Southwest Region
A general rainfall over the past week resulted in 10 to 30 mm of precipitation. Moisture was welcome as several areas are reporting dry conditions.

The majority of cereal crops are in the flag leaf stage with early seeded crops starting to head. Early sown canola is starting to flower. Pea fields are starting to flower. Flax is 8 to 10 inches in height. Sunflower and corn crops are advancing quickly with many fields measuring two feet in height. Winter wheat and fall rye are in the heading stage.

Weed control is near complete with only some of the late seeded and reseeded fields to be sprayed. Overall weed control has been good.

The majority of the cereal crops are approaching the stage for disease control and fungicide applications will start this week if crop stage and weather conditions warrants.

Grasshopper emergence in the southwest area of the region has been reported. Producers are scouting for wheat midge. Alfalfa weevil has been reported in several areas and producers should be scouting for damage.

Producers have started first cut. Yields for new stands are average to below average while yields for older stands are well below average. Pasture conditions have improved as a result of recent rainfall; however, more moisture is needed.

Northwest Region
Rain fell over most of the region during the week but several areas are still reporting dry conditions. Hail was reported in Swan River, Ochre River, Makinak and Sifton areas. Assessments for hail damage will occur over the next several days.

Cereal crops are in the heading stage and 25% of the canola is flowering. Herbicide applications are complete. Cutworm control has occurred in the Swan River area. The leaf disease tan spot is evident on wheat in the Swan Valley. Limited fungicide applications on winter wheat have been done.

Haying operations continue with yields lower than average being reported. Hay yields are 1 to 1.75 dry matter tons per acre with the lower yields from the western areas. Alfalfa weevil damage continues to be reported. Pasture conditions are still rated fair with flooded acres around Ste. Rose.

Central Region
Cool to average temperatures and drier conditions prevailed across the region last week. Crops are beginning to recover from stress injury due to the previous week’s excess moisture, although yellowing is evident in many crops. Areas receiving the highest rainfall are still dealing with standing water. In low areas where there is still standing water crop damage is being reported.

Warmer temperatures have resulted in improved growth of all crops, although crop staging still varies. Cereal crops range from the 3 leaf to flag leaf stage; some barley is in the heading stage. Canola crops range from the 4 leaf up to the flowering stage. Soybeans are in the 2nd to 4th trifoliate stage with majority in the 3rd trifoliate stage. Iron chlorosis is evident in a number of fields. Flax ranges from 2 to 3 inches to bud stage; many fields are yellowing due to excess moisture. Winter wheat is entering the heading stage while fall rye is fully headed.

Herbicide applications continue as field conditions allow. The variability of crop stages within some fields is posing herbicide and fungicide timing issues.

Early seeded spring cereals are being monitored for leaf diseases and foliar fungicide is being applied where needed. Some canola fields have received an application of fungicide. Sclerotinia apothecia have been found in winter wheat fields.

Low numbers of diamond back moth and bertha armyworm moths are being reported in the insect monitoring program.

First cut alfalfa and hay continues. Quality is good but yields are
variable. Estimated alfalfa yields range from 2 to 2.5 T/acre, for alfalfa/grass 1.75 to 3 T/acre, for greenfeed 2 T/acre and for millet 2 T/acre. Cutting of beef quality hay has begun. Pastures are in fair to good condition. There is an increase in greenfeed acres compared to past years. Dugouts are full.

Eastern Region
The previous week’s rainfall delayed field operations. Crop injury is being reported, ranging from crop yellowing due to moisture stress to drowned out areas in low areas of fields.
Crop development continues to vary. Cereals crops range from the 6 leaf stage to heading stage, with spring wheat and barley being the most advanced. Early seeded canola is bolting and flowering while later seeded crops vary from small rosette to bolting stage. The majority of soybeans are in the 3rd trifoliate leaf stage. Flax is 6 to 8 inches tall. Sunflowers and corn are in the 6 leaf stage. The winter wheat crop is rated as good with the crop entering the milk stage.
Aerial applications of fungicide and herbicide occurred while ground applications started again over the weekend. Fungicide applications in barley and early seeded canola were noted. Fungicide applications on winter wheat will wrap up this week.
Hayfield and pastureland conditions are rated as fair to good. Fifty percent of first cut hay has been harvested and haying resumed towards the end of the week. Some areas in hayfields are drowned out and excess moisture in hayfields and pastures is a concern.

Interlake Region
Weather conditions for the past week provided moderate day time temperatures with cool nights. Scattered showers resulted in 7 to 12 mm of precipitation. Field and haying operations are at a standstill in the north east Interlake area due to saturated soil conditions.
Crop staging varies across the region. In the north Interlake cereal crops are in the 2 to 5 leaf stage with early seeded fields approaching the flag leaf stage; in the southern areas of the region the early seeded wheat crops are entering the heading stage. The canola crop has improved significantly over the past week and ranges from the 2 to 5 leaf stage in the northern areas to the flowering stage in the southern areas. Corn crops range from 8 inches to 12 inches in height and sunflowers have 5 to 9 leaves. Soybeans are in the 3rd to 4th trifoliate leaf stage.
Some canola and winter wheat fields have received a fungicide application.
Alfalfa hay crops are at the 10 per cent bloom stage with dry weather needed in the northern areas of the region to help the fields dry sufficiently to support harvest equipment. Harvest of the hay crop is under way in the Ashern area. First cut hay crops harvested for dairy quality forage are generally yielding below average. The native hay crops are rated as poor.
Leaf cutter bees are expected to be placed in alfalfa seed fields this coming week.
Alfalfa weevil remains a concern as they continue to feed on the leaves of alfalfa hay crops. Wet field conditions are delaying harvest which would end alfalfa weevil feeding. Insecticides for control are being used where conditions allow.