Weekly Provincial Summary

- Warm, dry conditions across most of Manitoba allowed for excellent harvest progress.
- Most areas of Manitoba reported frost events throughout the week; few reports of crop damage were received. The exception is the Interlake Region where some acres were impacted and crop assessments are underway.
- Strong winds in some areas of Manitoba impacted swathed canola, edible bean and alfalfa seed acres. Losses due to shattering were noted.
- Seeding of winter wheat continues across Manitoba.
- Precipitation would be welcomed to aid in winter wheat stand establishment, fall field work and replenishing soil moisture reserves and dugouts.

Southwest Region

In the Southwest Region another good week of weather helped most areas with harvest progress. Cereal crops are 90% complete, canola 80% complete and flax 50% complete. Crops remaining to be harvested include corn, sunflowers and soybeans. Most of the region received frost September 16 which will help dry down crops.

Yields reported to date include spring wheat at 40 to 60 bu/acre with an average of 50 bu/acre and good quality. Barley yields are 30 to 70 bu/acre with an average of 50 bu/acre and average to below average quality due to light bushel weights. Oat yields are 30 to 80 bu/acre with an average of 60 bu/acre and average to below average quality due to light bushel weights.

Canola yields range from 15 to 40 bu/acre with an average of 25 bu/acre and good quality. Yield losses to disease, heat stress and wind are noted. Flax yields are 15 to 30 bu/acre with an average of 20 bu/acre and good quality; yield losses are due to disease and heat stress.

Producers started to silage corn; crop looks to be above average with good quality. Soybeans are turning and harvest should start shortly.

Winter wheat and fall rye were sown over the past week with seeding continuing into this week.

Several producers are harvesting slough hay as water levels continue to decline. Pastures are showing the effects of lack of rainfall and some producers have started to feed on pasture. Dugouts are 50% full on average.

Northwest Region

Above seasonal daytime temperatures and dry conditions allowed for completion of harvest of cereals and canola throughout most of the Northwest Region. Occasional periods of high winds in the Swan River valley caused some of the remaining canola swaths to move and pile up with some losses reported due to shattering. Continuing lack of precipitation is resulting in dry soil moisture conditions in most of the region, contributing to reduced fall tillage operations and fall cereal seedbed and germination conditions.

Harvest of all seeded acres is 90% complete on a regional basis. In the southern sector only maturing hemp, soybeans, buckwheat, flax, field beans, grain corn and red clover acres remain. The Swan River and The Pas areas have a small portion of unharvested canola acres remaining. Widely variable harvested crop yields and quality are reported with regional yield averages around the 45 bu/acre for spring wheat; barley is around 50

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bu/acre; oats approximately 80 bu/acre.

The regional canola yield is averaging 25 bu/acre with some later seeded canola reported being slightly higher. In addition to the aster yellows impact on canola yields, additional reports of higher incidence of blackleg also contributed to yield reduction.

Winter wheat and fall rye seeding is underway; some producers delayed seeding due to dry soil conditions. Some pre-harvest herbicide applications are in progress through the northern sectors. Across all areas, straw supplies are adequate. Native hay is being baled along with some late second cut tame forages. Feed supplies are being sourced where localized shortages exist. Silage corn harvest has begun. Dugout water supplies are still adequate but are declining under continuing dry fall conditions.

Central Region

Autumn weather continues to be warm and dry, while overnight temperatures are cooling down. Scattered light frosts were reported in most areas of the Central Region. No significant precipitation was reported but rain would be welcome to aid in fall field work and germination of fall cereals.

Harvest of spring cereals and canola is essentially complete in all parts of the region. Flax harvest continues with yields in the 10 to 20 bu/acre range. Edible bean harvest continues. Yields are respectable, especially given the dry conditions, and very good in areas receiving timely rains. Quality is generally good, although there is some green seed reported. Very dry conditions resulted in cracked seed coats. Wind last week moved swathed beans and caused losses.

Soybeans are maturing quickly and harvest continues. Yields are in the 20 to 35 bu/acre range, with some higher yields seen. Carman area reports yields in the 40 bu/acre range and as high as 50 bu/acre in the Fannystelle/Starbuck area. Lighter textured soils are yielding in the 30 to 35 bu/acre range where moisture was limiting.

Corn harvest has begun. Early yield reports range from 70 to 120 bu/acre with moisture contents ranging from 19 to 23%. Silage corn is being harvested and corn stover is being baled.

The backs of sunflower heads are turning yellow and desiccation applications have started. Storage potato harvest is underway. Direct delivery harvest yields are reported in the 300 to 400 cwt range.

Winter wheat and fall rye seeding will wrap up this week. Some earlier seeded crop has emerged but rain is needed to allow for even stands, or for germination in some fields. Field work is progressing slowly and postharvest weed control is being done as conditions allow. Drainage work is progressing well. Grasshoppers are reported as a concern in some areas. Some winter wheat field edges were treated with insecticide.

Livestock producers are struggling with pasture and water supplies. Dugouts are very low or dry and supplemental feeding is occurring in the driest areas.

Eastern Region

In some northern districts of the Eastern Region, a slight frost early Thursday morning was noted. No reports of crop damage were received. Accelerated leaf drop in soybean and increased leaf and plant dieback in corn and sunflower are noted.

Sunflowers are in the R9 growth stage and crop desiccation began. Soybeans are in the R8 to 95% brown pod growth stage and harvest began throughout the Eastern Region. About 25% of soybean acres are harvested across the region. Progress was most rapid in some central and southern districts where 40% or more of acres were harvested. Progress is not as advanced in northern districts where no more than 15% of acres are harvested with many producers waiting for green seed levels to drop. The average of reported yields appear to be around 35 bu/acre with yields ranging from 25 to over 45 bu/acre.

In regards to winter feed supply level, hay is rated as 25 to 65% adequate, straw is rated as 80 to 90% adequate, greenfeed is rated as 70% adequate and feed grains range from 25 to 80% adequate. The lowest feed supply level ratings are from southern districts.

The condition of the majority of pasturelands in the Eastern Region is rated as poor to very poor with the condition of most of the pasturelands in southern districts rated as very poor. Availability of
livestock water is rated as 25 to 40% inadequate across the region.

**Interlake Region**

Warm and dry conditions continued through the week in the Interlake Region. Harvest of cereals and canola is essentially complete except for a small portion in the Riverton and Fisher Branch areas. Soybean harvest began in the south with yields in the 25 to 40 bu/acre range. Soybean harvest has not started in the North Interlake as plant dry down is not complete. Frost on Friday morning has affected late green feed, corn, and some soybeans that were still green. The extent of the frost damage is yet to be determined. Flax harvest began with yields near 10 bu/acre. Rain would be welcomed to encourage fall seeded crops to germinate. Winter wheat has begun to emerge in the Riverton area. Alfalfa harvest began on a few fields. Preliminary yield reports are very good. High winds in the Hilbre/Grahamdale area last week caused swathed alfalfa seed fields to roll resulting in high shattering losses.

Second and third cut hay yields in the Riverton area are excellent. Some second cut yields are as high as 2 tonnes/acre. The southwest and northwest portions of the Interlake remain very dry. Water supplies are low with some pumping to fill dugouts taking place. Supplemental feeding on pasture has been reported in the southwest portion of the region.