Southwest Region

Very little precipitation over the past week allowed for good progress with harvest. Cereal crop harvest ranges from 75 to 90% complete. Yields are average to above average. Quality is good with lower than average protein levels being reported. Canola harvest ranges from 40 to 60% complete with yields average to above average. Flax harvest has just started with initial reports of average yields and good quality. Sunflowers and corn continue to mature. Producers are planting winter wheat into canola stubble.

Pasture conditions are providing producers with some extended grazing; however, some producers may be supplemental feeding within the next couple of weeks.

Northwest Region

Warm dry weather over the past week allowed harvest to progress. However, light showers Sunday night will bring harvest operations to a standstill for a short time.

Spring wheat harvest is just underway at The Pas; harvest is 65 to 75% complete in the Roblin, Ste. Rose and Dauphin areas and almost complete around Swan River. Yields range from 30 to 55 bu/acre with higher yields being reported at The Pas and Dauphin. Quality has been excellent with majority grading #1. Approximately 5 to 50% of the barley is harvested with yields averaging 75 bu/acre and 5 to 30% of the oats are harvested with yields averaging 90 bu/acre. Canola harvest has just started around The Pas, 15% complete around Roblin and 40 to 55% harvested around Dauphin, Ste. Rose and Swan River. Yields are good at 35 to 50 bu/acre with higher yields reported in some areas. Some crops in the McCreary, Laurier and Alonsa areas require a few more days to reach maturity.

Excess moisture is still preventing harvest of native hay in Waterhen, Meadow Portage and Crane River areas.

Central Region

Excellent harvest progress was made over the past week as a result of the warm weather. Spring wheat harvest ranges from 50 to 90% complete with yields ranging from 45 to 75 bu/acre. Quality is generally good with lower than average protein levels. Barley harvest is nearly complete with yields ranging from 60 to 100 bu/acre. Oat harvest is approaching 50% complete with yields ranging from 85 to 150 bu/ac. Canola harvest is about 50% complete. Early seeded canola fields are yielding 35 to 50 bu/acre, with some very high yields of 70 bu/acre being reported. Fall field work has begun where crops have been harvested.

Edible bean harvest has started in the Portage area with average to slightly above average yields expected. Edible beans are being cut in the Altona-Winkler area. Soybeans are maturing and are dropping leaves.

The warm weather has helped the corn crop with many fields in the dent stage. Some areas are well underway for cutting silage corn while other areas are just starting to cut.

Potato harvest is taking place with above average yields.

Dairy producers are taking off third cut alfalfa and other producers are waiting for the first frost before doing their last cut of hay. Pastures are in fair to good condition.

Eastern Region

September has been much warmer than normal which is helping with harvest. Some fields are still wet, with water in ruts and low areas.

Winter wheat harvest is complete with yields ranging from 60 to 85 bu/acre. Barley harvest is complete with yields ranging from 65 to 100 bu/acre. Approximately 55% of spring wheat is harvested with yields ranging from 40 to 60 bu/acre. Red spring wheat is grading #2 with low FHB levels. A limited amount of oats is harvested with yields ranging from 80 to 100 bu/acre. Canola is 75% combined and only 5% remains standing.
Quality is good with yields ranging from 30 to 50 bu/acre. Flax is being swathed. Soybeans are starting to show significant leaf colour change and early varieties are 30% yellow pod. Corn is well into the early dent stage. A limited amount of field work has been done.

The limited amount of canola stubble available has greatly limited the amount of winter wheat acres seeded this fall.

Hay and pastureland conditions are rated as good and, with some good regrowth occurring, many producers are taking a late second or third cut. Cattle producers will be baling straw to stretch feed supplies this winter.

The feed shortage remains a concern in the Eastman area.

Interlake Region
Above seasonal average temperatures and dry conditions prevailed the past week allowing field operations to progress. Harvesting, haying and tillage operations were general throughout the region.

Harvest progress ranges from 10 to 60% in the north Interlake to 60 to 70% complete in the south. Spring wheat crops harvested to date have yielded between 15 to 65 bu/acre. Canola yields range from 7 to 50 bu/acre. Leaves on soybean crops have turned color and started to drop. White mould is being reported in an above average number of soybean fields this year.

Field tillage is progressing as the harvest advances with tillage closely following harvest operations. First and second cut haying operations were general throughout the region. Fields that have gone unharvested through 2008 and most of 2009 are being harvested for the first time. Continued dry conditions will allow for more harvesting, reducing forage shortages that were earlier expected.