Issue 7 – June 18, 2026

Manitoba Potato Report

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Provincial Summary

- The potato emergence ranged from 20 to 100 % in the province by June 15. The crops appear to be about a week behind last year.
- Hilling is nearly complete in most fields; pre-emergence weed burn-off is progressing well.
- No late blight spores were trapped in the province from June 8-15.
- Aphid monitoring in the first week showed only non-colonizing aphids, and no green peach or potato aphids. Colorado potato beetle mating adults have been reported in some areas.
- All reports and information will also be available at *Province of Manitoba | agriculture - Potato Report* and *http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm*.

Ag Weather Data

Precipitation and Soil Moisture

- Scattered light showers were reported across the province on June 10 and 11.
- Precipitation (mm) in the week (June 8-14) amounted to 3.3 (Carberry) to 24.8 mm (Rivers) rainfall in the week at various potato growing areas (Table 1). The week's rain did not change the cumulative precipitation (May 1 to June 14) as % of 30-year normal, ranging from ~34% (Carberry, Wawanesa & Shilo) to 94% (Rivers) and 113% (Winkler) (Table 1, Fig 2a). *http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/percent-normal-precipitation.pdf.*
- After rainfall during the week, the soils at the 0-30 cm depth in potato growing areas were generally "wet" to "optimal" based on Regional Soil Moisture relative to Field Capacity as of June 14 (Fig 1) and remained "wet" at the 120 cm depth. *https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-30cm.pdf https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-120cm.pdf*

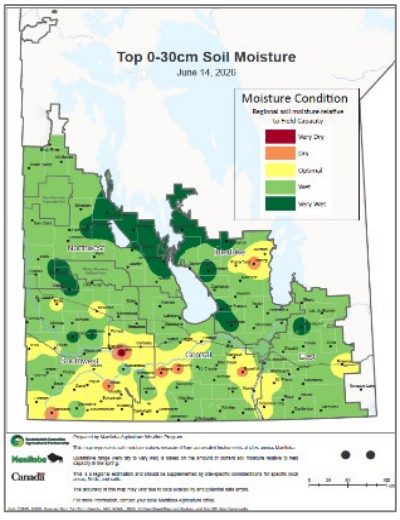

Fig 1. By June 14, soil moisture relative to field capacity at the 0-30 cm depth indicated generally "wet" but with some areas with "optimum" moisture conditions in potato-growing areas. At the 120 cm depth, soils were wetter (map not shown).

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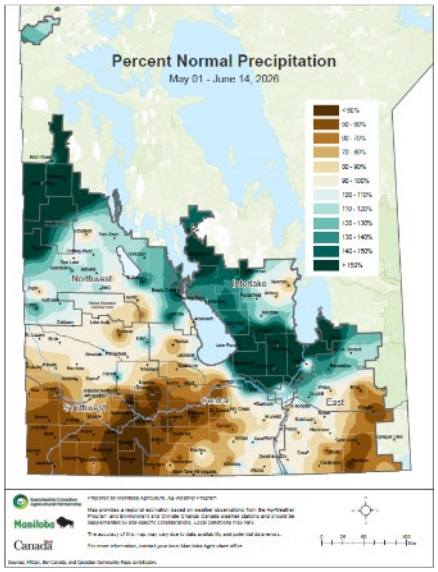
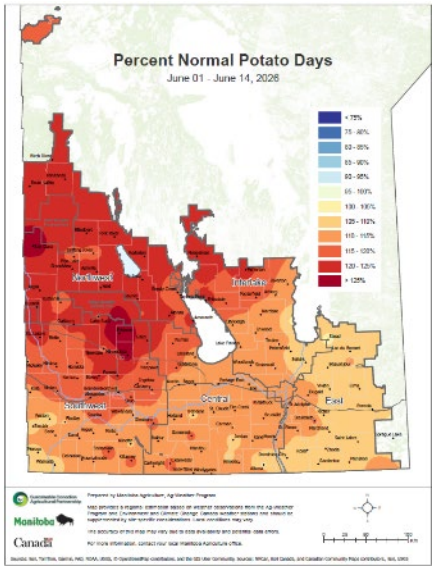


2a



2b

Fig 2a (left): Scattered rainfall from June 8-14 did not improve cumulative precipitation as a % of normal for the May 1 to June 14 period. Across Manitoba's potato growing areas, cumulative precipitation ranged from 34% to 113% of normal.

Fig 2b (right): Warmer air temperatures during the week of June 8-14 increased cumulative Potato Days (P-Days) to around 110 to 120% of normal across most potato-growing areas.

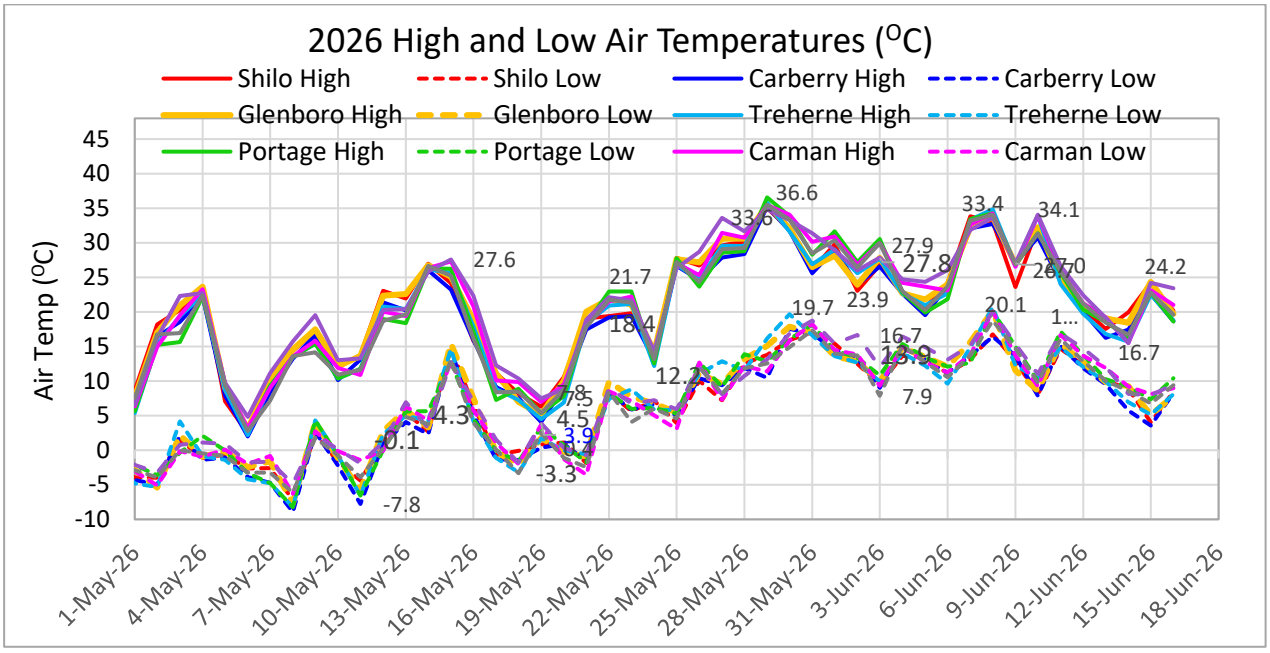


Fig 3. Daytime air temperatures in the potato-growing areas have continued above 30°C, ranging from 32.7 to 34.1°C on the 8th of June. Nighttime temperatures have also been warm, ranging from 5.6 to 8.2°C in selected weather stations.

Temperatures – Air and Soil

- From June 8-14, the daytime temperatures were hot on June 8 and 10, reaching over 32.0 °C in many potato growing areas (Table 1, Fig 3), but cooled down to 16-18°C by June 14. Overnight lows were cooler than last week, ranging from around 3.0°C at Wawanesa to 9.3°C in Portage (Table 1, Fig 3).
- Due to hot days in the week, the Cumulative heat (Growing Degree Days, GDD base 5°C) went to 109-124% of normal (Table 1). The cumulative Potato Heat Units (P-Days) were 110 to 120% of 30-year normal (Fig 2 b) in the potato growing areas.

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- Due to high daytime temperatures, the 5-cm depths the average soil temperatures increased to around 20^{O}C on June 8 but lowered to mid-teens by June 14 (Fig 4). During the week Bagot had the coolest soils, while Carberry, Treherne and Carman were the warmest (data not shown). At 20-cm depths the temperatures had similar trend but were cooler. These temperatures are optimal for plant growth.

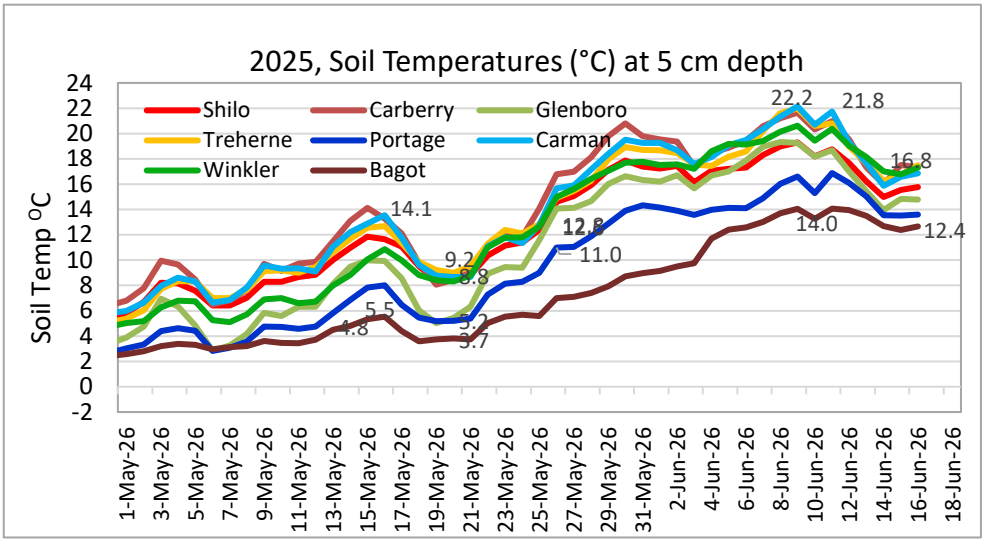

Fig 4. Soil temperatures in the 5 cm depths have warmed by June 8 to9 and dipped again by the 14th.

Table 1. Manitoba Ag Weather Data – **June 8 - 15**

Region	Max Temp (ºC)	Min Temp (ºC)	Rainfall (mm) for the week	Rainfall (mm) (Since May 1)	2026 Rainfall (% of normal) since May 1	GDD (% of normal)
Altona	33.1	7.6	22.5	92	81	109
Austin	30.8	6.7	14.9	61	62	117
Bagot	31.4	6.8	10.6	73	74	114
Carberry EC	31.4	4.1	3.3	34	34	123
Carman *EC*	33.9	8.0	17.4	77	66	116
Glenboro	32.3	5.1	6.0	55	56	124
Holland	32.3	3.9	11.2	58	54	122
Morden	34.0	8.0	8.3	74	64	114
Portage EC	31.4	9.3	20.8	51	51	119
Rivers	27.3	5.1	24.8	96	96	121
Shilo	32.2	4.0	5.4	35	37	118
St. Claude	32.6	6.8	18.7	62	53	115
Treherne	33.9	5.1	16.1	47	44	116
Wawanesa	32.1	3.0	2.4	40	40	121
Winkler	34.1	8.0	9.7	136	113	119

For more Manitoba weather information, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather
More information on:
Crop Water Demand (CWD) mm: www.mbpotatoes.ca/cwd.cfm P-Days: www.mbpotatoes.ca/pday.cfm

Crop Progress

- By June 15 potato emergence across Manitoba was nearly 20 to 100% of expected stands (Fig 5 a-d). Later planted fields are still emerging or breaking ground.

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- The plants have reached up to 15-inch height in some early planted fields (Fig 5 d). Many of the early planted fields are showing early hooking now. Crops appear to be about a week behind last year's growth at the same time, when the crop canopy was nearly closed-in and having dime-size tubers around June15 in 2025 (Fig 6 a, b).
- Hilling and weed control operations, including pre-emerge weed burn off application, are in full swing in many areas.
- Strong winds have blown sand into the furrows in sandy fields. Direct planting into last year's crop stubble has reduced the erosion (Fig 7 a, b) and may be one of the important ways to reduce erosion.

- There is a forecast for scattered showers and cloudy conditions at various locations from June 19 to 23, being widespread on the 19th. Cooler days in low 20s are expected during this period. Overnight temperature lows are expected to be around 10^{o}C till June 22. *Manitoba - Weather Conditions and Forecast by Locations - Environment Canada*

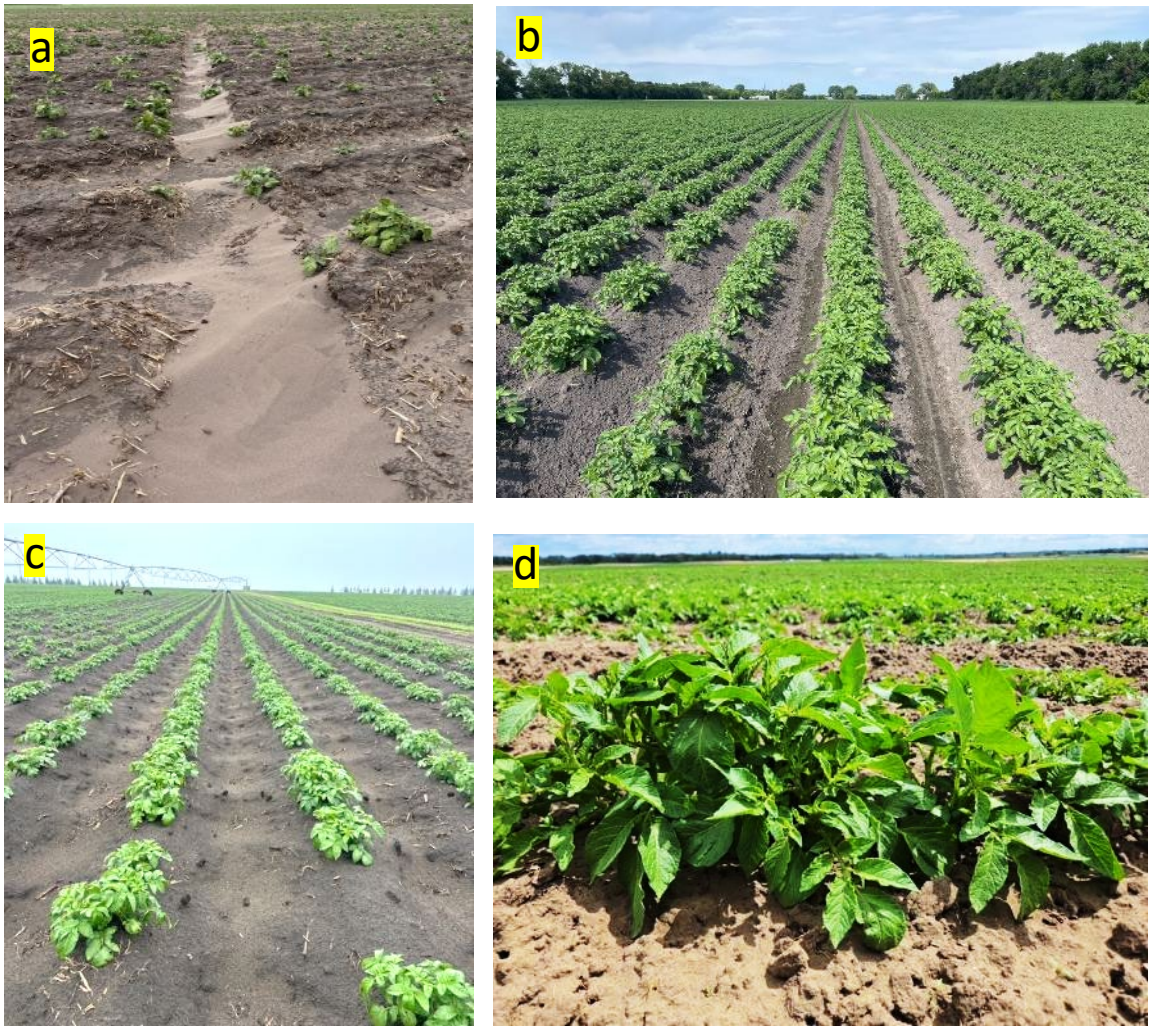

Fig. 5. Wind erosion is still affecting rows in many areas, with furrows filled with blowing sand; a. Carman, Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture), c:Shilo Farms, Orla Sheridan (Shilo Farms), b-d: In general, the plant stand appears good, 80-100% stand and nearly 15-inch plants in some fields, b: Harrison Loewen (KR Crop Check), d: Kurtis McKee (JP Wiebe Farms).

Fig. 6 a-b. 2025 plant growth and tuberization around June 15, showing much more advanced crop compared to 2026 crop shown in Fig 5.

Fig. 7 a-b. Direct planting into previous year's crop stubble helps in reducing wind erosion in sandy fields. Riley Francis (UTH Farms).

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.
    - The forecasting is complemented with late blight spore monitoring, using Spornado passive spore traps. Spore traps have been set up in many fields and monitoring began on June 8.
    - Results from the first round of monitoring from June 8-15 showed that *Phytophthora infestans* spores were not trapped at any of the sites in the province.
- Incidence of minor levels of bacterial soft rot and blackleg were reported from some fields, especially in wet patches of fields (Fig 8 a, b).
- Early blight, verticillium wilt and powdery scab will be monitored during the season.
- Late blight risk maps, P-Days, and SprayCast maps are available http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm.

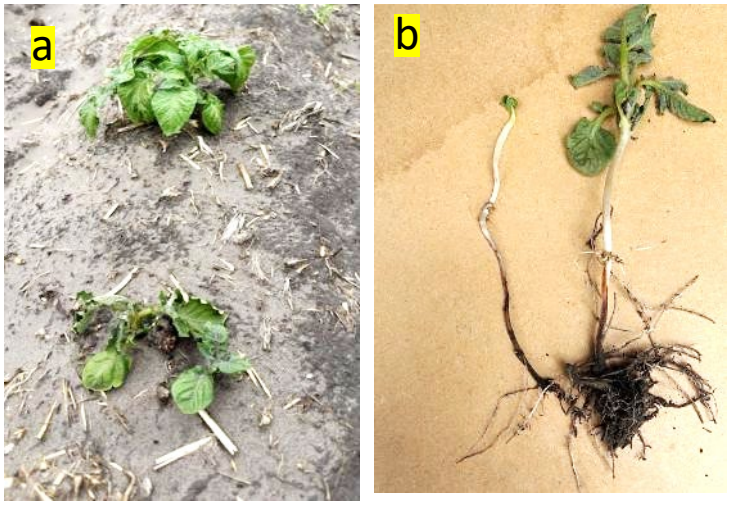

Fig. 8 a, b. A young plant showing wilting, was found to be infected with blackleg disease.

Insect Pest Monitoring

- Aphid monitoring using suction traps have been set up in seven of eight seed potato fields; pan traps will be set up amongst the plants after hilling is completed in these fields.
    - The first week's collection was done on June 15; the monitoring started a week before normally done to see if there are aphids present before the plants canopy growth. In many fields the plants are up to 4" tall or are just emerging by June 15. Aphid counts showed some non-colonizing aphids, but no Green peach or Potato aphids were recorded (Table 2).
- European Corn Borer monitoring will be started in 4th week of June.
- Colorado potato beetles (CPB) were seen feeding on potato plants in many areas – Melbourne, Carberry, Rathwell, Carman and Winkler (Fig 9 a), suggesting that the seed treatment insecticides are less effective or the population has some resistance.
    - Some CPB mating was reported from a few areas (Fig 9 b), indicating that egg laying could be seen within a week. No dead CPBs were reported anymore at the base of neonicotinoid seed treated plants.

*Table. 2. Weekly Aphid Report – **Week 1** (June 8 - 15) 2026*

Field #	Town	RM	Green Peach Aphid	Potato Aphid	Other Aphids	Total *	ALH	PLH	Comments
Southern Region									
Field 1-H	**Winker**	Stanley	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Field 2-K	**Stephenfield**	Dufferin	0	0	3	**3**	0	0	
Field 3-S	**Winkler**	Rhineland	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Central Region									
Field 4-S	**Holland**	Victoria	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Field 5-S	**Glenora**	Argyle	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Field 6-S	**Westbourne**	Portage La Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Western Region

Field 7-A	**Wellwood**	North Cypress-Langford	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Field 8-S	**Carberry**		0	0	0	0	0	0	

- *The aphid counts are a summation from a suction trap only. Pan traps could not be set up in the potato field, waiting for hilling operation.*
- *" – " indicates the fields are still just emerging or ground cracking, No samples were collected.*
- *ALH = Aster leafhopper, PLH = Potato leafhopper*

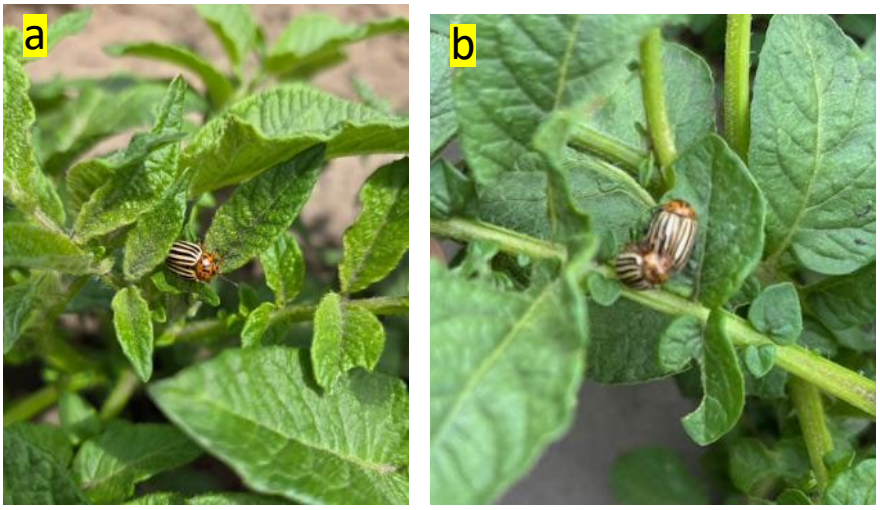

Fig. 9 a, b. CPB adults feeding and mating on potato plants.

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

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

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