

## CROP REPORT #18 – August 27, 2019

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[Reporting Area Map](#)

[Seasonal Report](#)

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### Weekly Provincial Summary

- Cereal harvest continues, but halted by weekend rain. Harvest expected to resume shortly with wheat and canola being the focus in all areas except around The Pas where wheat is still green.
- Potato top-killing occurring, digging has begun or will begin soon on early varieties, as conditions allow.
- Recent rains have allowed soil moisture recharge in large areas of the province, but it is too late to impact crop yields for 2019.
- Hay and forage yields are significantly below average. Producers looking for hay should see the [Manitoba Hay Listing Service](#). For fall and winter planning see resources on [Managing Low Forage Supplies](#) and [FeedPlan Feed Ingredient Cost Calculator](#)

**Table 1: Seeded Acreage and Harvest Progress for 2019 Manitoba Field Crops as of August 27.**

Crop	Seeded Acreage	2019 Harvest Progress	2018 Harvest Progress
Winter Wheat*	34,019	100%	98%
Fall Rye*	94,114	98%	98%
Spring Wheat*	2,971,422	45%	70%
Barley*	351,440	75%	75%
Oat*	539,037	45%	75%
Field Pea*	112,574	90%	99%
Canola/Rapeseed	3,217,478	12%	45%
Flax*	47,177	0%	0%
Soybean*	1,388,120	0%	0%
Dry Bean	155,752	0%	0%
Sunflower	65,271	0%	0%
Corn (Grain and Silage)	544,074	0%	0%

\*Indicates total acreage of commercial, pedigreed seed and organic seeded acres

Source: MASC Variety Market Share Report - [https://www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf/mmpp\\_index.html](https://www.masc.mb.ca/masc.nsf/mmpp_index.html)

### Southwest

Thunderstorms and large rain events brought significant moisture this past week into the weekend, with up to 105 mm rain at Oakburn. Cooler temperatures have slowed maturity in late seeded canola and corn. Some pea size hail fell near Pierson and Cromer. Rainfall is too late to impact yields in most crops, but soybean, corn and sunflowers will benefit for seed fill.

Overall harvest in the southwest is about 10 to 15% complete with the majority of operations working south of the Trans-Canada highway.

Winter wheat and fall rye harvest is complete and yields reported are average to below average with good quality. Fields pea harvest is almost complete with yields reported to average to above average with good quality.

Spring cereal harvest has begun throughout the region. 60% of the barley has been harvested and yields are reported to be average to above average with good quality. Recent rains may affect remaining barley crop quality.

Hard red spring wheat harvest is 15% complete, with yields reported to be average to slightly above with good quality, but low protein so far.

**Follow the hyperlinks embedded in the Crop Report for More Information on Pests, Scouting & Thresholds**

Most canola is swathed or physiologically mature and 40% remains standing. Some fields have been desiccated prior to the rain. Yield is expected to be average.

Flax fields are now at ripening and drying down. There are very few symptoms of [pasm](#) this year. Some fields are infested with late-season weeds.

[Soybean growth](#) and maturity has slowed due to cool temperatures. Most of the crop is in R6 to R6.5 stage. Some fields, which missed the recent thundershowers are drying down prematurely. Corn cobs are starting to swell, but cool weather has slowed maturity progress.

Sunflowers entering R7 stage (flowering complete), though some are still in R6. Verticillium wilt, rust, and some sclerotinia basal stem rot is prominent in some stands. Grackles, blackbirds and starlings are also beginning to feed on immature seeds. Hemp is near maturity in some varieties, but bird damage is also present.

Pastures are entering their final stages before dormancy, looking much greener than weeks before. Most haying is complete. Pastures and fall grazing land will benefit from the recent rain. Reports of feed shortages still ongoing due to 50% of normal hay yields in most areas. Greenfeed and silage crops look to be average yield or higher. Recent rains have filled sloughs and have some stream running again, taking pressure off the lack of water in some pastures. Dugouts are about 60 to 70% full.

Good seedbed conditions with adequate moisture are ready for winter cereal seeding as soon as favourable weather returns.

## Northwest

Weather conditions were variable this past week with daytime highs of 25 to 28°C, while nighttime temperatures dipped into the low single digits in many parts of the region. The lowest temperatures recorded around Roblin and Swan River reached 1°C overnight. There was general rainfall through the region this week, with reports of hail in the Ste. Rose area, but damage is still being assessed.

Harvesting in the region was halted due to the unsettled weather. Overall progress is difficult to estimate due to wide variability within the region; the best estimate is less than 30% of the crop is harvested.

Field pea harvest is 80% complete with variable yields, ranging from 40 to 100 bu/ac. The yield variability is reflective of soil moisture conditions throughout the growing season. Pre-harvest applications in spring wheat continue as staging is reached. Maturity of the spring wheat crop is very variable in the region. At The Pas, the spring wheat remains standing and needs time to fully ripen. Around Roblin, swathings is underway, in the Swan River area harvest of spring wheat has begun. Operations are further ahead in the Dauphin area with 70% of the wheat combined; completed harvest at Ste. Rose reports yields of 25 to 55 bu/ac.

Canola continues to mature throughout the region. Swathing has begun around Dauphin and continues to move west and northward toward The Pas. Soybeans are at the R4 to R5 stage, but have been slow to fill and continued warm weather is needed for the soybean crop to reach maturity.

In the Roblin and Swan River, a few alfalfa fields remain to be harvested as first cut, quality expected to be poor. Minimal second cut harvest has occurred, with very poor yields. If adequate precipitation and warm temperatures received over the next few weeks, additional fields may be harvested after a killing frost. Greenfeed and cereal silage harvest is winding down with average yields. Pea and cereal straw and grass seed residue is being baled for feed where available.

Silage corn across the region is still in need of moisture for cob development; precipitation over the weekend was very welcome. Pastures remain poor to fair and dugouts are at 30 to 50% of capacity, with dry dugouts common near Ste. Rose and Rorketon. With the exception of The Pas where yields are average, hay yields across the region are very low and feed supplies are very tight. Pastures have turned brown and little to no re-growth has occurred over the past few weeks. Supplementation on pastures is required in most areas. More precipitation is necessary to replenish soil moisture reserves.

## Central

Harvest operations progressed well, early in the week. Rainfall over the weekend and into this week, halting harvest operations, while bringing welcome moisture for late season crops and forages. Rainfall was general with precipitation amounts varying from 8 mm at Holland to 60 mm near Plumas. Topsoil moisture has improved in many areas, but remains poor in the north-central parts of the region that continue to miss meaningful rainfall.

Spring cereal (wheat, oats, and barley) harvest is about 50 to 60%

complete. Cereal straw is being dropped and baled for livestock. Corn and soybeans are into the grain fill stage and benefitting from the recent rain.

Spring wheat yields in the Red River Valley are reported from 50 to 80 bu/ac, with excellent quality. On the escarpment, reported yields are 60 to 90 bu/ac with minor fusarium damage. Protein levels vary from 13 to 15.5%. Harvested barley yielding well in the 80 to 120 bu/ac. Oat yields are reported as 100 to 135 bu/ac. Pre-harvest products continue to be applied. Winter cereal harvest is done with winter wheat yields reported in the 60 to 70 bu/ac range while fall rye ranges from 50 to 120 bu/ac, and hybrid varieties yielding greater than open-pollinated types.

Field pea harvest advanced well with a 75% of that crop harvested. Reported yields are in the 40 to 65 bu/ac and good quality grain. Some pea straw is being dropped and baled as potential livestock feed source.

Corn is in the seed filling stage. In some areas, cob development is being limited for lack of moisture, but recent rainfall will help seed filling. More advanced and well developed corn crops are into the dough stage.

Soybeans are in the R6 to R7 stage whereas above the escarpment R6 would be more typical. Lower leaves are starting to drop and plants turning brown on early maturing lines. Soybeans will benefit from the recent rain to help with seed fill. Field beans are podded and turning rapidly. Some earlier maturity types have already been harvested in the Altona area while some being cut in the Portage and Morden areas.

Canola harvest is most advanced in the Red River Valley with yields

reported as 25 to 45 bu/ac. On the escarpment canola harvest is just starting.

Flax is in the boll stage, brown and ready to harvest. Sunflowers are nearly finished flowering and conditions have improved with the recent rains.

[Grasshoppers](#) have been causing feeding damage to hay, pasture and crops in various parts of the region. Some fields required edge to entire field treatment depending on the population and feeding damage found.

Potato fields are looking good with some fields having been top-killed and ready to be harvested. A few farms have started digging.

Heavy harrowing has occurred to spread straw evenly on harvested field and some tillage operations have started where soil conditions were moist enough to operate effectively.

Hay yields are well below average due to dry conditions, but better than expected in southern areas. Hauling hay and straw into feed yards continues. There are concerns about timing alfalfa cutting 4 to 5 weeks before a killing frost, as growth may not be sufficient to recharge root reserves if frost comes in early to mid September.

Straw, greenfeed, silage and other forages are being baled as feed. Some crops planted grain, have been converted and harvested as silage or baled.

## Eastern

Recent higher rain accumulations have resulted in standing water, for a short time, but producers anticipate returning to harvest later this week.

Soil moisture conditions on cropland have improved and rated as 5% surplus, and 80% adequate, the remainder 10% short and 5% very short. Soil moisture in hay and pasture lands were rated as 30% adequate, 30% short and 40% very short.

As producers becoming busier with spring cereal harvest, concerns regarding insect pests have declined. Canola was mostly ripe and unattractive to insect pests while the advancing growth stages of soybeans made them much more tolerant of defoliation and much less of a concern.

Overall harvest progress at 40%. Signs of moisture stress in long season crops have been noted and have become more general in the region, including wilting and small pod drop in soybeans; firing of lower leaves and abortion of kernels in corn.

Spring wheat, oats and barley harvest continues. Across the region, 75% of spring wheat harvested with an average yield of 60 bu/ac and good quality, but protein levels ranging from 11 to more than 13.5%. Oat harvest is 85% complete, with an average yield of 100 bu/ac. Barley harvest is completed with an average yield of 70 bu/ac.

Canola harvest began last week in southern and central districts with 15% of the crop harvested. Initial yield reports ranged from 40 to 50 bu/ac. Canola is expected to be the focus of harvesting across the Eastern region once harvesting resumes. Canola pre-harvest applications were completed last week across the region and only a small amount of canola swathing remained.

Pasture conditions were rated as 10% good, 20% fair, 30% poor and 40% very poor. Haying was mostly

complete, with yields of 50 to 60% or normal, while some reporting 25% of normal. Dugouts were starting to get low and drying up completely in some areas. Availability of livestock water was rated as 80% adequate. Winter feed supplies were rated as 60% adequate for hay, 80% adequate for straw, 70% greenfeed and 80% adequate for feed grain

## Interlake

Rainfall occurred in the north part of the Interlake this weekend; a number of locations received as much as 25 to 50 mm, with isolated areas in the northwest seeing as much as 100 to 125 mm. Rainfall amounts were variable in south Interlake, although some as much as 25 mm, most received less than 10 mm. Humidity levels remain high. Higher rainfall amounts were welcome for pasture regrowth, and possibly some later maturing corn, soybeans and corn silage, but too late for most annual crop, greenfeed and this year's hay crops.

Premature ripening due to dry conditions is evident in all crops. Rainfall accumulations to date for most of the region are 40 to 60% of normal. Topsoil moisture is minimal, even in areas receiving rains.

Harvest estimated at as much as 30 to 40% complete. Peas range from 80 to 100% complete with reported yields around 55 bu/ac. Cereals 50 to 90% complete. Early barley yields at 50 to 90 bu/ac. Spring wheat is yielding 40 to 80 bu/ac; anticipated average at this point in the 50 to 60 bushel range. Oats are coming in at 60 to 130 bu/ac, with most in the 80 to 100 bu/ac range. Good quality and test weight reported in much of the harvested cereals. Most swathing is complete, but majority of fields

will be straight cut. In areas of heavy rainfall, quality of swathed crop is likely to deteriorate. Stands are short, and volume of swaths make combining a challenge. Cereal straw is being dropped; baling is right behind the combine and bales are being removed from fields within a short period of time. More acres than normal are being baled.

Canola harvest is just starting at 10 to 15% done, with many fields still to be swathed. High winds have flipped and scatted swathes and will make harvest challenging. Yields are highly variable, but much is coming in at average to slightly below average at 30 to 50 bu/ac. All crops have been stagey; some fields have been left standing for longer periods to allow green areas to mature. Later seeded and re-seeded canola is podded, and two weeks away from harvest.

Flax harvest will start next week. Fababean yields are reported as poor.

Some later maturing crops are turning prematurely. Soybean pod set has been good, but dry conditions have resulted in flowers and pods drying off. Flowering in sunflowers is complete; seed set looks good. Corn continues to advance; dry conditions are a significant concern for final yield. Cobs formed have fewer rows than average, and in some cases, cobs are extremely small. Silage corn yields will be lower than normal; early estimates range from 5 to 12 tonnes/acre.

Most haying has wrapped up; short regrowth makes cutting impractical. Forage availability continues to be a big concern for the region. Yields are extremely variable depending on moisture levels; yields are coming in at 20 to 60% of average production.

Almost all pastures have been grazed down, and are rated in poor to very poor condition. Rains may extend some pasture grazing, but feeding has begun in the northwest districts; and is starting earlier than normal. Indications are that more animals will be going to market due to lack of available feed.

Topsoil moisture for hay and pasture is rated as 15% short and 85% very short. Dugout levels have not recharged, and water quality is still a concern. Supply is rated as 30 to 40% adequate.