

Issue 13 – July 30, 2026

Manitoba Potato Report



[Seasonal Reports](#) [Weekly Weather Maps](#) [Potato Production](#)

Provincial Summary

- The potato crops are in rapid bulking phases, with P-days over 400 in most potato growing areas. with tuber size ranging from dime-size to over 5-inches, up to 120 g.
- Crop protection operations including fungicide and insecticide sprays have progressed well, for late blight, up to four to six fungicides spray applications have been made.
- Late blight spores were detected at 3 sites across Manitoba from July 20 to 27, compared to one site last week. No late blight disease has been reported in the province so far. Late blight risk is still high.
- In the 7th week, the total aphid numbers were still low, as in the last week. Nineteen Potato aphids but no green peach aphids were found. Colorado potato beetle older instar larvae are present in most potato growing areas and causing serious defoliation in field edges.

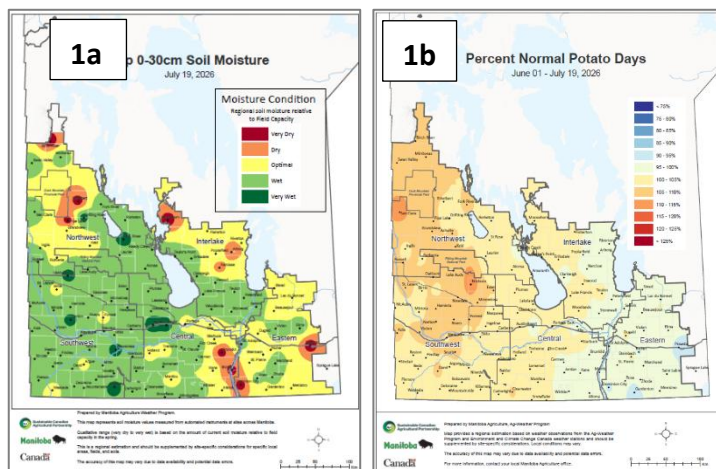
Ag Weather Data

Precipitation and Soil Moisture

- In the week, July 20-27, there were widespread showers across the province; light rainfall was seen on July 20 and 25 (Fig. 1, Fig. 2).
- Rainfall in the week was lower than last week; and varied from 0.7 mm (Rivers) to over 17.6 mm (Portage) at various potato growing areas (Table 1). Scattered light rains occurred on July 20 and 25, conditions in some areas. The cumulative precipitation (May 1 to July 26) as % of 30-year normal, ranged from ~70% (Altona, Portage, Rivers and Treherne) up to 144% (Wawanesa) (Table 1, Fig. 2).
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/percent-normal-precipitation.pdf>.
- By July 26, the soils at the 0-30 cm depth in potato growing areas remained generally “wet”, with pockets of “optimal” moisture based on Soil Moisture relative to Field Capacity (Fig. 1a).
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-30cm.pdf>.

Fig. 1a. By July 26, soil moisture relative to field capacity at the 0-30 cm depth indicated generally “wet” but with few “optimal” areas in potato-growing regions. At the 120 cm depth, soils were wet to optimal (map not shown).

Fig. 1b. The week daytime temperatures bringing the cumulative Potato Days (P-Days) to around 95 to 110% of normal across most potato-growing areas; it was similar to last week.



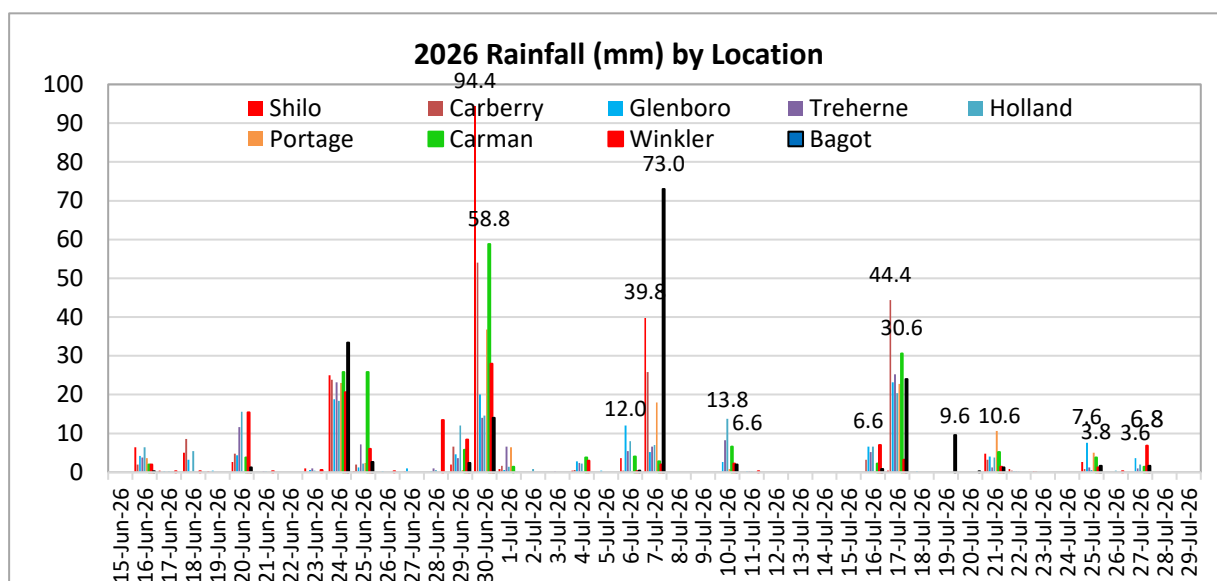


Fig. 2. Rainfall in mid-July was scattered and heavy at places on July 17; followed by little rainfall in the last 10 days in the potato growing areas of the province.

Temperatures – Air and Soil

- The week's daytime and overnight temperatures were 4-5°C lower than last week,
- In the week, July 20 to 26, the daytime temperature highs were warm and cooler than last week, reaching ~30s°C in many of the potato growing areas, except Winkler with 34°C (Table 1, Fig. 3). Overnight lows were 4-5°C cooler than last week, and ranged from 10-13°C (Table 1, Fig. 3). Daytime temperatures were over 30°C are not favourable for rapid plant growth, tuberization and bulking.
- The Cumulative heat (Growing Degree Days, GDD base 5°C) ranged from 107 to 115% of 30-year normal (Table 1). The cumulative Potato Heat Units (P-Days) ranged from ~438 (Carberry, Wawanesa) to ~450 at many potato growing areas and were 95 to 110% of 30-year normal (Fig. 1 b).

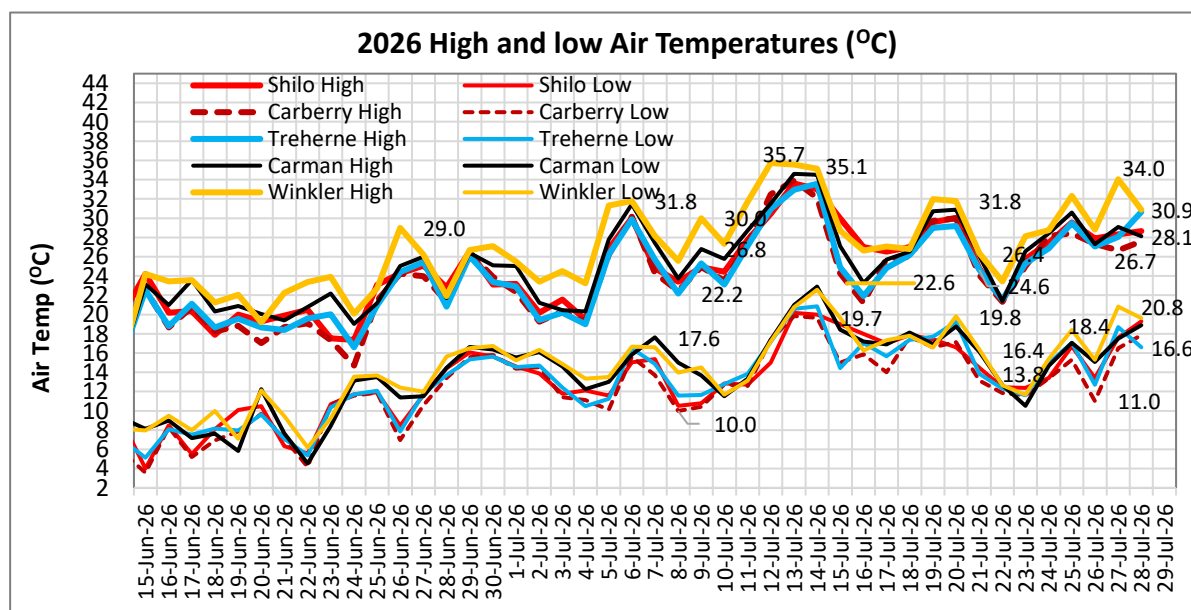


Fig. 3: Daytime temperatures peaked on July 27, reaching 34°C (Winkler) and nighttime temps were ranging from 10.3 to 12.9°C in the potato-growing areas.

Table 1. Manitoba Ag Weather Data – July 20-26

Region	Max Temp (°C)	Min Temp (°C)	Rainfall (mm) for the week	Rainfall (mm) (Since May 1)	2026 Rainfall (% of normal) since May 1	GDD (% of normal)	P-Days (June 1 to July 12)
Altona	31.8	10.1	5.0	157	67	107	446
Austin	29.6	12.9	4.9	224	112	110	450
Bagot	30.0	12.7	3.7	244	116	110	447
Carberry EC	29.2	11.6	2.9	191	89	111	439
Carman	30.6	10.5	10.2	262	114	111	451
Glenboro	30.8	11.1	15.2	187	89	113	442
Holland	29.7	11.5	6.4	197	85	112	447
Morden	31.4	12.4	7.9	189	83	110	-
Portage EC	30.6	13.1	17.6	163	76	112	453
Rivers	28.2	10.3	0.7	290	131	111	452
Shilo	29.6	12.4	7.8	229	114	102	435
St. Claude	30.4	13.4	9.8	226	95	109	458
Treherne	29.5	11.6	3.2	169	72	107	443
Wawanesa	30.2	12.2	13.0	300	144	112	438
Winkler	34.0	11.7	9.8	258	107	115	448

For more Manitoba weather information, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather ; “ - ” Data not available in the week.

More information on:

Crop Water Demand (CWD) mm: www.mbpotatoes.ca/cwd.cfm

P-Days: www.mbpotatoes.ca/pday.cfm

Crop Progress

- By July 28, in most fields, the potato canopy ground cover was nearly 100%. Potato crops have started to settle down on the ground, increasing humidity within crop canopy. Stem rot can often be noticed in such fields.
- The crop growth and tuberization had slowed due to high daytime and nighttime temperatures. Many of the early planted, fields have up to 4–5-inch tubers (Fig. 4 a-c). Crops appear to be about 7 days behind last year's growth at the same time.
- Due to warmer temperatures in the last 2-3 weeks, irrigation is now needed in many areas. Heat and moisture stressed plants are producing heat runners and some tubers have developed new sprouts or become misshapen (Fig. 5 a-c).
- In the last few weeks, the late blight risk was elevated, and fungicides were applied targeting late blight disease. In some fields, five to six fungicide applications have been made by ground or air. In seed potato fields, up to three-four mineral oil sprays with or without insecticides for aphid control.
- There is a forecast for continued hot daytime temperatures, in the coming few days, going up to low 30s°C on July 29, Aug 1 and 2. Overnight temperatures are expected to be cooler, ranging from 10 to 19°C. There is a chance of scattered showers or thundershowers from July 29 to 31 across potato growing areas. It is expected to be generally sunny to partly sunny from Aug 1 to 4. [Manitoba - Weather Conditions and Forecast by Locations - Environment Canada](#)



Fig. 4. Tuber bulking is progressing well, and many are now 4-5 inches in size, and up to 5-6 oz. Photos. a: Kurtis McKee (JPW Farms), b: Mitch Blyth (Crop Care), c: Orla Sheridan (Shilo Farms),

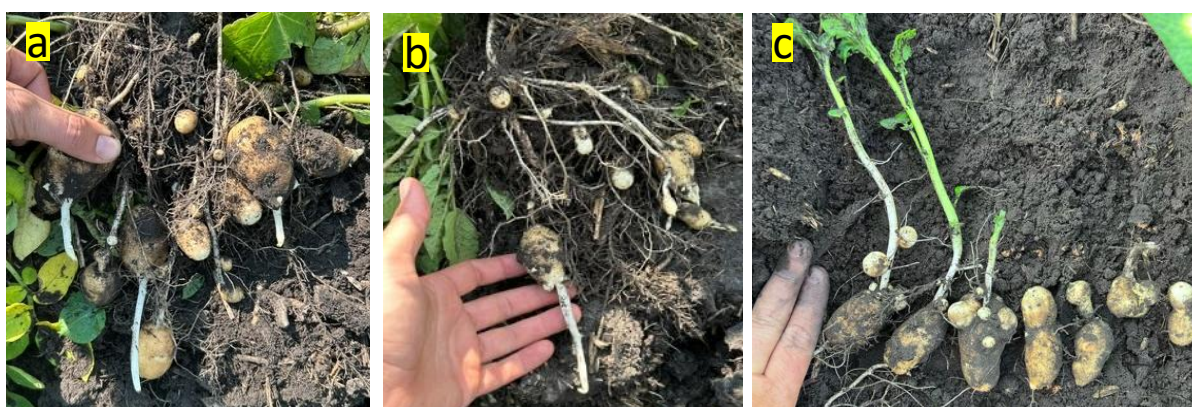


Fig. 5. Heat stress sprouting on tubers, tuber deformation and formation of new stolons; Photos: a, b: Tavis Mangin (Simplot); c: Kyle Froese (Corduoy Farms).

Disease Monitoring

- Late blight risk forecasting will be provided on a regional basis at www.mbpotatoes.ca. Late blight disease risk values (DSVs) started accumulating from June 1.
 - The 7-Day cumulative DSVs from July 20 to 27 show accumulations from 7 to 12, **indicating high risk of late blight** (Fig. 6), if inoculum were present in the areas. At such high-risk situations, fungicide applications are strongly recommended. Based on local risk assessment, protective fungicide application should be applied.
 - The forecasting is complemented with late blight spore monitoring using Spornado passive spore traps. Spore traps have been set up in many fields and monitoring began on June 8.
 - **Results from the 7th round of monitoring from July 20-27 showed that *Phytophthora infestans* spores were trapped at only two monitoring sites, in the South Carberry and Portage areas.** This marks the 4th consecutive week of positive spore detection in the province.
 - **As yet, no late blight has been reported in the province.**
 - It is important to scout the fields in higher risk areas which could stay wet longer, like wind-protected tree shelter-line, low lying areas/valleys in a field. It is also important to remove risk from cull-piles in the yards or near potato fields. Areas likely to be missed by aerial fungicide applications (under high hydropower lines, field corners and edges near trees, should be covered by ground applications

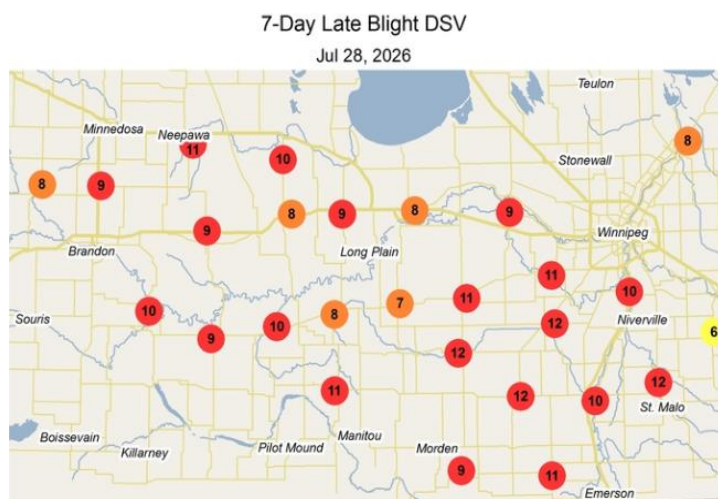


Fig. 6. 7-Day Cumulative Late Blight Disease Risk Values (DSVs) ranging from 7 to 12, suggest mostly high-risk of late blight across the province, if the late blight inoculum was present.

- The P-Day values are now ranging from ~438 to nearly ~460, which is above the critical level for early blight risk, requiring targeted fungicide applications. At these P-Days levels the plants are in rapid bulking phase.
- Due to high moisture and warm conditions many fields are showing higher levels of stem rot. Many plants are showing wilting of adults plants due to blackleg infection (Fig 7).
- Minor levels of Rhizoctonia root infection, early blight and white mold (early blight look-alike) on leaves within crop canopy can be seen in many fields (Fig. 8). Due to very high relative humidity with the crop canopy, white mold fungus has started appearing on old soybean plant residue.
- Early signs of powdery scab root galls can be seen in many fields. Minor incidence of common scab has been noted in a few fields.
- Due to wet fields there are a few fields showing IDC symptoms (iron deficiency chlorosis) (Fig 9).
- Late blight risk maps, P-Days, and SprayCast maps are available <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm>.



Fig. 7 a- c. Adult plant wilting and stem rot caused by bacterial blackleg. Photos: a, b: Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture); c: stem rot but not blackleg. Harrison Loewen (KR CropCheck).



Fig. 8. Early blight symptoms showing on the lower leaves. Photos: Orla Sheridan (Shilo Farms).



Fig. 9. Wet spots in fields have led to iron deficiency chlorosis. Photos: Kurtis McKee (JPW Farms);

Insect Pest Monitoring

Following are the details of sampling and counts:

- Aphid monitoring using suction and pan traps have been set up in eight seed potato fields. The **Seventh** week's collection was done from July 20-27
 - The number of aphids trapped were low at most traps (Table 2).
 - Sudden surge in Potato aphid (PA) numbers. PAs are similar to green peach aphids in virus transmission.
 - At three sites there was zero aphids in suction traps – so either there were no aphids or the suction fan was not running correctly. Cloudy conditions drain the 12 V battery.
- The total number of aphids trapped were higher than last week
 - Colonizing Aphids:
 - No Green peach aphid
 - **Nineteen Potato aphids (PA)** were trapped from **six of eight locations.**
 - The Non-colonizing Aphids "Others":
 - The "Other" aphids were similar to week 6
 - After very high numbers of non-colonizing aphids "Other" in week 2, the total aphids trapped has reduced in weeks 3 to 7 (Table 3: Summary of All Sites Weekly Counts).
 - Suction trap fans were not working in one or two sites, possibly deep-cycle batteries were not charged due to cloud cover. Suction trap did not have any aphids – could be due to no running fan or actually very few aphids in the field.
 - MN-ND Aphid Update - July late, 2026: Trap catches in the week continue to be lower than last year at the same time, and no green peach aphids have been trapped.

- Aster Leafhoppers (ALH) were found at one location and Potato Leafhoppers (PLH) at three locations. ALH transmits aster yellows, while PLH causes leaf-tip burns especially in plants under stress.
- European corn borer (ECB) monitoring from July 20 to 27 showed a decline in adult activity. A total of 7 ECB adults were trapped at 6 of the 13 monitoring sites, compared to 17 adults captured the previous week at 3 sites. The Melbourne site, which peaked at 30 adults during July 6 to 13, recorded only 1 adult this week. Low numbers were also observed in the Carberry area, while no ECB adults were trapped at sites east of MacGregor or in the Portage area. Overall, adult activity appears to be declining, and no egg masses or stem-boring damage have been reported to date.
- Colorado potato beetle (CPB) mating adults, egg masses and high numbers of larvae (at various growth stages) were seen on potato plants in many areas.
 - In many areas – high populations of multiple instars of CPB larvae, causing severe defoliation at the edges of fields.
 - CPB larvae are an insecticide-sensitive stage. Scouting could help decide the timing of insecticide applications, whether on the edges or the entire field.

Table. 2. Weekly Aphid Report – **Week 7 (June 20 - 27) 2026**

Field #	Town	RM	Green Peach Aphid	Potato Aphid	Other Aphids	Total	ALH	PLH	Comments
Southern Region									
Field 1-H	Winkler	Stanley	0	0	2	2	0	0	
Field 2-K	Stephenfield	Dufferin	0	1	2	3	2	0	
Field 3-S	Winkler	Stanley	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Central Region									
Field 4-S	Holland	Victoria	0	8	8	16	0	0	
Field 5-S	Glenora	Argyle	0	1	0	1	0	2	Suction trap possibly not working
Field 6-S	Westbourne	Portage La Prairie	0	1	3	4	0	1	
Western Region									
Field 7-A	Wellwood	North Cypress-Langford	0	3	1	4	0	0	Suction trap possibly not working
Field 8-S	Carberry		0	5	0	5	0	0	30 thrips
			0	19	16	35	2	4	

The aphid counts are a summation from a suction and traps.

- “ – “ indicates – samples not received till time of reporting.
- ALH = Aster leafhopper, PLH = Potato leafhopper

Table 3. Summary of All Sites - Weekly Aphid Counts:

Monitoring Period	Week #	Green Peach Aphid	Potato Aphid	Other Aphids	Total	ALH	PLH	Comments
July 20 - 27	Week 7	0	19	16	35	2	4	
July 13 - 20	Week 6	0	7	14	21	3	8	
July 6 - 13	Week 5	0	1	20	21	6	5	
June 29 – July 6	Week 4	0	1	19	20	1	0	
June 22 - 29	Week 3	0	4	42	46	0	1	
June 15 -22	Week 2	0	11	69	80	1	1	
June 8 – 15	Week 1	0	0	0	3	3	0	

Growers and industry stakeholders, please report or submit for diagnosis, any disease or insect observations of importance. If you suspect late blight disease in your area, please contact vikram.bisht@gov.mb.ca

All reports and information will also be available at <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm> and also archived at [*Province of Manitoba | agriculture - Potato Report*](#).