

Issue 20(Week 39) – September 26, 2023

Crop Report



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Weekly Provincial Summary

- Precipitation was varied across agro-Manitoba this week with values ranging from 0 mm to 33.8 mm (**Table 1**). The highest amounts of precipitation in the past seven days were in the Eastern and Central regions. Gretna (33.8 mm) received the most precipitation.

Table 1. Seven-day accumulated precipitation in Manitoba's Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location last Week	Driest Location last Week
Central	Gretna (33.8 mm)	Lakeland (0.6 mm)
Eastern	Dominion City (28.8 mm)	Stead (5.8 mm)
Interlake	Stonewall (11.9 mm)	Moosehorn (0.4 mm)
Northwest	McCreary (9.9 mm)	Several (0 mm)
Southwest	Waskada (23.8 mm)	St. Lazare (0 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to September 24 range from 269.8 mm to 387.7 mm and are based on 30-year historical data. Total accumulated rainfall remains variable across agro-Manitoba. Areas of the province near Fisherton have received more than 100% of normal precipitation since May 1. Much of the Central region's accumulated precipitation remains below 60% compared to the 30-year average.
- Soil Moisture 0 - 30 cm shows a regional representation of soil moisture conditions for the top 30 cm on September 24, 2023 relative to field capacity. Soil moisture levels are variable throughout agro-Manitoba with the majority of the province showing dry to very dry conditions at the 30 cm depth. Localized areas are showing optimal to wet conditions relative to field capacity.
- Soil Moisture 0 - 120 cm shows a regional representation of soil moisture conditions for the top 120 cm on September 24, 2023 relative to field capacity. The majority of the province is showing optimal to dry conditions to the 120 cm depth. Some areas of the Southwest and a few localized regions are showing wet conditions.
- 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 – September 24. All

locations, have accumulated more than 100% of the 30 –year average since May 1. The majority of agro-Manitoba has accumulated more than 110% of normal GDD.

- To find interactive soil temperature/moisture and air temperature information see Agri-Maps Current Weather [viewer](#).

Overview

Harvest progress sits at 76% complete across the province (**Table 2**), which is ahead of the 5-year average (64%). Harvest continues in spring cereal crops, with barley at 98% complete, oats at 98% complete and spring wheat at 97% complete. Overall, cereal crops remain in fair to mostly good condition.

Table 2: Percentage Harvest Completion by Crop and Region to September 26, 2023

Crop	Southwest	Northwest	Central	Eastern	Interlake	MB AVG
Winter Wheat	100	100	100	100	100	100
Fall Rye	100	100	100	100	100	100
Spring Wheat	95	98	100	95	95	97
Barley	95	99	100	100	100	98
Oats	95	99	100	100	99	98
Field Pea	100	100	100	100	100	100
Canola	75	75	90	60	60	78
Soybeans	35	-	75	45	10	41
Dry Beans	80	-	85	-	60	84
Regional AVG	73	74	88	69	73	76

Crops still unharvested, or negligible acres displayed as – or omitted from this table.

Many corn fields have reached physiological maturity and are drying down. Grain corn harvest has started in the Central region. Canola harvest continues with approximately 78% of the acres being harvested across the province. Soybean fields are mostly in the R8 growth stage with harvest progress sitting at 41% provincially.

Producers are encouraged to scout their fields for weeds that have escaped control. This is an important part of integrated pest management. Waterhemp has been found in the Central and Eastern regions and producers should seek identification of any unusual pigweeds in their fields.

Cereals

- Spring wheat yields range from 35 to 80 bu/acre, with highs of 90 bu/acre in areas that received more moisture and lows of 16 bu/acre in drier areas. Protein levels range from 13.5% and higher and grading #1 or #2 Canada. Oat yields range from 80-130 bu/acre, with yield reports of 60 bu/acre in drier areas. Barley yields range from 70 to 100 bu/acre.
- The spring wheat quality is rated as mostly fair to good (**Table 3**).
- The majority of grain corn has reached maturity. Approximately 5% of grain corn has been harvested in the Central region with early yield reports ranging from 80 to 200 bu/acre.

- Winter wheat and fall rye are emerging, recent rainfall will help with establishment.

Table 3: Spring Wheat Quality Rating by Region

	Southwest	Northwest	Central	Eastern	Interlake
Excellent	-	10%	-	10 %	-
Good	40%	60%	40%	90%	90%
Fair	50%	30%	50%	-	10%
Poor	10%	-	10%	-	-
Very Poor	-	-	-	-	-

Oilseeds

- Canola harvest continues with approximately 78% of acres being harvested provincially and 90% complete in the Central region. Overall crop condition ranged from fair to mostly good. Reported canola yields range from 20-60 bu/acre.
- Flax crop is at stage 12 (seeds ripe). Flax harvest continues with approximately 22% of acres being harvested provincially. Yields range from 20 to 25 bu/acre.
- Sunflowers are at the R9 stage, desiccation has occurred on a number of acres.

Pulses and Soybeans

- Soybeans are mostly in the R8 growth stage, with harvest progress at 41% provincially. Yields have been variable and dependent on summer rainfall. Yield ranges from 20 to 30 bu/acre on the earliest harvested fields to 30 to 60 bu/acre on fields harvested over the last week.
- Dry bean harvest is approximately 84% complete. Yield ranges from 1200 to 2500 lbs/acre.
- Field pea harvest is complete.

Forages & Livestock

Forages

- Corn silage harvest is well underway throughout the province, with some areas complete. Yields are variable depending on rainfall amounts throughout the growing season. Corn silage yields are ranging from 13 to 15 tonnes/acre.
- Straw is being baled for bedding and for cattle feed.
- Beef producers continue to chip away at second cut from fields that are predominantly grass and are cutting hay in sloughs in some areas.
- Some producers are considering taking second cut on alfalfa fields. This is because we are three weeks past the critical harvest date of September 1st, the alfalfa's root reserves should be well charged, and minimal regrowth is expected.
- Forage growth on hay & pasture is mostly finished due to dry conditions and nearing the end of the growing season.

- Light frost in parts of the region in the Northwest region have producers concerned over nitrates in their annual crop silage and greenfeed still standing, and are advised to feed test their annual crops for nitrates prior to feeding.

Livestock

- Pasture conditions are variable. On pastures that don't have sufficient forage, cattle are being supplemented or moved to fall grazing areas.
- A handful of producers are beginning to move cattle onto fenced hayfields or harvested cropland to graze available regrowth and/or stubble.
- Water supplies are adequate but at lower levels, sources will require recharging prior to the next grazing season.
- Water levels in dugouts are low. This is of particular concern on pastures located in areas that have consistently missed out on rain.
- Grass conditions on pasture are dwindling as we progress further into the fall and plant growth naturally slows. The status of individual pastures continues to be highly dependent on moisture levels, grazing management strategy, and soil type.
- Some producers are hauling cows home and taking calves to the auction marts.

Regional Comments

Southwest

There was good harvest progress early in the week, but weekend rain stopped harvest operations. Southern areas of the region such as Pearson, Deloraine, and Waskada received 15 to 20 mm of rain, while Northern areas such as Hamiota and Shoal Lake did not receive much rain during the past week. Temperatures were above normal, maximum daytime temperature was 30.6°C and a minimum of 2.0°C was recorded during the last week.

Spring cereal harvest is estimated at 95% complete. Spring wheat yields are average to slightly above average and ranged from 55 to 75 bu/acre. Barley and oat yields are average. Winter wheat and fall rye is emerging, recent rain will help with establishment.

Canola harvest is estimated to be 75% complete, average yields are expected to be 35 to 40 bu/acre. Flax harvest continues, with 10% complete and yields ranging from 20 to 25 bu/acre.

The majority of soybeans are at the R8 stage, and harvest progress is estimated to be 35% complete. Early yields reported for soybeans range from 30 to 40 bu/acre. Most sunflowers are at the R9 stage, and some producers are planning desiccation in the coming days. Black birds are causing damage in sunflower crops, in some fields damage is estimated at 30%.

Corn is physiologically mature, with grain moistures ranging from 12 to 25%. Heights are variable due to dry conditions. Corn silage chopping continues, with some areas complete. Silage is past its optimum stage, and now producers are more on the dry side at about 40% moisture or less.

Fall work is being done, including harrowing and spraying. Lots of straw has been baled as producers are trying to put up many different feed sources.

Northwest

Good harvest weather continued this week, with light rain pausing progress on Sunday. The regional high was at the Ashville weather station at 28°C. Overnight lows stayed slightly above 0°C, the Inglis station recorded the lowest temperature at 1.1°C.

Spring wheat harvest had another good week of progress, with most areas approximately 98% done. Yields have been ranging from 50 to 90 bu/acre, while some fields have done poorer and some better. Initial reports of quality have been good, however some reports of lower protein. Most winter cereals have been seeded.

Canola harvest continued over the week and is approximately 75% complete. Desiccation and swathing continue as crops reach appropriate stages. Yield reports have averaged from 40 to 55 bu/acre, while some crops have yielded below 40 bu/acre and some above 55 bu/acre.

Field pea harvest is 100% complete. Yields are variable and are mostly dependent on precipitation through the season. Fields with little precipitation ranged from 40 to 45 bu/acre while better fields at 60 to 70 bu/acre. Baling of pea straw is occurring. Some post-harvest field work has been done as crops are removed.

Soybeans are in the R8 stage and are moving towards maturity. Soybean harvest has started in some areas, with anticipation that more crop will be ready in the coming week. Initial yields are reported at 30 to 35 bu/acre.

Central

Prolonged light rain affected the central region this past week, especially the south east part of the region. Gretna (33.8mm), Emerson (27.6mm), Altona (26.7mm), and Winkler (25.1mm) received the most rainfall, while the north/northwest part of the central region received considerably less rainfall.

Harvest of spring cereals is complete. Spring wheat yields are highly variable, depending mostly on how much rainfall the crop received during the growing season, but most spring wheat yields have ranged from 35 to 65 bu/acre. Oats have been yielding 80 to 130 bu/acre, with some in the driest areas as low as 60 bu/acre. Barley between 70 and 100 bu/acre.

Corn harvest has started, with harvest progress at approximately 5%. Early yield reports vary widely, with yields ranging from 80 to 200 bu/acre depending on how much moisture the crop received throughout the growing season. Approximately 80% of silage corn fields have been harvested, with yields ranging from 13 to 15 tonne/acre.

Canola harvest continues, with harvest progress at approximately 90% for the region. Yields vary greatly, between 20 and 55 bu/acre, with averages closer to the 30 to 40 bushel range. Flax harvest is underway, with approximately 50% harvested. Sunflower fields are quickly approaching harvest, with most fields having received a desiccant.

Field pea harvest is complete, with the majority of yields ranging from 45 to 60 bu/acre. Soybean harvest continues with approximately 75% harvested. Most soybeans are at R8 and drying down. Earliest soybean yields are mostly between 20 to 25 bu/acre. Over the last week yields have improved to the 30 to 40 bu/acre range.

Harvest is underway for dry beans, with harvest standing at approximately 85%. Edible bean yields are in the region of 1200 to 2500 lbs/acre.

Eastern

Rainfall accumulations over the reporting period ranged from 3 to 20 mm, with the majority of locations getting 10 to 15 mm. Across most of the Southeast region rainfall came as light showers or drizzle from Thursday to Sunday, hindering harvest and field work progress.

Spring wheat harvest was about 95% complete. Average yield on spring wheat has been better than expected at around 70 bu/acre with 13.5% or higher protein levels and grading #1 or #2 Canada. Oat harvest was complete with yields at around 130 bu/acre on average and good bushel weights. Barley harvest was also complete with yields averaging out at around 100 bu/acre.

Many corn fields had achieved growth stage R6 ("black layer" or physiological maturity) and were drying down. The majority of the crop is in good to excellent condition. Corn harvest is expected to begin this week. Corn silage harvest is well underway and yields are reported as good to above average.

The majority of sunflower fields were desiccated this past week, the remaining will likely be done soon. The crop remains in good to excellent condition as producers wait for the crop to dry down.

Canola harvest progress is at approximately 60%, with the majority of the remaining acres ready to harvest. Yield estimates are at 60 bu/acre on average with good quality. Flax crop is at stage 12 (seed ripe), and desiccation of most fields has occurred.

Soybean harvest continued this week with about 45% of acres harvested. Soybeans are at R8 and drying down. Yield reports range from 30 to 60 bu/acre depending on variety and growing season rainfall. Average yields are in the 45 to 50 bu/acre range.

Interlake

Across the Interlake region there were spotty showers and drizzle, which limited harvest progress in some areas. Rainfall amounts were highest in the South Interlake with Selkirk and Stonewall receiving 10.7 and 11.9 mm, respectively. Average temperatures were in the mid-teens across the region.

Spring wheat harvest is 95% complete, with average yields between 65 to 80 bu/acre, mostly all #1 Canada. High-test weights and proteins 13.9 to 15.5% with the average being 14.5%. Many producers are reporting dealing with tough straw, and harvesting grain that is not dry.

Oats are coming off with average yields ranging from 140 to 170 bu/acre and estimated completion at 99%. Some oats are being reported as light, but most are adequate in weight. Barley average yields are 60-80 bu/acre, with good test weights. Barley harvest is complete.

Most soybeans are at R8 to reaching physiological maturity. Soybean harvest has started, with 10% complete. Yield estimate is 35 to 55 bu/acre. Edible bean harvest has started in the Fisher Branch and Vidor area. Field pea harvest is complete with average yields of 65 bu/acre.

Canola yields are better than expected. Canola yields range from 40 to 55 bu/acre with estimated completion at 60%. Sunflowers are at the R9 growth stage and bracts are turning brown. Desiccation is ongoing.

Silage corn harvest continues with yields ranging from 14 to 15 tonnes/acre. Harvest progress is about 75% complete. Grain corn is in the R5 to R6 growth stage, close to physiological maturity.