Southwest Region

There was little to no rainfall over the past week across the Southwest Region which allowed producers to make good harvest progress. Cereal crops are 60% complete with harvest south of Highway #2 more advanced compared to north of the highway. Yields to date are average to below average with average quality. Several producers are harvesting canola with reported yields quite variable. Yields range as low as 5 to 10 bushels/acre to as high as 40 bushels/acre.

Greenfeed acres have been impacted by disease which will negatively affect quality and yields. Some producers have started to cut greenfeed crops early, particularly oats, due to the higher disease pressure.

Several producers have been planting winter wheat and fall rye and acres will be up from last year. Producers also continue to rehabilitate wet acres.

Pastureland is showing symptoms of stress from over-grazing and dry conditions. Producers will be looking at supplemental feeding on pasture in some areas.

Northwest Region

Harvest operations continued without interruption across the Northwest Region. Weather conditions were hot and dry, with moderate to low wind conditions and lower humidity. Some light showers occurred over Sunday night.

Spring wheat is 65 to 90% harvested, with Swan River area the most advanced. Quality is average to above average with very low incidence of disease and weathering. Yields across the region are variable, with higher average yields through the Roblin-Swan River areas.

Approximately 15 to 25% of the canola crop has been combined with about 65 to 90% swathed. Variable yields are reported ranging from 25 to 45 bushels/acre with good overall quality.

Greenfeed, flax, soybeans, buckwheat and hemp acres are moving through varying stages of maturity under fair soil moisture conditions.

Post-harvest field work is also underway as time and available fields allow. Straw is being baled and removed. Fall tillage is also being done. Winter wheat planting around the Dauphin area continues.

Silage operations in the southern part of the region are just beginning.

Central Region

Hot dry conditions allowed for rapid crop development in later seeded crops and provided optimal conditions for harvest.

Harvest continues and crops are maturing quickly with hot conditions and low humidity. Pre-harvest glyphosate applications for weed control and harvest management continue. Producers continue to keep up with harvest due to the sunny and relatively dry weather.

Harvest progress varies widely due to flooding and excess moisture in the spring and subsequent late seeding in many areas. Cereal harvest ranges from 60 to 95% complete; canola harvest is 60 to 90% complete.

Wheat yields range from 10 to 60 bushels/acre, barley 50 to 80 bushels/acre, and oats 75 to 110 bushels/acre. Quality is generally average although some light weights and lower proteins are noted. Some downgrading due to rain is reported in the northwest part of the region. In general, impact of disease is much lower than in the past several years due to this summer’s dry conditions. Canola yields range from 10 to 55 bushels/acre; average yields will likely range between 20 to 40 bushels/acre.

Peas are yielding 25 to 50 bushels/acre. Flax is coming off at 10 to 25 bushels/acre. Cutting of edible bean fields has begun; average yields are expected. There has been a rapid change in soybeans. Harvesting started late last week, some possibly on the early side, but pods were popping
open in the hot dry conditions. Early yields reported in the 15 to 30 bushels/acre range. Sunflower fields are close to finished flowering and heads are good size. Insect monitoring continues in late seeded canola, soybean and sunflower fields. Producers are spraying for lygus bugs in late-seeded canola near MacGregor. Second generation flea beetles are visible on swathed or late maturing crops; no damage is expected.

Corn fields are maturing quickly; kernels are starting to dent and leaves and stalks are drying down. Direct delivery potato harvest is underway. Harvest into storage will start this week as conditions were too hot last week. The crop is expected to be average or below average due to hot dry conditions and later seeding.

Winter wheat and fall rye seeding continues and the recent rains have allowed more acres to go in. Acreage is expected to increase from previous years due to an early canola harvest, as well as to the significant number of fields that were too wet to seed this crop year. Where sufficient rain has fallen, fields are germinating well.

More fieldwork is being done as conditions have improved somewhat with rain. Repairs to field drainage after spring flooding continues.

Many annual and perennial weeds are showing up in fields. Weed control has been a challenge due to conditions and with many crop stands on the thin side, weed pressure is noticeably higher.

Second cut haying is near complete with good quality but lower yields due to dry conditions. Rain is needed before any third cut can be considered. Moderate rainfall has helped pastures to green up again, but growth is slow. Supplemental feeding may be required earlier than normal. Greenfeed is being harvested with some acres being silaged.

### Eastern Region

Weather in the Eastern Region was sunny and warm last week. Soil moisture is rated as dry throughout the region.

Harvesting of spring wheat is virtually complete across the region with yield reports ranging from 25 to 60 bushels/acre. Barley and oats harvest progress ranged from 85% to 100% complete. Barley yields range from 40 to 60 bushels/acre with average quality. Oat yields range from 50 to 100 bushels/acre. Below average quality issues continue to persist. Canola swathing is complete with 80 to 90% of the crop harvested. Yields are in the 15 to 45 bushels/acre range. Overall quality is rated as average.

Some limited soybean harvesting occurred in northern areas over the past weekend. Generally it was short seasoned varieties with some having suffered from high levels of root rot, drought stress or some other agronomic challenge that contributed to rapid maturity and dry down. As a result, some harvested samples have unusually small seed size and yields below 20 bushels/acre. All soybean crops are demonstrating rapid leaf drop and colour change. For the crop not yet ready to harvest, growth stages range from mid R7 to R8. Early seeded sunflowers are at the late R8 to R9 growth stages with producers becoming attentive to the timing of desiccant applications while later seeded crop are in R8. Corn is entering the R6 growth stage. Winter wheat seeding continues with emergence noted on previously seeded winter wheat fields.

Hay field and pastureland conditions range from fair to poor.

### Interlake Region

Wheat, barley and oat harvest is nearing completion in the Interlake Region. Majority of all late seeded canola has been cut and most other canola acres have been harvested. Above normal dockage due to lygus bug damage has been reported by some producers. Soybeans have been changing quite rapidly over the past couple weeks with many producers anticipating harvest soon, weather permitting. Flax fields are starting to be swathed or straight cut with no reports on seed quality or yields to date. Alfalfa seed harvest has started around the Ashern and Riverton areas with yields averaging 250 pounds/acre and higher. Desiccation/swathing of alfalfa seed fields have begun in the Arborg area. Winter wheat fields that were seeded in early August are emerging as small showers have helped with germination. Fall tillage is general across the region.

Greenfeed acres have been cut and baled with the exception of late seeded crops. Some producers have already started feeding hay on pasture as regrowth is slow due to dry conditions.