Southwest Region

Most of the Southwest Region received rainfall over the past week. Large storms on the weekend resulted in yard damage in some areas. There were reports of high winds with hail in areas including Hartney, south of Souris, and through to Nesbitt.

Field conditions started to dry up with the warmer temperatures last week and there was noticeable improvements in some of the wet areas. Cereal crops showed the greatest improvement; several producers started applying fungicides. Canola and flax crops are showing the most stress from excess moisture. Some spraying for disease has occurred but application decisions based on yield potential are continuing for some acres. Pulse crops are flowering and they are starting to show some disease issues such as root rot. There remain several areas within the region where large acreages are not seeded with low spots still full of water.

Winter wheat and fall rye continue to progress well and are fully headed. Haying has begun and yields are looking good. Some producers are having problems getting the crop to cure so quality has been an issue. Pastures are looking good and as the land dries the grazing should last most of the summer.

Northwest Region

Thunderstorms and heavy rains occurred through most of the area north of the Riding Mountains to Swan River Valley. High winds have caused lodging of some forage seed crops and headed out cereals around the Dauphin area. Some light hail and approximately 100 mm of rain was reported in the Edystone area.

Through the Northwest Region, wheat is at 75% shot blade and to early heading stages and approximately 40% of the canola crop is bolting and flowering.

Field conditions and yield potentials to the area west of Grandview to Roblin is reasonably good. Continuing excess moisture in much of the RM’s of Dauphin, Ethelbert, Mossy River and Lawrence is resulting in poor crop conditions. These areas are characterized by extensive drowned out spots, flooded crops, yellowing, premature bolting, poor root development and disease. Winter cereals and forage seed crops are performing better.

Additional field treatment for cutworms is reported around the Gilbert Plains area. Canola insect counts in monitoring traps remain low. Fungicide applications are continuing on cereals and canola, with decisions based on the field-by-field yield potential.

Central Region

The Central Region saw drier conditions last week until the weekend when thunderstorms went through areas of Winkler-Morden, Portage-Gladstone and north of Morris, resulting in varying amounts of precipitation and in some areas hail.

Depending on excess moisture stress, crop conditions range from very poor to very good. Canola has been flowering for the past couple of weeks and a number of fields have finished flower. Canola and spring cereal fungicide spraying is finishing. Soybean crop is V3 to V5 stage and early fields are starting to flower. Sunflower crop is V3 to V4 stage. Corn has a wide variation in growth, V3 to V5 stage. Edible beans are V1 to V4 stage and
producers continue to spray for weeds given late seeded crop and weed escapes on first spraying. Herbicide spraying has been a challenge which is evident in fields. Winter wheat is maturing with harvest expected late July or early August.

Bertha armyworm traps are being monitored with low numbers at present.

Hay producers are facing difficulties when trying to make dry hay. Early cut fields were deteriorating and were either baled for poorer quality hay or silage harvester chopped back to the field. Some hay fields are still waiting to be cut because of wet conditions. The hay will be lower quality so producers may have to supplement at winter feeding.

Eastern Region
Scattered rainfall across the region resulted in varying amounts of precipitation and some areas also reported small sized hail. Last week’s precipitation continues to prolong the amount of standing water remaining in fields.

The sporadic precipitation during the week allowed some producers to complete their herbicide spraying and focus their attention to applying fungicides in cereals for fusarium head blight and leaf diseases. Fungicide spraying in canola for sclerotinia is nearly wrapped up as many fields are exceeding 50% bloom. Field selection for fungicide application was closely monitored by producers where yield potential was limited due to excess moisture. Early seeded spring cereals are 85 to 100% headed while later seeded crops are in the full flag leaf stage. Canola staging ranges from bolting (10%) to flowering (90%). Yield loss concerns due to premature bolting and limited flowering remain. Uneven crop development in spring cereals and canola is still evident as a result of excess moisture. Winter wheat crops continue to be in relatively good condition compared to spring cereals although the degree of crop yellowing in waterlogged areas of fields increased. Soybeans are in the fourth and sixth trifoliate leaf stage. Corn is in the V11 to V12 stage. Sunflowers are in V6 to V10 stage.

Haying progress was reported throughout the region as warm drying weather allowed producers an opportunity to continue cutting and baling first cut. Dairy producers were concerned with alfalfa quality as relative feed values continued to drop as the alfalfa matures.

Interlake Region
The Interlake Region saw heavy thunderstorms late in the week. Moosehorn, Fisher Branch, and Pequis received the most rain which fell in three separate events on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Municipal and provincial drains are full and overland flooding is occurring. High winds accompanied the storms causing damage to buildings, crops, and trees across the region.

Warm season crops including soybeans, corn and sunflowers are growing rapidly as hot weather continued through the week. Soybeans crops have started to flower. Flax is flowering with chlorosis occurring in areas with wetter soils. Winter wheat is starting to change color as ripening continues. Canola is 60 to 80% bloom, and spring wheat is 50 to 60% headed. Other cereals are mostly headed.

Fungicides are being applied to cereals and canola on select fields which have reasonable yield potential. Little haying progress was made through the week. The Ashern, Moosehorn, and Fisher areas and Inwood, Komarno areas are weeks away from accessing wet hay fields. Field access is difficult across the Interlake. This will cause concerns for adequate feed quality as crops continue to mature.

Pastures are flooded in the northwest and central areas and cattle are being moved to higher land if available.