Southwest Region

Rainfall over the past week varied with most of the accumulation coming in thundershowers. Rainfall amounts of 10 - 25 mm were reported with the higher amounts localized in the Shoal Lake and Minnedosa areas. Warm weather helped the crop advance however rainfall kept many producers from haying until the weekend.

Winter wheat is turning and producers will start desiccating towards the end of this week. Low spots are staying green and this is delaying preharvest applications. Some fall rye has been cut and producers will continue cutting this week with the forecast projecting warm and dry conditions. Some of the fall rye has been put up for silage and yields have been good.

Early seeded cereal crops are starting to turn with earliest harvest in about 2-3 weeks. Later seeded crops are still filling. Some areas are reporting lodging of cereal crops from heavy rainfall and wind. Fusarium is showing up in fields and as crops begin to mature the percent of infection is becoming more noticeable. Leaf disease in both wheat and barley is high.

Early seeded canola is podding and the majority is in full bloom. No major issues with insects or disease to date. Flax is flowering and early seeded flax is starting to form bolls. Sunflowers and corn have progressed well over the past week.

Some of the early seeded corn is starting to show tassels. The early seeded sunflowers are starting to flower with the majority going to start flowering in a weeks time.

Haying progressed towards the end of the week and on the weekend with producers baling fields that had been cut for several days and had seen 2 -3 rains. Yield is still reported to be above average with quality average to below average. For the producers that got things done between the rains the second cut is looking to be average and producers will start on it towards the end of this week. Pastures continue to improve as wet areas begin to dry and make more areas accessible to the cattle.

Northwest Region

Wide spread occasional scattered showers and thunderstorms were reported across the area. The region has experienced seasonal temperatures with periods of high humidity.

Most cereals are fully headed and early seeded fields are at various dough stages. The majority of the canola is at the podding stage with approximately 30% exhibiting immature seed development.

Wild oats and Canada thistle are prevalent in cereals, particularly where treatments were unable to be done or where timing issues were experienced due to early season wet field conditions. Cereal leaf diseases are also evident. Aphid populations are present in some barley fields near Roblin. No preventative spraying has been reported.

Excess moisture and flooded fields are drying up slowly with spray outs and some tillage continuing.

Pastures continue to improve generally, with reports of excellent capacity in the western part of the region. Weather that is more favorable permitted the hay harvest to proceed. Occasional high humidity did slow the curing of cut fields. Approximately 20% has been baled and 30% to 40 % cut. The area has variations in quality and yield with Roblin and Swan River being more advanced and of better quality. More haylage and silage is being utilized. A few producers in the wetter areas of Ethelbert, Winnipegosis and the Westlake; are able to selectively harvest as field and humidity conditions allow.

Central Region

The Region experienced drier, warmer weather until end of the week with variation in rainfall from zero to 50 mm. An area west of Morden received as high as 125 mm. The overall drier weather allowed fields to dry and field work or haying to take place where excess moisture was an issue.

Early harvested winter wheat is yielding 70 to 85 bu/ac with fusarium levels fluctuating from 0.5 to 3%.
Larger acreages of winter wheat should be harvested in the coming week. Barley harvest should begin soon as the warmer temperatures mature the crops. Early seeded canola fields may be swathed this week given that fields are maturing quickly in the heat.

The Soybean crop is in R2 to R3 with pods being formed. Sunflowers are in R1 to R5 with a few of the fields beginning to flower. Corn is beginning the R1 growth stage. Flax is finishing flowering and is at the green seed stage. Edible beans are in R2 to R5 staging.

Bertha armyworm traps are being monitored with higher numbers in the Carberry-Somerset areas. Armyworms in cereals are being monitored with few fields needing control. Other fields saw larval counts decrease with insects changing to the pupal stage.

**Eastern Region**

Heat accumulation across the region was approximately 60% of normal last week. Some advance in the development of warm season crops was observed. Significant crop development in both corn and soybeans was witnessed over the last week. Soil moisture conditions were rated as full across the region with as much as 33 mm of rainfall in some of the districts. Rainfall accumulations were extremely variable. Standing water was observed in some low areas of fields along with the associated crop yellowing.

Crop development throughout the region remains variable. Spring wheat is nearly completely heading out and filling while oats is about 90% heading and filling. Winter wheat harvest started earlier in the week with good yields reported with FHB being a concern. Early seeded canola is primarily pod filling but still over 10% of the acres are in the midst of flowering. Producers are accessing the economic benefit of spraying the later flowering canola for sclerotinia. Many late seeded canola fields are thin and damaged from excess moisture. Soybeans are in the R2-R3 stage. Their advance in maturity is likely due to day length effects and the increase in daytime temperatures. Some soybeans fields are podding very well with 13 pods developed on the plant. Flax has nearly completed flowering. Corn is starting to tassel and first ears are visible (VT-V3). Sunflowers are at the R2-R3 stage. The flowering periods for cool season crops like canola and flax were about average this year. Many early seeded canola fields flowered for more than 14 days.

Hayfield and pastureland conditions are rated as good to fair. First cut hay is complete and second cut is well underway. Alfalfa yields are averaging at 1.5 tons/acre for second cut and alfalfa/grass stands producing 2 tons/acre. Alfalfa producers are applying fungicides on worthy crops where field traffic is possible.

Crop client concerns remain focused on two areas: (1) the weather as we’re approaching harvest for some crops and (2) MASC August third deadline for 2010 Canada-Manitoba Excess Moisture Assistance Program.

**Interlake Region**

Warm conditions have prevailed throughout the Interlake for the past week. Localized scattered showers fell throughout the past week. Thundershowers late in the week resulted in 2 to 60 mm of precipitation with reports of isolated areas near Arborg receiving 75 mm. Areas receiving these higher amounts of rainfall were from Inwood to Fraserwood and north through Arborg.

The recent warmer daytime temperatures have been beneficial to the warm season crops. Corn is in the tassel stage, confectionary sunflowers are in the flowering stage and the height of soybean crops continues to increase.

Winter wheat and fall rye are ripening and pre-harvest dessication has started in the south. Winter wheat has generally very high levels of fusarium infection and fall rye is infected with ergot. Canola is podded. Thin areas in canola fields have plants lying down, as root systems are small and soils are too soft to hold plants.

The warm weather has allowed for excellent leaf cutter bee activity. Alfalfa producers are applying fungicides on worthy crops where field traffic is possible.

Haying progress is mixed. In the south good haying progress was made except on the marginal land where field traffic is still restricted. The Shoal Lakes area west of Inwood has producers with only 15% complete. Scattered showers across the north have hindered progress. The Ashern area is approximately 25% complete. Many of the Fisher Branch and Peguis producers have yet to start, and the Arborg/Riverton areas are 25-30% complete on good ground. It will be several weeks before the harvesting of native hay and marginal land can begin, providing good weather prevails. The hay that is being harvested now is coarse, and of
lower feed value than normal. Yields are mostly above average, but many acres cannot be accessed thus reducing overall yields.

Pasture conditions are deteriorating. High ground continues to be over grazed, while low land is negative as foraging for feed in inaccessible to cattle. There are muddy conditions and high insect pressure hinder adequate feed intake. Horse fly populations are extreme. Cattle performance has been