Weekly Provincial Summary

- Manitoba producers continue to make excellent seeding progress. In the Northwest, Central, Eastern and Interlake Regions, it is estimated over 95% of the acres have been seeded. Although not as advanced, the Southwest Region did see good seeding progress over the past week and is over 70% complete.
- Many areas of the province did receive precipitation which was welcomed by producers.
- Emergence of the early seeded acres has generally been good to excellent. It is anticipated the later seeded acres should emerge quickly and uniformly due to the recent precipitation combined with warmer soil temperatures.
- High winds over the past week did cause some crop damage, primarily to canola acres. There were also isolated acres of cereals, corn and soybeans impacted. Reseeding is occurring where warranted.
- As crops continue to emerge, weed control operations will become the next priority for producers.

Southwest Region

Little to no rainfall over the past week allowed producers to get a large portion of the seeding done in the Southwest Region. Seeding of cereal crops is 90 to 100% complete. The fields left to be seeded are either currently too wet or are intended for greenfeed or silage crops. Canola and flax seeding is 80% complete and most producers should be completing those acres this week. Emergence of most cereal crops has been good and the earlier seeded acres are approaching weed control stage. Some of the later seeded oilseed crops were seeded into drier soil so emergence will be assessed as those acres start to emerge. Winter seeded crops are either in, or approaching, the boot stage of development. Warm, dry weather has reduced disease pressure. However, many producers plan to spray a fungicide at flag leaf stage. No major insect issues have been reported; however, diamondback moths are being caught in traps. Flea beetles have not been a reported issue to date but fields are still being monitored closely. Pasture and hayland have grown considerably and many producers continue to move cattle to pasture.

Northwest Region

Across the Northwest Region, dry conditions and occasional high winds allowed for steady and widespread seeding operations. Soil moisture levels are still adequate; however, there are areas across the region where lighter soils are drier. A general rain would be welcomed across the region. Up to 95% of total acres have been seeded in the Northwest Region. Wheat seeding is complete with 35% of seeded acres now emerging and 55% in the seedling and early tillering stages. Canola seeding is 95% complete with 35% of those acres emerged and 35% at seedling stages. Other cereal and silage corn crop planting is also advanced. Pea development ranges from 4 to 6 node growth stage. Seeding progress at The Pas is 60% complete but some localized wet field conditions remain. Some pre-seed and pre-germination herbicide applications continued as required by specific field conditions or weed staging. Herbicide applications are underway on winter wheat. Flea beetle activity is generally low; Roblin area reports some early seeded canola being sprayed. Forage and pasture growth continues to develop under adequate moisture and temperatures. Native hay recovery is poor on 2011 flooded land.
adjacent to Lakes Dauphin, Winnipegosis and Manitoba.

Central Region
Scattered showers and thundershowers provided much needed rain over the Central Region. Rainfall amounts varied from 7 to 45 mm over the long weekend. Field operations were only briefly interrupted as most areas saw equipment back in the fields without much delay. It is anticipated the later seeded acres should germinate rapidly due to the recent precipitation and warm soils.

The winter wheat and fall rye crops are rapidly advancing; the earliest fields are in the flag leaf to early heading stages of development. Isolated cases of wheat streak mosaic and barley yellow dwarf have been confirmed in western areas of the region.

Seeding is essentially complete for most growers in the eastern parts of the region and quickly nearing completion in the western areas above the escarpment. Sixty to 75% of edible beans acres are seeded. The remainder of the soybeans and sunflowers will be seeded this week. Seeding of field peas is complete and sunflowers planting ranges from 80 to 100% complete.

Cereal development ranges from emerging to four leaf and tillering. Herbicide applications continue on the early seeded cereal acres, ranging up to 50% complete. Stands are generally good; although some stand thinning has been observed due to root rots, deep seeding or seed sitting in dry soil.

Canola development ranges from emerging to the four leaf stage. Stands range from thin to excellent and the recent rains will allow some stands to fill in. Up to 80% of the corn crop ranges from emerging to three leaf stage. Soybeans are starting to emerge.

High winds last week resulted in crop damage by either sandblasting by soil particles or shearing off by blowing crop residue. Canola acres were primarily impacted along with isolated acres of corn and cereals. Some impacted canola acres are being reseeded. Although some corn and cereals crops were sheared off, new growth is already noticeable on many fields.

However, a few cereal acres were reseeded. Canola is also being re-seeded in a number of areas in the region due to flea beetles or seedling blights, in addition to wind damage. Flea beetle injury is limited to cotyledons in most fields; true leaves are mostly unaffected.

There are limited reports of cutworms; one corn field in the Elm Creek area did require control measures. Forage stands are progressing well except in areas near Lake Manitoba where hay and pasture were impacted by excess moisture. Cattle are being moved to pasture. Water supply for livestock is adequate in most areas.

Eastern Region
Significant rainfall occurred over the weekend in the Eastern Region with accumulations varying from 23 to 50 mm. Topsoil moisture conditions on majority of annual cropland are rated as adequate with a small amount of area now considered in surplus amounts. However, there are areas in the southern part of the region that would still welcome more precipitation.

Fall seeded cereal stands continue to demonstrate good condition and have moved into stem elongation stage. Weed control applications are mostly complete. Tan spot in some winter wheat fields was noted and therefore some producers were adding a fungicide to their herbicide applications.

Spring seeding progress is estimated at 95% complete. The very last of the soybeans acres are expected to be finished this week if weather conditions allow.

Cereal crops are emerging and are mostly in the seedling stage. At least half of the canola is in the seedling stage with half of it just starting to emerge. Flax and field peas are in the seedling stage. Most of the sunflower acres have emerged and are in the cotyledon stage. About 20% of the soybean acres are emerged. Fifty percent of the corn acres are in the V1 to V5 stage while the other half is just emerging.

Some frost did occur with some damage to canola noted. Also, strong winds last week did cause damage to canola and some soybean acres; for both crops, some limited reseeding was expected.

Flea beetles in canola also became a concern last week on some early seeded canola fields; producers will continue monitoring population levels and control measures are expected in some fields. Some spraying for leafhoppers in forage seed crops have begun.

The condition of hayland is rated as poor to fair with some areas rated as good. Pasture conditions are
generally rated as fair although some poorer areas persist.

**Interlake Region**

Mostly sunny conditions through the week allowed for excellent seeding progress in the Interlake Region. Scattered showers fell over the weekend resulting in trace amounts of precipitation in the northwest to 37 mm in the Selkirk area. Average rainfall in central areas of the region was 10 mm. Frost occurred in the Arborg, Riverton, Fisher Branch and Gimli areas but no crop damage was reported.

Seeding operations continued across the region with most areas are reporting seeding is nearing completion. Soybean seeding is almost complete in the south while central areas are 50% complete. Greenfeed crops remain to be seeded in the northwest areas.

Crop emergence of canola and cereal acres is excellent. Herbicide applications have started on cereal crops and continue on winter wheat acres.

Soil abrasion from high winds early in the week caused damage to seedling canola in the southern areas of the region; reseeding was necessary on impacted acres.

Producers continue to monitor for flea beetle damage on canola as some damage has been noted.

Forage growth has been slow to date with the exception of young stands of alfalfa that have shown very good growth over the last few weeks. Pasture growth has been slow with many producers turning cattle to grass. Water levels in dugouts are lower than normal in some areas so alternative water sources are currently being investigated.