Southwest Region
Scattered rain showers across the Southwest Region at the beginning of the week brought 10 to 30 mm in isolated events.
Winter wheat and fall rye harvest is 60% complete with yields reporting in the 40 to 70 bushels/acre range. Most areas are reporting average quality. Producers will be starting to plant winter wheat and fall rye this week.
Harvest of some early seeded cereal acres has started with desiccation of the remaining cereal acres just starting in several areas. Peas are being harvested and yields to date are below average with good quality. Producers are swathing canola and crop looks to be below average. Later seeded canola is going out of bloom and is showing signs of heat and drought stress. Most flax fields have completed flowering and are starting to turn. Sunflower crops are flowering.
Most producers have completed first cut of hay with above average yields. Some producers are finished second cut with yields average and good quality. Pasture land is starting to show some stress from overgrazing and dry conditions. Low areas are drying up; however, in most cases grass is dead or very poor quality.

Northwest Region
In the Northwest Region, cooler night temperatures, some high winds, and general rains from 20 to 55 mm of rain occurred early in the week. Thunderstorms resulted in heavy precipitation in some areas. Local reports indicate amounts ranged from 100 mm south of Ochre River and Grandview to amounts as high as 200 mm north of Inglis where heavy hail caused high crop losses.
Winter wheat harvest is complete with average yields, some in part due to early season wet areas reducing overall field averages. Quality of winter wheat was very good with the exception of the later harvest which was impacted by some bleaching from the previous week’s rains. The perennial rye grass seed harvest is also reaching completion with average to above yields.
Crop growth is generally good with 75 to 85% of the wheat acres into dough stages and 15 to 25% ripening. Desiccation of spring wheat is underway. Some lodging of heavy cereal crop stands through Swan River and Roblin is reported. Canola is 10 to 30% swathed. Flax, hemp, buckwheat and soybeans are developing well under the good growing conditions. As crops mature, drown outs, disease and root development issues are becoming more apparent in crop stands.

Central Region
The Central Region received light rain showers resulting in very little
accumulation. Producers are still looking for rain for late seeded crops as those continue grain filling.

Cereals are being harvested with yields ranging from 45 to 60 bushels/acre for wheat, barley 50 to 80 bushels/acre and oats 75 to 100 bushels/acre. Quality in cereals is average to below average due to lower proteins in wheat and light weights in oats. Cereals have lower disease levels in grain samples which may be attributed to the drier summer. Canola yields range from 10 to 55 bushels/acre. A number of canola fields are swathed and should be combined in the coming week. Green seed issues have been noted due to the recent dry, hot weather and may need a rain to help cure the crop. Late seeded canola is being checked for lygus bugs, bertha armyworm larvae and diamondback larvae with fields being sprayed where necessary.

Soybeans are filling pods and at growth stage R6. Aphid numbers appear to be staying stable which can be attributed to cooler temperatures and beneficial insects keeping numbers down. Edible beans are filling pods and good number of pods on each plant. Sunflower fields are close to finished flowering and heads are a good size.

Winter wheat seeding has begun with more seeding to take place in the coming weeks. A few producers are concerned about seeding winter wheat into dry soil. Winter wheat acreage is expected to increase from previous years because of unseeded acres as well as an earlier canola harvest.

Potatoes are being irrigated and crop yields are expected to be good. Early table potatoes are being harvested on limited acreage.

Eastern Region
Weather in the Eastern Region was sunny and warm last week but with localized instances of precipitation and hail. While many areas in the region reported only 2 to 10 mm of rainfall accumulation last week, some localized areas did receive as much as 30+ mm in downpours during isolated thunderstorms. Hailstorms associated with these storms did cause significant damage to swathed canola, especially in northern areas of the region. Soil moisture was rated as dry throughout the region. Drought stress symptoms and indications of lost yield potential were apparent last week and were of concern on later seeded crops and in long seasoned crops like soybeans, corn and sunflower.

Most spring cereals were mature by the end of the week. Later seeded cereals are in the hard dough stage and turning. Swathing and harvesting of hard red spring wheat and oats is proceeding. Spring wheat yields are above average at 40 to 55 bushels/acre with continued reports of low levels of fusarium damaged kernels. In oats, yields are in the 70 to 100 bushels/acre range with some thin kernels and low bushel weights occurring. On average, about 85% of the canola crop was ripe by the end of the week. Swathing occurred wherever possible last week. The later seeded crop continues pod filling. Some canola harvesting occurred and yields are in the 17 to 25 bushels/acre range which is less than producers were expecting. Lygus bugs continued to be a prominent concern last week in the later seeded crop with some instances of spraying continuing to occur. In early seeded canola, some swathing has begun while the later seeded crop continues filling and turning significantly. Soybean crops are in the R5 to R6 growth stage. Soybean aphids at threshold levels were found in some areas and spraying occurred. Infestation levels vary greatly from field to field requiring constant monitoring. Reports of natural predators present within the crop and declining soybean aphid numbers as the week went on. Early seeded sunflowers are in R6 stage while later seeded crop is at the end of R5 and moving into R6 stage. Insect monitoring continues, especially for lygus bugs. Corn maturity ranges from R3 to very early R5 stage.

Hay field condition ranges from poor to good across the region. Continued concern is expressed about low yield potential for the second cut attributed to low rainfall levels. Pastureland conditions are rated as fair with concern expressed about the dry conditions limiting productivity.

Interlake Region
Scattered showers fell throughout the Interlake Region but minimal accumulation amounts were reported. There was hail last week in the Warren area; some corn fields are being inspected by MASC. Hail
was also reported in the Eriksdale area.

Winter wheat harvest went well with good samples and yields averaging anywhere from 50 to 95 bushels/acre. Harvest is well underway for most early seeded canola and spring wheat crops. Canola yields are less than expected; averaging anywhere from 10 to 30 bushels/acre. There are some later seeded fields that are expected to yield 35 to 40 bushels/acre. Oats swathing is now starting to occur in Arborg and surrounding area. Oats in the Teulon area are averaging 40 to 80 bushels/acre, with weights anywhere from 30 to 36 lbs/bu. Spring wheat yields to date are 30 to 40 bushels/acre with little to no fusarium damaged kernels. Winter wheat seeding should start late in the week or early next week on summer fallow acres and late next week on canola stubble.

Second cut hay fields are finished with reports of yields being below average. Some areas are not expected to have a second cut due to the lack of moisture.