

CROP PRODUCTION REPORT

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Canola

Crop stages range from 10 to 20% seed colour change to combined. Scouting and staging for swathing timing should be occurring 7 to 10 days after the final flowers are off the canola. Target for swathing timing is 50 to 60% seed color change to brown-black seeds (on the main stem bottom 1/3 has mostly all black/brown seed, middle third has 50% brown/black seed, top 1/3 has all seed dark green and firm with spots of brown starting to show). In the 2013 season, blackleg and sclerotinia have been identified. Localized issues with Bertha armyworm and flea beetles are at economic levels and being controlled.

Edible Beans

Edible bean harvest will begin shortly with some of the earliest types being harvested later this week. A few fields have already been undercut. Late season white mould is also present in this crop. Hail reports in some areas have caused shattering of some mature pods. A reminder about using pre-harvest Glyphosate: Growers that are considering using pre-harvest glyphosate to control weeds should consider the following. "Countries that Canada exports to have maximum residue levels for products such as glyphosate." If you spray too early the residue level could be higher than what is

allowed so proper staging is critical. Grain Moisture should be less than 30%. The stems should be green to brown in colour and pods mature (yellow to brown) and with 80 to 90% leaf drop (original leaves).

Flax

Crop staging ranges from the early ripening stage to the bolls turning brown. Staging for swathing or desiccation is when bolls are completely brown and seeds rattle in the boll. There are limited pest concerns in flax for 2013 other than some fields showing symptoms of fusarium wilt.

Peas

The above average temperatures and limited precipitation is resulting in good harvest progress being made in field peas. Pre-harvest desiccation, swathing and harvesting of field pea is now estimated to be 60 to 75% complete with generally above average yields being reported. However, there continues to be reports of well below normal yields on fields that have had a history of field peas and in particular fields which have had field peas in the last 2 to 3 years. It is becoming more apparent that in year's with above average precipitation that field peas should only be grown in a 1 in 4 or 1 in 5 year rotation in

order to minimize soil borne diseases levels.

Soybeans

Soybeans are beginning to mature with some fields in the R7 Stage. Generally the crop is looking good however there are reports of white mould showing up in various fields around the province. Most fields in the region are between R6.0 and R7.0 and could use a few more weeks of frost free weather.

Sunflowers

Crop staging is at R6 to R8. Insect scouting for lygus and banded sunflower moth larvae continues. Control measures for seed head insects are between R 5.1 and R 5.5, remember to use the economic thresholds for deciding on control measures! Fungicide application or sclerotinia head rot is done in many fields. There is sunflower rust found – scouting should be focused on the 4 leaves below the head for appearance of pustules and a fungicide is recommended when 1% of the leaf area is covered with pustules when plant is flowering before or at R6. If rust is present and plants are at R7 or even more advanced, fungicide applications are not economic.