Southwest Region

Isolated thunderstorms last week resulted in small accumulation amounts throughout the region. Many of the crops are rebounding from the moisture stress and have improved significantly in the past week. Majority of the early seeded cereal crops are done flowering. Later seeded cereal crop development ranges from tillering to starting to head. Most canola is flowering except for later seeded crops which range from cabbaging to bolting. Flax is starting to flower. Sunflowers and corn have jumped with the recent warm weather. Most producers have completed inter-row cultivation in row crops. Pulse crops continue to flower and are podding. Winter wheat and fall rye are into grain filling and have been progressing well; some areas are reporting heavy disease pressure in winter wheat. Disease pressure in other crops is related to location, rainfall amount and rotation. Generally the disease pressure is moderate to heavy.

Pastures are starting to dry up and are looking good. However, producers are starting to report issues with foot rot in cattle. Hay crops are being put up and yields are above average with quality rated as below average.

No major insect issues to report.

Northwest Region

Seasonal temperatures with high humidity along with scattered light rain showers occurred throughout the region last week.

Majority of cereals ranges in development from flag leaf to flowering. Much of the canola crop is flowering with podding occurring in the more advanced fields. Crop yield potential and development are best through Grandview, west to Roblin, and parts of the Swan River Valley.

Corn is advancing quickly with the warmer temperatures. The hemp crop has had emergence issues and development is variable because of wet soil conditions. Air and ground applied fungicide treatments are continuing, primarily for Sclerotinia control in the canola crop. Germinating sclerotia has been observed in fields across the region. No insect issues have been reported this week and Bertha armyworm moth trap counts remain low.

Unseeded acres and seeded fields that have excess moisture problems that are weedy and in dramatic contrast to those fields with yield potentials. Some greenfeed acres have been seeded to deal with excess moisture field conditions. Pastureland is drying up and improving slowly. Silage and haylage operations are general across the region. Weather and field conditions were good to allow some baling of dry tame hay. Initial forage yields are average to above average with quality declining due to maturity and the delay in harvest. Many areas of tame forage fields and native hay stands remain wet.

Central Region

Warm and dry weather conditions prevailed last week providing for favourable crop growth and development conditions. Soils continue to range from good moisture levels to excessive in areas of the Red River Valley. The Morden and Morris areas continue to report excessive water conditions with water still visible in tracks and in shorter crops. Further west on the escarpment, soil moisture is rated as good to fair.

Crops are progressed nicely. Spring cereals are into the milk to early dough stage with the crops in the Red River Valley being more advanced than in the western part of the region. Many canola fields are in the advanced stages of flowering and some of the earlier seeded fields are now into the podding stage. Later seeded canola fields ranges from early bolting to full flower. Most flax fields are blooming. Warm season crops like corn, soybeans, field beans and sunflower are doing very well as they enter the flowering stage of development. Winter cereals are turning color and maturing.
A second herbicide application is being applied in some soybean fields. Soybean fields are starting to improve in color although chlorosis related to excessive moisture is still evident.

Fungicide spraying continues in the later seeded canola and cereals acres. Root rot diseases are showing up in crops affected by excess moisture, including soybeans, canola and cereals. Pastures are keeping up with grazing given favourable soil moisture conditions. Haying is progressing well with the recent warm and dry weather. Yields are reported to be above normal with below normal quality due to the delay in cutting.

Overall crop and forage conditions have improved greatly. In areas where excess moisture is an issue, warm and dry weather will continue to allow for improvements of those fields; however, lower yield potential is still expected.

Eastern Region
Very little precipitation during the week allowed producers the much needed time to complete their fungicide spraying and first cut haying.

Crop staging throughout the northern areas of the region are variable while crop uniformity is better in the southern areas where less precipitation has fallen throughout the season to date. The crops displaying better yield potential are improving weekly due to dry conditions and moderate to warm temperatures. Barley is the most advanced with fields headed out. Spring wheat and oat fields are about 70 to 100% headed out. Early seeded canola is finished blooming while later seeded canola is 70 to 100% flowering stage. Soybeans are mostly in the R1 to R2 stage with significant plant growth this past week; nodulation on plant roots is good with excellent plant health. Flax is 25 to 30cm tall and has been flowering for over a week. Corn development is extremely variable throughout the region. Winter wheat is in the soft dough stage with very good yield potential. Fields that suffered excess moisture damage have thin stands, variable crop development, and lower yield expectations. Water stressed fields are improving this week as saturated soils are drying up. Hayfield and pastureland conditions are rated as good. First cut hay is wrapping up and second cut alfalfa is about one week behind normal. Alfalfa yields are averaging 1.5 tons per acre and alfalfa/grass stands are producing 2 tons per acre.

Interlake Region
Scattered showers over several days during the past week resulted in small amounts of precipitation. Cereal crops are headed. Canola crops have advanced into the bloom stage. Most fungicide application is complete on crops that warrant investment. Many crops that are damaged from flooding will not receive a fungicide treatment. AgriInsurance adjustors are appraising crop yield potential on fields that producers are considering working down, these appraisals help producers with their field management decisions. Warm season crops like corn, soybean and sunflower are advancing quickly as a result of sunshine and warmer temperatures. Soybeans are showing excellent recovery from excess moisture stress. Hay harvest progress has been slow as field conditions are extremely wet. Progress is noticeable across the region; however, most harvest is on high ground with wet spots being avoided. Harvest delays will cause reduced forage quality as the crop continues to mature.

Pasture conditions are rated as poor as cattle cannot access lowland pasture or high land is overgrazed. Some producers are moving cattle to higher land while others are considering fencing off hayland.