crops undergoing visible water stress. The cooler temperatures are slowing crop growth, and many crops are more advanced developmentally than they may at first appear given their height.

The stage of each crop 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. Cereals are at flag leaf stage, with some barley and spring wheat heading out. In-crop herbicide, insecticide, and plant growth regulator applications are taking place as conditions allow, but in a few cases the optimum opportunity was missed due to weather conditions. Fall rye and winter wheat is mostly at the milk stage. Silage and grain corn growth has been slow this year due to the cool temperatures. Most of the crop is at V3, being more advanced in the south of the region, where some of the earlier crop is at V6.

Field peas are flowering. Soybeans range from the first to third trifoliate stage and edible beans are at the first to second trifoliate stage. Reports of iron deficiency chlorosis in soybeans.

Canola is from the rosette stage to bolting stages, but the earliest fields began flowering early last week. Flax is mostly 6 inches tall at growth stage 4 (start of leaf spiral) – stage 5 (stem extension) with herbicide applications complete. Sunflowers vary greatly depending on planting date and are between V6 to V12, with most herbicide applications complete.

Most of the canola crop has now moved outside of the vulnerable stages for flea beetles. However, later seeded canola is still vulnerable with some fields being sprayed. Cutworm issues seem to have reduced but are still sporadically affecting canola and sunflower crops. Diamondback moths have been found at moderate levels in monitoring traps across the central region, with Rosenfeld seeing one of the largest overall cumulative counts in Manitoba. Grasshoppers are active, and limited spraying has been taking place at field edges. A small number of

seedcorn maggots have been reported in sunflowers, but no serious damage. Small populations of sunflower beetles have been reported, but this has caused minimal issues.

Fungicide spraying is underway and is complete in many of the early seeded cereal fields. In some cases, applications were not able to take place until after the crop was well within the flag leaf stage. Tan spot is appearing in wheat fields, likely supported by the cool, damp weather this spring.

Eastern

Rainfall accumulations were highly variable and ranged from about 18 mm to over 40 mm with the bulk of the rain falling last Tuesday as severe thunderstorms. Daytime and nighttime temperatures started the week in the normal range and dropped to below normal just before the rainfall on Tuesday. The rest of the week saw temperatures gradually climb to above normal levels with humidity levels increasing in step. Winds were strong throughout the week but producers made rapid progress on spraying when winds were reduced. Regardless, field access issues and generally windy conditions challenged spraying efforts and attempts at any final seeding. While standing water in fields gradually decreased in most areas over the reporting period, areas of standing water were still easily found at the end of the week. Spring cereals along with field peas, flax, soybeans, and corn continued to display yellowing and plant mortality in low field areas.

With the passing of MASC deadlines, seeding ended with about 10% of acres in the region remaining unseeded. Unseeded acres varied greatly across farm operations and geography with some areas of the Eastern Region particularly hard hit and others better off. Herbicide and fungicide application remain the focus as some early seeded crops grow out of stage. Producers remain concerned about weed growth stage and herbicide efficacy on some fields where herbicide application has been significantly delayed.

Fall rye stands are at the soft dough stage. In winter wheat, heads have fully emerged and flowered with fungicide applications for Fusarium head blight complete. Rapid advancement in winter cereal crop development continues to be noted and crop conditions are rated as good. Herbicide applications in early seeded spring cereals are complete. In some cases, crops grew out of stage before herbicides or growth regulators could be applied. Herbicide application on later seeded cereals is ongoing with that crop ranging from the two-leaf stage to stem elongation.

Overall crop conditions were rated as good although persistent yellowing of the crop in saturated field areas was noted. In corn, depending on the field, herbicide application progress ranged from first pass almost complete to the second pass ongoing. Crop stage was generally more uniform and usually ranged from V4 to V5. While crop condition was rated as mostly good outside of saturated field areas, corn development was noted as slow with producers desiring higher temperatures to drive the crop forward.

Soybean growth stage ranged from cotyledon to second trifoliolate stage. Overall crop development is delayed with producers looking for warmer conditions to drive the crop forward. First pass herbicide applications are about 50% complete. Increasing yellowing of soybean fields during the reporting period was noted and attributed to the effects of excess moisture, herbicide application and the beginning of iron chlorosis.

Early planted canola is at the bolting to early flower stage. Spraying was beginning on the late planted canola crop with growth stages ranging from cotyledon to rosette/cabbaging. A limited amount of insecticide application to control flea beetles continued to occur.

Field pea growth stage ranges from 8 to 12 nodes. Overall crop condition was good but yellowing in saturated field areas was becoming very evident. In these areas, wilting plants and ample evidence of rot root was found.

Producers and agronomists are looking for dry conditions going forward to prevent root diseases from taking hold in large areas of fields.

Flax crops ranged from growth stage 4 (start of leaf spiral) to 5 (stem extension). Herbicide applications are mostly complete on the limited flax acres in the region. Overall crop condition is rated as good although crop yellowing in saturated field areas continues to be noted. Sunflower growth stage ranges from V8 to V12 with the crop in mostly good condition. Herbicide applications in sunflowers are mostly complete. A few sunflower beetles were noted in some fields, but leaf damage was minimal and plant growth stage was adequately advanced.

Interlake

There was a mix of weather conditions this past week across the Interlake region. Rainfall across the region varied from heavy downpours, to localized drizzles. Amounts were variable and most areas received about 18-37 mm. Lake Francis, Poplarfield, Inwood, Arborg and Woodlands received higher amounts between 42-67 mm. There are some fields with standing water in low areas. Much of the region has good to adequate moisture levels, although the southwest part of the region is wet. The area around Moosehorn continues to be dry, receiving less than 5mm of rain. Surface moisture is currently sufficient for most of the region, with isolated areas having excess moisture in the South and North.

At this point in time, seeding in the region is 90% complete. Seeding progress is more advanced in the South Interlake area and is estimated at 95% done, while the North Interlake parts of the region are approximately 65% complete. Conditions for germination and emergence has been good for crops, excluding canola and soybean fields. Some fields are showing signs of excess moisture stress and may experience rot as a result. Reseeding has started due to excessive water and cutworm and flea beetle damage. There are more unseeded fields towards Woodlands in the South Interlake. Field conditions continue to be variable. Strong winds have continued to be a concern, interfering with spraying operations but also damaging crop stands and drying out the soil surface.

Early seeded spring wheat is in the four to six leaf stage, with 2 or 3 tillers. Herbicide applications are complete. The most advanced spring wheat is at stem elongation stage. Oats and barley are at similar leaf stages. Winter wheat growth stages have advanced to full head emergence with no major reports of Fusarium head blight.

Canola staging ranges from cotyledon to three to four leaf stage. The remaining unseeded acres may be switched to other crop types such as barley for green feed. Many canola fields have uneven germination, due to flea beetle damage and seeds stranded in moist soil. Some canola reseeding has started due to poor germination in dry conditions but is not widespread.

Soybeans are emerging, with most in the cotyledon to unifoliate stage. The most advanced fields are in the second to third trifoliate in the Southern parts of the region. There have been comments about slow crop emergence and stand losses due to seedling disease in earlier planted soybean fields. Iron deficiency chlorosis has started to show in some fields.

Sunflowers have emerged nicely and are in good condition at V4 to V6 stage, most have received herbicide application. Flax has emerged; the stands look great with the growth stage ranging from cotyledon to the first and second pairs of true leaves unfolding. Some flax is up to 15 cm tall. Most advanced corn is at V4 to V5. Both silage and grain corn are looking good. Most have received a first herbicide application.

Weed pressures are increasing but herbicide spraying continues to be a challenge due to unfavorable weather conditions. Herbicide applications on wheat and corn are ongoing in the Interlake area and are about 40% complete. Many cereal fields that have not yet been sprayed will be on the late side of herbicide application.

Producers are hoping for warm and sunny conditions this week so they can make rapid progress on spraying.

Diamondback moth and true armyworm trap numbers are moderate, but quite variable due to the fluctuating temperatures and winds. Trap numbers this week have ranged from none to 47. The North Interlake area remains the highest with trap counts. True armyworm counts remain low in the South Interlake area. Bertha armyworm trap counts and monitoring are ongoing. Some flea beetle spraying occurred last week on earlier seeded canola fields. Spraying for fall armyworms and field cutworms in the North Interlake took place as well. Producers are encouraged to scout their fields for flea beetle pressure. There are no major reports of grasshopper and cutworm pressures.