

# Issue 24 – October 8, 2024

## Crop Report



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### Weekly Provincial Summary

- Agro-Manitoba received variable amounts of precipitation over the past seven days. Precipitation for the past week ranged from 0 to 18.5 mm (Table 1) with most regions receiving less than 3 mm. The Pas (18.5 mm) received the most precipitation.

**Table 1.** Seven-day accumulated precipitation (September 30 – October 6) in Manitoba's Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location last Week	Driest Location last Week
Central	Bagot (4.0 mm)	Several (0.0 mm)
Eastern	Lac Du Bonnet (5.8 mm)	Winnipeg, Dominion City (0.0 mm)
Interlake	Narcisse (3.8 mm)	Lake Francis (0.0 mm)
Northwest	The Pas (18.5 mm)	Amaranth (0.2 mm)
Southwest	Russell (7.3 mm)	Deloraine (0.0 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to Oct. 6 range from 285.1 mm to 405.7 mm and are based on 30-year historical data. Precipitation accumulation in most areas has exceeded 100% of normal precipitation since May 1. Much of the Central and Eastern regions have accumulated more than 100% 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 Oct. 6, 2024 relative to field capacity. Soil moisture is variable across agro-Manitoba with the majority showing optimal to dry soil moisture conditions at the surface depths.
- 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 – Oct. 6, 2024. GDD Accumulation is between 105% and 115% of normal for the majority of agro-Manitoba.
- To find interactive soil temperature/moisture and air temperature information, see Agri-Maps Current Weather [viewer](#).

**Table 2: Percentage of Harvest Completion by Crop and Region to October 7, 2024**

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	100%	98%	100%	100%	100%	96%
Barley	100%	95%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Oats	100%	95%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Field Pea	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Canola	95%	85%	97%	90%	95%	94%
Flax	45%	-	100%	100%	60%	61%
Soybean	65%	45%	85%	70%	80%	70%
Dry Bean	85%	-	85%	-	-	85%
Sunflower	-	-	2%	-	-	1%
Corn (grain)	-	-	10%	5%	-	4%
<b>Regional AVG</b>	82%	77%	94%	75%	82%	85%

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

## Overview

Many regions experienced their first frost during the overnight hours on Oct. 3 to 4. Canola harvest is nearing completion and is estimated to be 94% complete across the province. Soybean harvest progressed rapidly throughout the week, with 70% estimated as complete across the province. Flax harvest is complete in the Central and Eastern regions, with 61% complete across the province. Corn harvest has started in the Central and Eastern regions. Sunflower harvest has started in the Central region. Progress has been made on fall field work including tillage and ditching. Fall herbicide and fertilizer applications have started.

**Next week’s crop report will be available on Wednesday, October 16.**

## Cereals

- Spring cereal harvest is complete in most regions of the province and is nearing completion in the Northwest region.
- Spring wheat yield estimates range from 40 to 95 bu/acre. Protein ranges from 10 to 15%.
- Oat yield estimates range from 110 to 180 bu/acre.
- Barley yield estimates range from 80 to 120 bu/acre.
- Corn harvest has started in the Eastern and Central regions. Preliminary yield reports are in the range of 140 to 240 bu/acre. High winds have contributed to some stem breakage.

## Oilseeds

- Canola harvest is estimated to be 94% complete across the province. Canola yields range from 25 to 65 bu/acre, with averages ranging from 30 to 45 bu/acre.
- High winds over the weekend resulted in some canola swaths blowing and lodging in standing canola.

- Flax harvest is estimated as 61% complete across the province, with yields ranging from 20 to 40 bu/acre.
- Sunflower harvest has started in the central region. Desiccation continues across the province as fields reach the appropriate stage.

## Pulses and Soybeans

- Dry bean harvest is approximately 85% complete. Average yields estimated at 1700 to 2000 lbs/acre.
- Soybean harvest continues with yields ranging from 35 to 60 bu/acre, and an average of 45 bu/acre.

## Forages & Livestock

### Forages

- Baling of straw is almost complete and bales are being hauled into feed yards.
- Forage and pasture growth is more than last year due to the early season moisture.
- Harvest of remaining tame and native hayfields is wrapping up.
- Corn silage harvest continues. Reported yields range from 12 to 20 tonnes/acre in the Central region, 6 to 10 tonnes/acre in the Southwest, and 15 to 18 tonnes/acre in the Northwest.
- With the frosts experienced last week, producers are exercising caution with cattle grazing annual forages.
- Alfalfa is looking good going into fall, with plenty of green material available to overwinter.
- When contemplating harvesting alfalfa, producers need to be mindful of the critical harvest fall period ([critical harvest fall period for alfalfa](#)).

### Livestock

- Pasture growth is slowing as temperatures fall and days shorten, feed quality is decent given the warm weather and previous wet conditions.
- Producers have started supplementing animals with hay on pasture or have moved cattle to stockpiled fields to graze.
- Some operations are beginning to bring cattle in for weaning and fall marketing of calves. Freshly weaned cattle are beginning to pass through auction marts.
- Calves are reported to be coming off pasture in good condition.
- Water levels in dugouts remain adequate.

## Regional Comments

### Southwest

Harvest continues this week, but windstorms and showers caused some delays over the weekend. There was little wind damage despite gusts reaching up to 95 km/h. Above-normal temperatures and low humidity have created excellent conditions for harvest progress and drying opportunities. Daytime highs have varied between 19.2°C and 26.1°C, while overnight lows have dropped to between -1.8°C and -7.3°C, resulting in heavy frost in some areas. This frost will help dry down the longer-season crops. Overall, 80% to 85% of the harvest is complete in the southwest region.

The spring wheat harvest is nearly complete, with overall progress estimated at 98% to 100%. Yields have been good, and straw has been baled immediately after harvest. The oat and barley harvests are 100% complete, with some producers green feeding the regrowth in oats, which has headed out again.

Canola is estimated to be 90% to 95% complete. Early yield reports range from 30 to 45 bu/acre, with average yields expected to be in the 35 to 40 bu/acre range. Flax harvest is estimated to be 40% to 45% complete, with yields ranging from 20 to 25 bu/acre.

Soybean harvest progress is estimated at 60% to 65% complete. Soybean yields are ranging from 30 to 45 bu/acre, and the quality of the seed is good. There are some reports of shattering due to heavy winds.

Grain corn moisture levels are about 16% to 26% and harvest has begun. There are no yield numbers available yet. Sunflowers are in the R8 to R9 growth stage for some varieties and are drying down, with fields reaching the desiccation stage.

Fall tillage operations and post-harvest herbicide applications are taking place. Burning of residues and sloughs has begun in the area, but it remains very limited. Information and considerations about residue burning can be found on the [Manitoba's Controlled Crop Residue Burning Program](#) website.

## **Northwest**

Despite cooler and wet conditions, harvest was still able to progress this week. The Northwest region received frost, with overnight lows ranging from -2°C to -7°C. The majority of the region had below zero temperatures for 10 to 13 hours. Precipitation slowed harvest for a couple of days in some areas, The Pas station received the most at 18.5 mm. Extreme winds hit the region once again over the weekend and some damage to canola was reported in the Dauphin area. Swathed canola was blown and standing canola was lodged.

Spring wheat harvest nears completion at 98% complete. Lodged fields have made for slow progress in some areas. Average reported yield is approximately 65 to 70 bu/acre. Some fields are averaging less at 40-50 bu/acre and some are going 80 bu/acre plus.

Canola harvest made good progress again this week and is approximately 85% complete across the region. Reported yields have been quite varied based on crop conditions throughout the season but are generally lower than average. Average yields so far have been approximately 30 to 40 bu/acre.

Soybean harvest is approximately 45% complete across the region and more advanced in the Swan Valley area, while Dauphin/Ste. Rose area are behind. Early yield reports range from 35 to 40 bu/acre and 50 to 55 bu/acre in some higher yielding fields.

Post harvest field operations are ongoing. Anhydrous ammonia and dry fertilizer application has begun.

## **Central**

Little precipitation fell this week in the Central region, with the most falling in the west around Bagot (4 mm), Austin (3.8 mm), and Baldur (2.3 mm). Several locations in the southeast received no rainfall, including Altona, Morris, Winkler, and Carman. Lows were mostly between -3 and -2 °C, with Elie falling to as low as -5.5 °C. Winds were often strong, particularly over the weekend. These dry and windy conditions allowed for fields and crops to continue to dry and for efficient harvest to take place over the past week. Much progress has also been made with

fall field activities, and farmers are beginning to apply fall fertilizer. The high winds caused blowing in lighter soils, especially in fields with little residue following harvest. Some trees in shelter rows and yards were downed.

Winter cereals and fall cover crops are developing well and have benefited from fall rains and the warm fall conditions.

Soybean harvest is approximately 85% complete. Harvest progressed rapidly over the past week given the dry and windy conditions. Yields have been very good for most producers, ranging from 35 to 60 bu/acre, with averages close to 45 bu/acre.

Dry bean harvest is approximately 85% complete. Yield ranged from 500 to 3,500 lbs/acre, with an average around 1,700 to 2,000 lbs/acre. There have been some quality issues following the high rainfall received two weeks ago, particularly where the beans were already cut at the time of rainfall.

Canola harvest is approximately 95% complete. Yields vary greatly from 25 to 65 bu/acre, with an average of 45 bu/acre. Canola harvest will be stretched longer than normal as there was a wide variation in planting date this year due to spring conditions.

Flax harvest was completed this week. Yields were mostly around 35 to 40 bu/acre. Fields which had standing water early in the season had yields as low as 25 bu/acre.

Sunflower harvest started last week with all crops at R9 (bracts becoming yellow and brown, physiological maturity). Pre harvest herbicides and desiccants continue to be applied. There are more diseases and head rot this year due to the recent wet conditions, and some producers have reported midge damage.

Corn harvest has begun with some farmers already completing a few hundred acres. Preliminary yields have been average to very good, in the range of 140 to 240 bu/acre. Moisture has been between 19 to 24%. High winds have contributed to some stem breakage.

## **Eastern**

During the reporting period, only trace rainfall occurred across the Eastern region. A moderate to killing frost was noted across the region on Thursday night into Friday morning. Some districts saw temperatures below 0°C for as long as 10 hours. Low temperatures during the event ranged from -2°C to -5°C depending on location. Very strong winds were noted on Saturday into Sunday of last week with some crop and property damage. Producers made significant progress on harvest with weather conditions accelerating crop maturity and dry down. Field access in areas that had previously received excessive amounts of rainfall continued to improve. Some growers have completed their harvest for this year. Producers also made good progress on field work including fertilizer application, drainage and fall cultivation.

Corn harvest became more widespread last week with about 5% of acres combined so far. Dry down of the crop accelerated last week allowing growers to make more progress than expected. Some stem breakage due to fungal infection combined with recent strong winds have been reported and producers are harvesting their crop in a timely manner to minimize problems.

Soybean harvest continues with about 70% of the crop completed. Yields range from 35 to 60 bu/acre with good quality and an overall average of about 43 bu/acre.

Canola harvest is 90% complete. Reported yields range from 16 to 50+ bu/acre with good quality and an average yield of 42 bu/acre.

Sunflower fields are at the R9 (bracts becoming yellow and brown, physiological maturity) growth stage with pre-harvest herbicide and desiccant applications continuing as fields mature. Harvest is expected to start soon.

Flax harvest was complete with straw being baled up and yields ranging from 25 to 30 bu/acre.

### **Interlake**

Weather conditions allowed for good harvest progress over the past week. Most areas received trace amounts of rainfall, Narcisse received the most rainfall in the region at 3.8 mm. There was a moderate to hard frost across the region on Thursday night into Friday morning with low temperatures ranging from -1.7 °C to -6.7 °C. Frosts have aided crop dry down in mature crops.

Spring wheat harvest is complete, with yield reports ranging from 50 to 85 bu/acre. Oat harvest is complete, with yields ranging from 120 to 145 bu/acre. Barley harvest is complete, with yields ranging from 80 to 100 bu/acre.

Corn is at the dent stage and nearing physiological maturity depending on the hybrid. Corn harvest is expected to start this week. Corn silage chopping continues, with some areas complete. Yields are variable, dependent on rainfall amounts through the growing season.

Soybean harvest is estimated at 80% complete with early yield reports in the 35 to 50 bu/acre range and an average of 40 to 45 bu/acre. Yields are average to slightly above average, except where there was excessive moisture during the growing season.

Canola harvest is estimated at 95% complete. Yield reports are in the 30 to 45 bu/acre range with good quality. Most sunflowers are in the R9 growth stage, and some fields have been desiccated. Flax harvest is 60% complete.

Fall herbicide, fertilizer and tillage operations continue. Alfalfa seed harvest started in the North Interlake areas. Fall rye and winter wheat are growing well with even germination.