Issue 23 – October 10, 2025

# Manitoba Potato Report

Seasonal Reports  Weekly Weather Maps  Potato Production

## Provincial Summary

- Harvest for storage is almost complete. Harvest progress varies across farms, ranging from 85 to 100% completed. It is estimated that close to 95% of the potato acres have been harvested.
- During the week of Sept 29 to Oct 5, daytime highs ranged from around 29.0 to 31.7ºC, and the overnight lows ranged from 1.0 to 7.1ºC in the potato growing areas. The ranges were similar to last week.
- There was widespread and substantial rainfall across the province during the week from Sept 29 to Oct 5, mostly from Oct 4 to 6. Harvest was interrupted for 2-3 days but had resumed after Oct 7.
- No late blight disease reported in Manitoba in 2025. Potato early dying disease and powdery scab were present in many fields across the province.

## Ag Weather Data

**Precipitation and Soil Moisture**

- There was extensive rainfall in the week, Sept 29 – Oct 5 in all the potato growing areas of the province (Fig. 1, 3). The rainfall for the week ranged mostly from 35.3 to 48.1 mm, and a few sites with 6 to 22 mm.
- The cumulative rainfall from May 1 to Oct 5 was below normal in all potato areas of Manitoba; except four sites near normal in Bagot, Glenboro, Portage and Winkler (over 90% of normal) (Table 1, Fig.1).
- The 0 to 30 cm soil depth moisture (relative to field capacity) became generally wet in most of the potato growing areas by Oct 5 (Fig. 2*).* *https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-30cm.pdf*.
- The week's calculated crop water demand (CWD) ranged from 25.4 to 36.1 mm; but no irrigation was needed during harvest (Table 1). *https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/percent-normal-precipitation.pdf*.

**Temperatures – Air and Soil**

- During the week of Sept 29 to Oct 5, daytime highs ranged from 28.9 to 31.7ºC, and the overnight lows ranged from 1.0 to 7.1ºC in selected potato growing areas. These temperature ranges were similar to last week (Table 1). However, on Oct 7 and 8, the overnight lows were below zero at many locations and down to -4.8 in Shilo and Carberry.
- Cumulative heat as Growing Degree Days (base 5ºC) from May 1 to Oct 5 indicates a warmer season end, leading to above normal GDD, ranging from 108 to 118% of normal (Table 1).
- P-Days (Cumulative potato heat units) from June 1 to Oct 5 ranged from 914 (Carberry) to 1008 (St. Claude) in the potato areas (Table 1), ranging from 100 to 110 % of normal P-Days.
- There is forecast for rain from Oct 11 to 13 at various locations. Daytime highs are expected to be in mid to high teens from Oct 10 to 12, while overnight lows are forecast to fall below freezing reaching -2° to -4°C on Oct 13 and 14 in some areas. The coming rains followed by – 4ºC may end harvest for the

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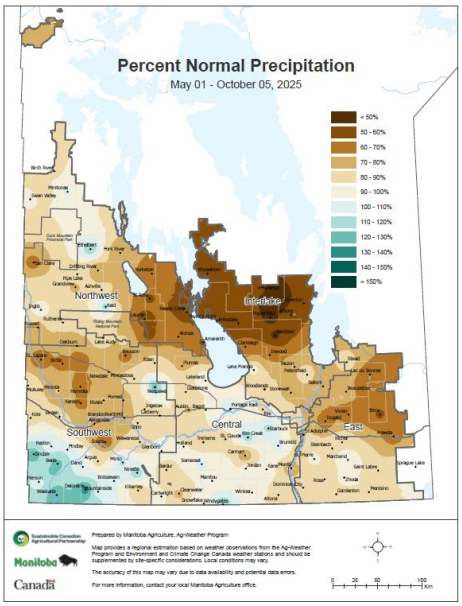
season, due to poor drying conditions this late in the season. [Manitoba - Weather Conditions and Forecast by Locations - Environment Canada]



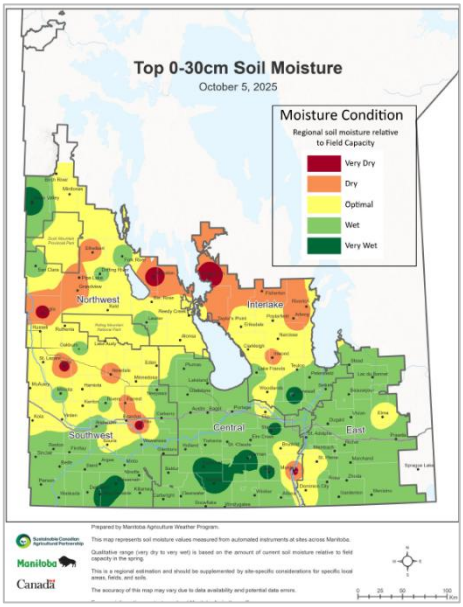




***Fig.1 (left).*** *There was significant rainfall in the week, especially from Oct 4 to 6 across Manitoba. The cumulative rainfall from May 1 to Oct 5 is below normal in many potato growing areas.*

***Fig.2 (right).*** *Soil moisture (relative to field capacity) at 0-30cm depths (up to Oct 5) indicates that southern Manitoba soils are now generally wet in most of potato growing areas, except Shilo.*

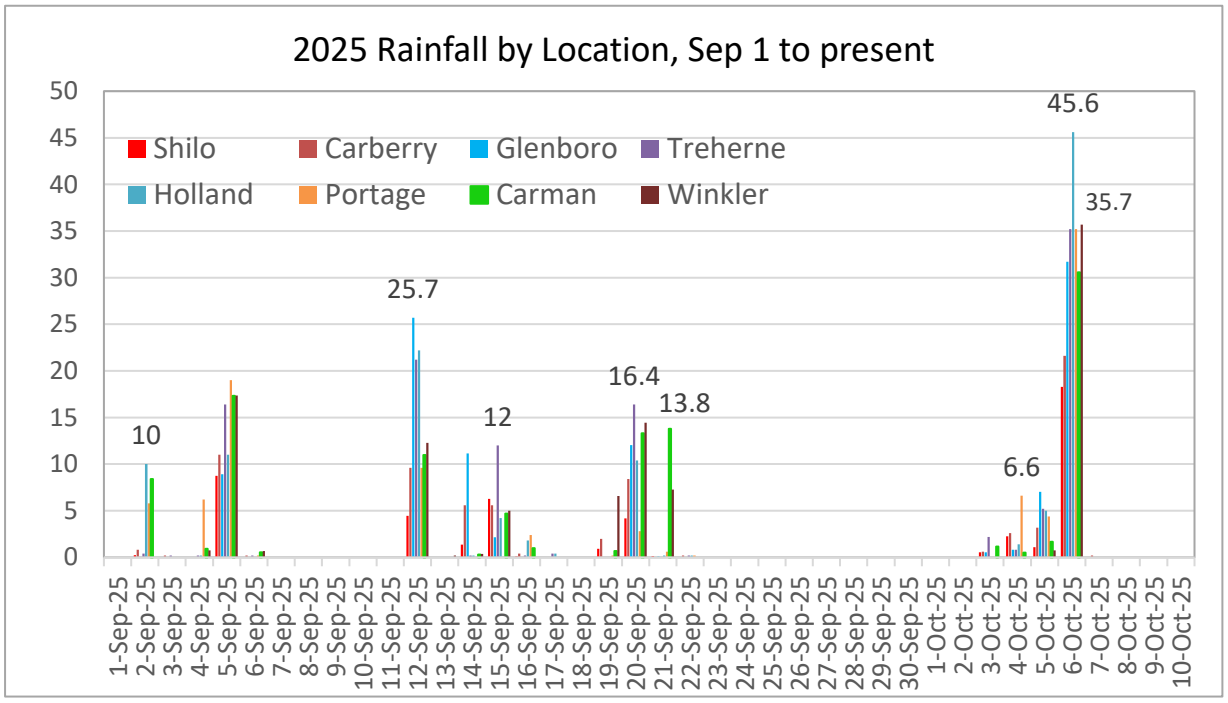



***Fig.3.*** *Rainfall in September has been frequent, even though not heavy, the fields were sticky in many areas and interrupted harvest. With a break in rainfall after Sep 19-21, the harvest is now progressing smoothly, but for the high daytime temperatures.*

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*Table 1. Manitoba Ag Weather Data* – **Sep 29 – Oct 5**, 2025

| Region | Max Temp (° C) | Min Temp (° C) | Rainfall (mm) for the week | Crop Water Demand (mm) - week | Rainfall (mm) (Since May 1) | 2025 Rainfall (% of normal) Since May 1 | P-Days (Cumulative from Jun 1) | GDD (% of normal) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Altona | 29.4 | **6.0** | 22.3 | 34.2 | 329 | 88 | 969 | 113 |
| Austin | 30.6 | 6.1 | 41.1 | 31.2 | **245** | 79 | 973 | 111 |
| Bagot | 30.1 | 4.7 | 45.3 | 29.6 | **305** | 90 | 940 | 108 |
| Carberry EC | 30.5 | 4.4 | **6.4** | 28.8 | x | x | **914** | x |
| Carman | 29.0 | 4.4 | 33.7 | **25.4** | 268 | **74** | 955 | 113 |
| Glenboro | 31.3 | 4.7 | 40.0 | 31.3 | 304 | 97 | 934 | 112 |
| Holland | 31.1 | 4.9 | **48.1** | 35.9 | 310 | 90 | 959 | 110 |
| Portage ~~EC~~ | 30.5 | 6.8 | 42.0 | 35.4 | 360 | 107 | 992 | 116 |
| Rivers | 30.0 | 1.0 | **6.2** | **36.6** | 251 | 74 | 919 | 115 |
| Shilo | **31.7** | 3.3 | 22.0 | 36.1 | 249 | 82 | 936 | 110 |
| St. Claude | **28.9** | **7.1** | 47.5 | 33.7 | 314 | 87 | **1008** | 112 |
| Treherne | 30.5 | 5.2 | 39.8 | 32.3 | 276 | 80 | 947 | 108 |
| Wawanesa | 31.0 | 3.4 | 35.3 | 29.8 | 254 | 80 | 924 | 109 |
| Winkler | 29.3 | 5.7 | 36.4 | 30.0 | 366 | 99 | 972 | 118 |

Crop Water Demand (CWD) mm: www.mbpotatoes.ca/cwd.cfm. P-Days: www.mbpotatoes.ca/pday.cfm
x: data unavailable in Crop Weather Reports.
For more Manitoba weather information, visit: *www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather*

## Crop Progress

- Harvest in the province is nearly completed and estimated to be around 95% of the acres.
- In some areas, harvest was interrupted due to widespread rains in the province from Oct 4 to 6.
- Harvest conditions have now improved due to cooler overnight temperatures and no rain after Oct 6.
- Warm temperatures in the week may have created conditions favourable for pink rot tuber infection.
- High daytime temperatures, around 30°C in the week and warm soil at 5 cm depths, with sufficient soil moisture may pose a risk of pink rot disease on tubers in fields with wet spots. Post-harvest phosphite fungicides, if not applied during the season, may be helpful in improving storability.
- In some areas the overnight temperatures below 0C would have caused freezing injury in some exposed tubers. Frost damaged tubers can lead to storage issues if not monitored regularly.
- **A record-breaking large potato for the 2025 season was reported with a weight of 6.480 (2.939 kg) from JP Wiebe Farms (Ryan Wiebe) (Fig. 4). The largest tuber weight submitted previously was 4 lbs.**

## Disease Monitoring

- **No late blight has been reported in Manitoba.**
- Powdery scab root infection galls have been observed in many more fields. Powdery scab is a vector for Potato Mop Top Virus (PMTV), which is becoming a disease of concern.
- Many more fields were showing “potato early dying” (PED), ranging up to 90% incidence in various fields.


***Fig.4.*** *Largest tuber in Manitoba for the 2025 season is 6.480 lbs (2.939 kg). Photos: Ryan Wiebe (JP Wiebe Farms).*

***Manitoba growers and agronomists are welcome to share photos of the largest tuber of the season!***

## This is the last report for the 2025 season

I take this opportunity to thank the industry agronomists: Scott Graham, Tavis Mangin & Riley Wolfe (Simplot), Mitch Wright, Vaughn Birch (McCain Foods), Steve Saunderson, Janelle Lavich (Choice-Agri), Orla Sheridan (Shilo farms), Greg Dyck & Mitch Blyth (Crop Care), Doug Pryor, Darren White (Delta Ag), Kurtis McKee, Ryan Wiebe (JP Wiebe Farms), Gord Penner (Kroeker Farms), Russell Jonk & Yonas Jonk (Swansfleet), Harrison Loewen (KR Crop Check), Riley Francis (UTH farms), Kyle Froese (Corduroy Farms), George Moir (Marginet Farms), Mohammed Elshetehy (MHPEC), KPPA (Susan Ainsworth, Mohammad Sayari and Fouad Daayf (molecular diagnostics, (University of Manitoba) and various farms for in-season updates on crop & pest information, disease samples, and support for the aphid & ECB monitoring and crop progress updates.

This year's Late Blight Spore Traps Network was supported by Simplot Canada, McCain Foods, Manitoba Agriculture, Choice-Agri, Delta Ag (Bayer), BASF, UPL and the Sporometrics Team.

Special thanks to my summer student, Ethan Friesen and other Manitoba Agriculture staff - Manika Pradhan, Tom Gonsalves, Van Doan and Clay Sawka for lab and field support.

All reports and information will also be available at http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm and archived at Manitoba Potato Reports

Growers and industry stakeholders, please report or submit for diagnosis, any disease or insect issues of importance during storage. Please contact vikram.bisht@gov.mb.ca

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