Issue 5 – June 6, 2025

Manitoba Potato Report

[Seasonal Reports] [Weekly Weather Maps] [Potato Production]

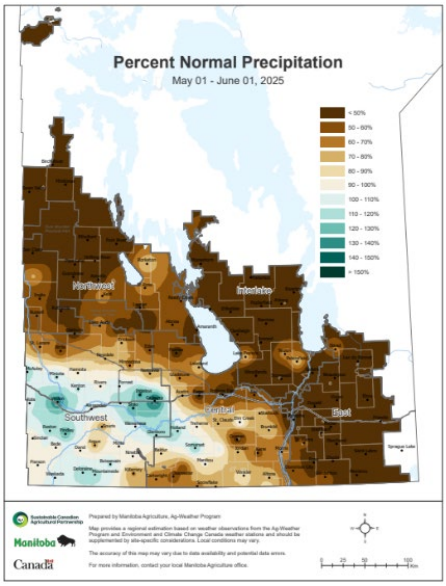
Provincial Summary

- Early planted potato fields have now reached full emergence in Manitoba; May planted fields are also showing emergence. So far there are very minor seed rot or emergence issues reported.
- The week (May 25-June 1) has been generally warm with over 31ºC in all potato growing areas; this was accompanied with almost no rainfall across Manitoba.
- Regular weekly reports and other features will be provided, including late blight risk forecasting, updates on disease and insect pests on potatoes, and control recommendations. All reports and information will also be available at http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm and archived at Manitoba Potato Reports.

Ag Weather Data

Precipitation and Soil Moisture

- There was practically no rain in the week from May 26 to June 1 in all of Manitoba (Table 1). Cumulative rainfall May 1 to June 1 is now quite varied, from low of 40% of the normal in Bagot and Carman to 131-147% in Shilo and Carberry (*Table 1, Fig.1*). *http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/percent-normal-precipitation.pdf*.
- By June 1, the 30cm soil depth moisture (relative to field capacity) became generally optimal to dry (*Fig. 2)* from generally optimal-wet last week *https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-30cm.pdf*



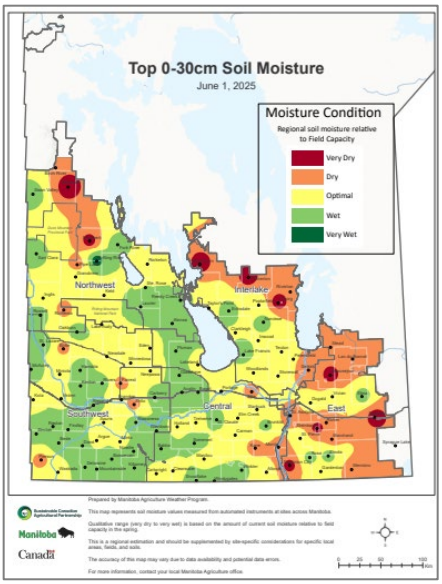


Fig.1 (left). *There was trace amount of rainfall in the week, and the cumulative rainfall from May 1 to Jun 1 shows that most of Manitoba is drier than normal. The cumulative rainfall was 43 to 147% of the normal in the potato growing areas.*

Fig.2 (right). *Current soil moisture (relative to field capacity) at 0-30cm depth indicates many potato growing areas have become drier in the top 30cm compared to last week, when it was generally wet.*

Report compiled by Dr. Vikram Bisht
Potato and Horticulture Crop Pathologist, Manitoba Agriculture
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Table 1. Manitoba Ag Weather Data – **May 26 – Jun 01**, 2025

Region	Max Temp (°C)	Min Temp (°C)	Rainfall (mm) for the week	Rainfall (mm) (Since May 1)	2025 Rainfall (% of normal) Since May 1	GDD (% of normal)
Altona	31.8	5.2	0.0	53	73	143
Austin	31.7	2.8	0.0	49	75	134
Bagot	32.5	3.2	0.0	29	43	133
Carberry EC	31.6	4.3	0.0	102	147	138
Carman	33.3	4.1	0.2	37	46	144
Glenboro	32.5	4.3	0.0	75	113	137
Holland	31.7	4.8	0.0	82	111	134
Morden	X	X	X	X	X	X
Portage EC	32.4	4.5	0.0	41	61	146
Rivers	31.5	5.4	0.0	64	98	142
Shilo	32.5	5.1	0.0	84	131	131
St. Claude	31.5	5.3	0.0	62	79	140
Treherne	32.1	4.7	0.0	46	73	137
Wawanesa	31.7	3.5	0.0	74	108	132
Winkler	32.6	6.1	0.0	68	85	151

X- Data not available

For more Manitoba weather information, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather

Temperatures – Air and Soil

- The week (May 25 – Jun 2) again had high daytime temperatures, 31.5 to 33.3°C in many potato growing areas. (*Table 1, Fig. 3*). The overnight lows were moderate and ranged from 2.8°C (Austin) to around 6.1°C (Winkler).
- Cumulative heat as Growing Degree Days (GDD, base 5°C) from May 1 to Jun 1 continues to be warmer than normal temperatures, ranging from 131% (Shilo) to 151% (Winkler) of normal GDD (Table 1).
- Soil temperatures at 5cm depths on June 1 ranged from 14 to 20°C at the selected weather stations (www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather). These temperatures support good emergence.

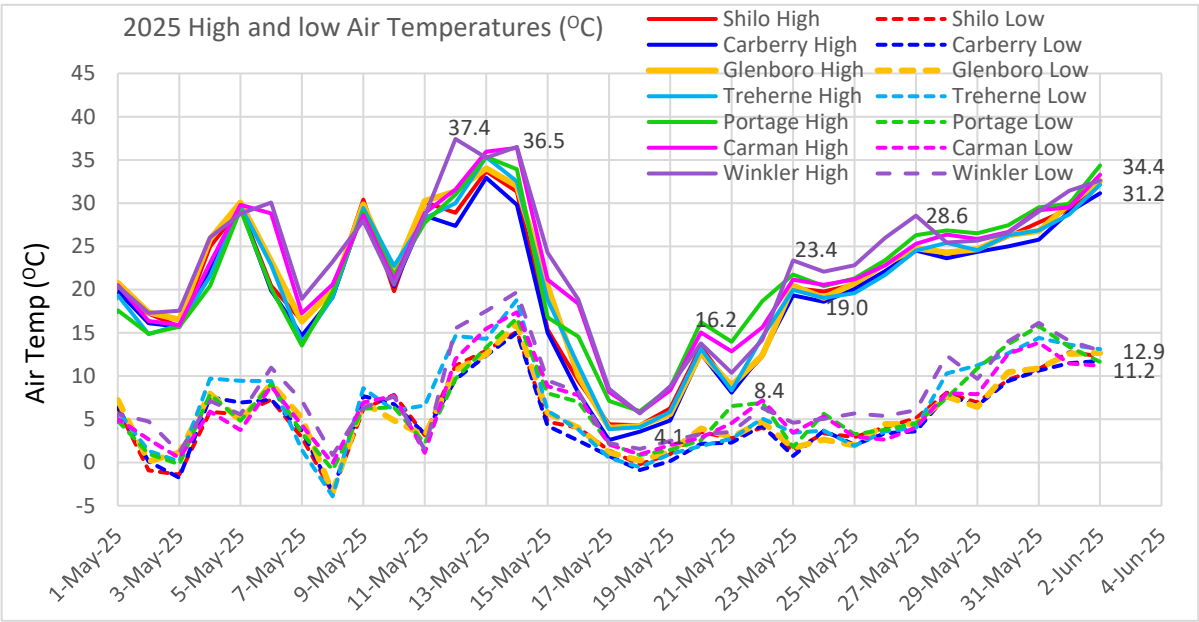

Fig. 3 *The air temperatures were very high May 12-15 (35-37°C), followed by a cold snap and then a warming trend reaching above 31 °C around June 1.*

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Crop Progress

- There has been very little rainfall since the planting was completed in Manitoba; however, with some moisture in 0-30 cm soil profile the emergence in potato fields has been smooth.
- Emergence in early planted fields are near 100% (Fig. 4 a, b, c). The 2025 soil temperatures at 5cm and 20cm are warmer than at the same time in 2024, so a quicker emergence of potatoes could be expected.
- Hilling operations are in full swing. May planted fields are reported to have 10-25% emergence. Plants are up to 4-6" tall.
- Forecast is for cooler daytime temperatures in mid-20s to mid-teens until June 11. Rains are forecast for Jun 7 and 8 (Saturday and Sunday).

Fig.4 (a) *Carberry field, (**b**) Shilo field and **(c)** Holland field showing near full emergence. Photos: Greg Dyck (Crop Care), Orla Sheridan (Shilo Farms) and Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture), respectively.*

Disease Monitoring

- Late blight risk forecasting will be provided on a regional basis at www.mbpotatoes.ca. Late blight disease risk is projected to start accumulating around June 1, when normally 50% of the fields show emergence.
- Manitoba will again have late blight spore trapping network of passive Spornado traps. Individual farms are also encouraged to set up spore traps to assess near-farm risk of late blight.
- P-Days, and SprayCast maps will be available at *http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm.*

Insect Pest Monitoring

- We have started setting up suction traps in seed fields (Fig. 5). Aphid monitoring using suction and pan traps will start in mid-June in eight seed fields.
- European Corn Borer (ECB) monitoring will be started in early July. The ECB catches in traps have been reducing over the past few years. If ECB catches are low in 2025, the trapping program may be ended.
- Colorado potato beetle incidences will be monitored and if possible tested for insecticide resistance. In some areas beetles appear as soon as the potato plants emerge.

Fig.5. *Suction trap set up at the edge of seed potato field. A solar powered battery operates the suction fan during the day. Summer student, Ethan Friesen (Photo: Vikram Bisht, Manitoba Agriculture)*

Growers and industry stakeholders, please report or submit for diagnosis, any disease or insect observations of importance. If you suspect late blight in your area, please contact vikram.bisht@gov.mb.ca

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