

CROP PRODUCTION REPORT

Prepared by:

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives GO Teams & Crops Knowledge Centre
(204) 745-5663 Fax: (204) 745-5690

[Seasonal Reports](#)

October 7, 2013

Canola

The latest canola seeded in 2013 has now all been swathed. On average 70% of the 2013 Manitoba canola crop in is combined with yields ranging from 30 to 70 bu/acre. The main disease concerns this season were blackleg and sclerotinia. Aster yellows was found at fairly low levels this year and clubroot symptoms were detected in two fields. Insect issues were Bertha armyworm feeding and flea beetle feeding in the spring and fall. Some control occurred when pest reached economic levels.

Edible Beans

Edible bean harvest is approximately 80% complete with harvesting wrapping up by the end of the week if weather allows. Generally yields and quality are quite good with no disease or quality issues.

Flax

The latest seeded flax bolls are ripe, but with stalks still green. Many producers are considering using a desiccant or swathing to kill the green stems – staging for the operation is 75% of the crop has brown bolls and seeds rattle in the boll or are loose when boll opened. On average, 25% of the

crop is harvested, with yields ranging from 25 to 45 bu/ac. Production concerns in flax for 2013 were fusarium wilt, pasmo and areas reporting late grasshoppers feeding issues on edges.

Fruit Crops

Strawberry producers are acquiring straw bales for winter mulch protection. Straw is usually applied in late fall after several frosts but before air temperature drops to -6 to -7°C. This usually occurs between late October and early November. See article on importance of straw mulch on strawberries <http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/fruit/pdf/blb01s28.pdf> and when to apply straw mulch <http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/fruit/blb01s27.html>.

Soybeans

Soybean harvest continues throughout the province. Yield reports are still coming in quite strong with highs being reported above 50 bu/acre. Growers are getting into their later planted soybeans this week and with warm weather forecasted for the week, growers in the Red River fall should be able to finish most of their beans. Harvest started in

western Manitoba on a limited scale but will continue throughout this week. There were some challenges harvesting short, low podded beans resulting in combine adjustments having to be made to collect those beans.

Sunflowers

Crop staging at R8 to R9. Only 5% of the crop is harvested with yields ranging from 1800 to 2500 lbs/acre. Some natural desiccation from frosts in the past two weeks helped fields for dry down prior to harvest. Other fields were desiccated or a desiccant is being considered. With a -4 degree Celsius frost for 6 plus hours, Mother Nature will desiccated for free. If that is not the case the timing for a desiccant is when the bracts on the back of the head are born from the tip to shoulders. Insect concerns for 2013 were lygus and banded sunflower moth larvae, with control needed in localized areas. Disease concerns included downy mildew, basal/mid-stalk sclerotinia, vericillium and rust. Sclerotinia head rot and bird feeding are now obvious in the field.