

ALBERTA CROP REPORT

- June 5, 2008 -

Provincial

Cooler temperatures continue to predominate this spring. Precipitation was received in all areas of the province with the greatest amounts in the south and became progressively less as you proceeded north. Crops are approximately 7 days behind normal growth for this time period due to the cooler temperatures this spring which delayed the start of seeding and is currently affecting plant emergence and growth.

Seeding is estimated to be 98% complete with mostly silage and greenfeed acres yet to complete. 80% of the crop has emerged with principally the later seeded feed grains remaining to emerged at this time. Spraying is 20% completed and has been slowed by windy weather and wet fields.

Crop Emergence

	% Emerged					
	South	Central	North East	North West	Peace	Average
Spr. Wheats	81.4	74.9	90.0	82.7	83.3	82.0%
Durum Wheat	94.0	80.0	90.0	---	---	92.0%
Barley	72.7	69.9	76.2	69.9	63.6	71.8%
Oats	71.8	57.7	75.0	63.4	60.4	65.1%
Canola	72.9	80	90	85.6	86.5	84.9%
Flax	75.0	64.1	92.1	84.7	100.0	80.9%
Mustard	78.7	66.7	90.0	---	---	74.3%
Dry Beans	47.5	47.5	---	---	---	47.5%
Chickpeas	92.0	100.0	---	---	---	92.9%
Field Peas	93.1	86.2	97.1	95.5	84.0	92.1%
Sugar Beets	100.0	---	---	---	---	100.0%
Potatoes	48.0	21.7	100.0	81.0	100.0	45.6%
Average	80.11%	73.57%	86.76%	78.68%	81.10%	80.27%

The precipitation of the past two weeks has improved soil moisture and hay and pasture ratings. Subsoil moisture is rated 12% poor/ 27% fair/ 49% good/ 11% excellent/ 1% excessive representing a 7 percentage point increase in the good/excellent rating from May 22. Pastures and tame hay are rated 11% poor/ 25% fair/ 54% good/ 10% excellent showing a 10 percentage point increase in good/ excellent ratings. Crop Condition Ratings will be available with the next Crop Report of June 19.

Southern Alberta

The entire region received significant precipitation during the reporting period in amounts of 50 – 100 mm, with some areas receiving more. The rain has been very beneficial for soil moisture and hay and pasture growth. Seeding is 98.6% completed with emergence at 80.1%.

Subsoil moisture is rated at 4% poor/ 21% fair/ 53% good/ 21% excellent/ 1% excessive, showing a 45 percentage point increase in the good/excellent ratings from May 22. Pasture/hay conditions are rated 3% poor/ 23% fair/ 57% good/ 15% excellent. These latest forage crop ratings represent a 28 percentage point increase in the good/excellent ratings.

Central Alberta

The region experienced cool temperatures and frequent precipitation events in the form of showers or light rain. Moisture ratings have improved on the eastern side of the region along the Saskatchewan border but continue to be quite dry. Seeding is 96% completed with 73.6% emerged.

Subsoil moisture is rated 8% poor/ 29% fair/ 41% good/ 20% excellent/ 2% excessive. This represents a 2 point increase in the good/excellent categories over the past two weeks. Pasture/hay condition ratings reflect a 12 point increase in the good/excellent ratings to 6% poor/ 25% fair/ 55% good/ 14% excellent.

North East Alberta

The region received cool windy weather with occasional showers. Significant precipitation is needed in all areas in order to maintain good crop growth potential. 98.5% of the crops have been seeded with 86.8% emerged.

Subsoil moisture is rated 24% poor/ 39% fair/ 34% good/ 3% excellent, down 2 points from May 22. Pasture ratings are down 6 points from May 22 at 30% poor/ 36% fair/34% good. Hay ratings are unchanged at 30% poor/ 29% fair/ 37% good/ 4% excellent.

North West Alberta

Most areas in the region received 12 – 35 mm of precipitation which was insufficient to maintain previous ratings. More precipitation will be needed very shortly to avoid further declines. Seeding is 97.5% completed with 78.7% emerged.

Subsoil moisture ratings have dropped 16 points from May 22nd to 21% poor/ 32% fair/ 44% good/ 3% excellent. Hay and pasture crops are rated 16% poor/ 32% fair/ 48% good/ 4% excellent, which represents a drop of 3 points in the good/excellent rating.

Peace River Alberta

The region received precipitation in the form of sporadic showers to light rain. The amounts were enough to bring on improvements in the subsoil and forage crop ratings. 99% of the crop has now been seeded with 81.1% having emerged.

Subsoil moisture is rated 2% poor/ 15% fair/ 74% good/ 6% excellent/ 3% excessive. These values represent a 5 point increase in the good/excellent ratings from 2 weeks ago. Hay and pastures are rated 3% poor/ 13% fair/ 76% good/ 8% excellent, up 7 points from May 22.

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