Southwest Region
The Southwest Region received varying amounts of precipitation over the past week; some areas reported heavy thunderstorms with hail and high winds towards the end of the week.
Cereal crops vary in development with the early seeded acres starting to head and later seeded acres ranging from emergence to tillering. Rain and wet conditions limited the progress of herbicide applications. For some fields, herbicide and fungicides are being applied by air. Where ground rigs are being used, rutting of fields is occurring.
Oilseed crops also vary in staging. The early seeded oilseed acres are showing signs of moisture stress, including canola plants that are prematurely bolting. The later seeded crop is handling the moisture better with normal development; on these acres producers are trying to finish weed control applications. Flax is showing symptoms of water stress and timely herbicide applications are being impacted due to excess moisture; in several cases flax development is too advanced for optimum herbicide timing.
Sunflowers are in the 6 leaf stage. Both the sunflower and corn crop would welcome heat.
Winter wheat and fall rye are rated as good with some fields starting to lodge as a result of rain storms.

Hay crop looks great; however, many producers are having problems with cutting and putting up good quality feed as rain and high humidity is keeping the crop from drying down. Some producers are looking at silaging options.
No major insect problems although there are some reports of cutworm damage. There are reports of gophers damaging several acres in some fields.
Overall the region is still suffering from excessive moisture with warm dry weather needed.

Northwest Region
Throughout the week the Northwest Region saw unsettled weather conditions ranging from heavy thundershowers to light rain. Significant rains hit already saturated soils and flooded crops in the RM’s of Dauphin, Ethelbert, Mossy River and Lawrence. Other areas affected are McCreary and parts of the Swan Valley. In the remaining areas of the region, including the Pas, field conditions are much better, allowing herbicide and fungicide applications to continue.
Early seeded wheat ranges from shot blade to early heading, with majority of acres at tillering stages. Approximately 10% of the canola acres are at the early seedling stage.

Spot treatments for cutworms are being reported at Gilbert Plains. Canola insect counts in monitoring traps remain low. Alfalfa weevil larvae are damaging alfalfa in some mixed forage stands at Ste. Rose.
Alfalfa development is reaching early flowering. A few producers have begun wrapped silage operations. Wet field conditions are delaying haying activity. Pasture growth is good with some wet areas evident. Low-lying native and tame forages are suffering from drowned out areas and flooding. Increased water levels and stream flows are affecting lake levels, pressuring some associated native hay stands.

Central Region
Slightly warmer temperatures and a short break from rain this past week resulted in good crop development. Temperatures for the most part are normal to below normal for this time of year. Rains continue to affect all areas, and accumulations are extremely variable as heavy thundershowers rolled through parts of the region. There are scattered reports of hail in the eastern area of the region. Excess moisture continues to be a concern in many fields throughout the region with standing water in some fields. Many low lying areas will not recover. In those fields that have missed some the most damaging rains, crops are doing well.
Reseeded crop is emerging, but recent rains are hampering growth. Weed control applications, although wrapping up in most crops, continue to be challenged by the weather conditions. Ruts are evident in many fields throughout the region, and will cause ongoing problems through harvest. Poor conditions have resulted in herbicide performance concerns.

Early seeded flax fields are starting to flower. Corn is advancing slowly; staging ranges from V4 to V6. Sunflowers range from V4 to V12. Rust is being found in some fields. Soybeans are in first to third trifoliate stage and seem to be handling the wet conditions relatively well. Edible beans are suffering with wet conditions. Potatoes are doing well on higher ground. Some irrigating is being done in Treherne area. Strawberries are ripening. Leaf diseases are evident on majority of cereal crops. Fungicide spraying has wrapped up in winter wheat and continues in the spring cereals; fungicide applications for fusarium head blight continues in early seeded spring wheat. Producers are struggling with fungicide application decisions in thin/stressed stands.

Fungicide spraying continues in canola. Early seeded stands are in full bloom; later seeded crop is starting to bolt. Stands are variable, so fungicide application decisions are being made on a field by field basis. Rapid advancement in crop staging is evident where conditions are better.

Monitoring continues for diamondback moth caterpillars in eastern parts of the region due to high trap counts; bertha armyworm moth traps are now out in canola fields and are being monitored. Sandy soils have suffered nitrogen leaching with the heavy rainfall; deficiency symptoms are evident. Ground squirrels are being reported in many fields in the Somerset/Pilot Mound area; small to moderate size areas (2 to 10 acres) are being damaged. Canola appears to be the crop of choice; fields affected were recently broken from pasture or adjacent to pasture or hay fields. Haying operations continue to be a challenge due to frequent rains and high humidity. First cut continues as weather permits. Beef quality hay is starting. Haylage and round bale silage is being done. Pastures are growing well, but wet, with ample grass for grazing. Some pastures are flooded. Dugouts are full.

Eastern Region
Rainfall amounts varied across the region with some areas receiving small sized hail. Over the weekend, some areas experienced extreme weather conditions with sudden, heavy downpours and damaging winds. Overflowing ditches, flooded fields and an increase in the amount of standing water was noted. Yield loss is expected in those areas impacted by the excess moisture. Early seeded spring cereals are heading while later seeded crops are in the flag leaf stage. Canola staging ranges from bolting (20 to 50%) to flowering (50 to 80%); premature bolting is still evident in some fields. Spring cereals and canola remain the crops displaying the most stress under these weather conditions, as well as the most uneven development. Winter wheat crops continue to be in good condition compared to spring cereals, although the degree of crop yellowing in waterlogged areas has increased. Soybeans are in the second to third trifoliate leaf stage. Corn is in the V7 to V9 stage. Sunflowers are in V4 to V8 stage. The precipitation during the week delayed progress in the fields as producers tried to finish herbicide spraying. Fungicide applications in cereals for fusarium head blight and leaf diseases and in canola for sclerotinia continued, sometimes with the help of planes and helicopters. Producers were making weed control their first priority. With fungicides, it appears applications to protect seed quality in cereals were being prioritized. While hay and pasture conditions are rated as good in the region, it was noted that low lying hayfields are starting to yellow and that virtually no haying progress was made last week with standing hay continuing to lose quality as it matures.

Interlake Region
Precipitation in the Interlake Region varied with most of the week’s rain falling on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. The Teulon/Inwood area experienced intense thunderstorms resulting in reported rainfall amounts up to 100 mm. Water ponding in low lying areas and fields has persisted for over a month; crops in these areas are pale green or yellow. The early planted spring wheat crops have headed out. Barley...
crops are starting to head out. Canola crops are bolting to early bloom stage.

Soybean crops are up to the fourth trifoliate leaf stage. Sunflower crops are up to the bud stage.

Harvest of the hay crop is being hampered by the periodic rains and wet field conditions. Haylage or silage has been the only means of harvesting alfalfa. Alfalfa is now in the flowering stage and hay quality will diminish in coming weeks as harvest is delayed.

Pasture conditions ranges; grass production on pastures is excellent but accessibility is limited in some areas while some pastures are rated as poor due to low lying areas under water. Some producers have very little dry land on which to graze cattle, and may be forced to move cattle to alternate pastures.