Weekly Provincial Summary

- Harvest of spring cereals is approximately 65% complete in the Southwest Region, 50% complete in the Northwest Region, 95% complete in the Central, 100% complete in the Eastern Region and 95% complete in the Interlake Region.
- Canola harvest is 25% complete in the Southwest Region, 45% complete in the Northwest Region, 50 to 85% complete in the Central Region, 85% complete in the Eastern Region and 95% complete in the Interlake Region.
- Harvest of flax and edible beans started over the past week.
- Grain corn, sunflowers and soybeans continue to mature and would still benefit from precipitation to aid in the final stages of grain filling.
- Seeding of winter wheat occurred in the Central and Eastern Regions.

Southwest Region

Scattered showers during the past week delayed harvest progress in the Southwest Region.

Spring wheat harvest is 60% complete with yields average to above average and good quality. Barley harvest is 80% complete with average to below average yield and average quality; low test weights are being reported.

Canola harvest is 25% complete with yields average to below average. Heavy wind over the weekend moved canola swaths which will impact yields.

Pasture productivity is being affected by heat and dry conditions. Some producers are starting to supplement feed. Dugouts are 65% full.

Northwest Region

Above seasonal daytime temperatures favoured good harvest progress throughout the Northwest Region. Conditions deteriorated only slightly late in the week with an unstable weather system interrupting harvest with occasional light thunderstorms and scattered rain showers with precipitation totalling 10 to 15 mm.

The winter wheat, fall rye and pea harvest is complete. Yield of winter wheat was variable, averaging 65 to 70 bu/acre, with generally good quality.

Harvest operations are more advanced in the south and eastern sectors of the Northwest Region. Spring cereal crop harvest is approximately 50% complete. Yields of red spring wheat are ranging from 35 to 65 bu/acre with a regional average around 50 bu/acre. Most spring wheat is generally grading #2 with low fusarium, wheat midge damage, ergot levels or weathering.

Proteins are generally over 14%. Barley is ranging from 40 to 60 bu/acre and oats from 60 to 130 bu/acre; bushel weights are average but variable.

Approximately 40 to 50% of canola is combined; yields are ranging from 20 to 50 bu/acre with overall averages at 25 to 27 bu/acre. Around 20% of canola remains to be swathed. occasional periods of high winds late in the week caused canola swaths to move and pile up with some localized losses due to shattering.

Silage corn, buckwheat, hemp and soybeans crops in the Dauphin, Ethelbert and Ste. Rose areas are advancing to later growth stages under favourable conditions and continue to show good yield potentials.

With the good harvest progress, some post-harvest field tillage work was completed.
The generally good weather and field conditions allowed green feed and native haying operations to continue with average overall yields. Some localized shortages are expected in those areas having had excess moisture issues. Silage corn harvest has not begun. Second cut forages are completed with average quality and yields. Across all areas, good quantities of straw are baled in good condition. Pasture conditions are generally adequate; however, some are beginning to decline under drier fall conditions or have not recovered from earlier excess moisture.

Central Region
Hot and dry weather continues to prevail in the Central Region as most areas saw little to no rainfall. Western parts of the region report 0 to 5 mm, most of the eastern areas were similar, with Altona and Letellier reporting 10 mm, and a pocket southwest of St. Jean received 35 to 40 mm and hail. Most of the region is waiting for rain to aid in fall field work and improve seedbed and germination conditions for fall cereals.
Harvest of spring cereals and canola continues. Most of the acres in the eastern parts of the region are complete, with the last of the re-seeded canola being swathed and/or harvested. A number of those fields are yielding better than the earlier seeded canola. Western areas are well advanced with cereal harvest at 95% complete; canola ranges from 50 to 85% harvested. Pea harvest is complete with yields ranging from 35 to 45 bu/acre. Flax has turned and harvesting has begun; early yields range from 10 to 20 bu/acre.
Preharvest desiccation of edible beans continues and harvest has started. Early yields on cranberry and light red kidney beans in the Altona and Winkler areas are in the 1300 to 1700 lbs range; harvest is starting in the Portage area.
Soybeans are as advanced as the R7 growth stage. There are reports of areas in soybean fields that are prematurely ripening. These areas are typically in the transition areas from field drains to ridges and can be attributed to saline areas and low soil moisture levels. A number of the early seeded/early maturing varieties are turning rapidly in the hot, dry conditions.
Corn is denting and the backs of sunflower heads are turning yellow. Field work is progressing slowly due to dry conditions. Some field ditching is being done. Winter wheat seeding has begun.
Livestock water continues to decline in most areas with some pumping occurring to fill dugouts. Pastures that were grazed hard are showing the most stress and lack of growth. Third cut alfalfa has begun in some areas, while second cut hay continues in others; yields are below normal. Some producers are taking second cut alfalfa, keeping in mind the critical fall harvest period.

Eastern Region
In central and southern districts of the Eastern Region, varying amounts of rainfall occurred with amounts ranging from 6 to over 25 mm. The drier southern districts were noted as receiving 12 to 25 mm. In the northern districts, no appreciable general rainfall was noted but there were some isolated severe hailstorms in some northern and central districts.
Spring cereal harvest was completed last week while 85% of the canola crop is combined. Yield reports for canola range widely from 22 to 35 bu/acre.
Sunflowers are in the R7 growth stage. Most soybeans are transitioning to the R7 growth stage and significant turning of the crop foliage is noted. Corn is mostly in the R5 dent stage.
In regards to winter feed supply level, hay is rated as 25 to 50% adequate, straw at 80 to 90% adequate, greenfeed at 70% adequate and feed grains ranged from 25 to 80% adequate. The condition of the majority of pasturelands in the region is rated as poor to very poor; however, about 40% of hay and pasturelands in northern districts are rated as fair or good. Availability of livestock water is still considered well below normal across the Eastern Region with greater concerns in the southern districts.

Interlake Region
Warm and sunny days allowed for good harvest progress through the week in the Interlake Region. Scattered showers over the weekend resulted in minimal harvest delays.
Harvest of spring cereals and canola continues. Cereal and canola harvest is 95% complete in the South Interlake. Wet field conditions are causing harvesting issues in the Gypsumville and Riverton areas.
Soybeans are beginning to mature in the southern areas, while acres in the northern areas are showing only slight color change. Fall tillage and fall herbicide application started. Hay harvest continues with native hay access quite good in some areas. Hay access is restricted due to wet conditions in the Gypsumville, Komarno and Riverton areas. Forage seed and cereal straw harvest is general which should provide a valuable feed source. Third cut is underway for dairy quality hay. Pasture conditions vary from dry in the southwest to excellent in the northwest. Most producers are reporting adequate pasture with enough grass and water to complete the grazing season.