

# Alberta Crop Report



## Alberta Crop Conditions as of October 21, 2014

Enabled by favourable weather throughout much of the province, producers were able to make good harvest progress last week. Harvest is close to completed with 97.7% combined, 1.6% is in the swath and 1.8% is standing. Harvest in west central Alberta, Calgary north to Red Deer corridor and west, continues to lag the rest of the province at 85% completed.

Provincial yield estimates remain very good with crops expected to average 5% – 10% above their 5 year historical averages. Excluding the exceptional yields of 2013, provincial averages for all major crops are above any year in the past 10 years.

Crop quality was significantly affected by the poor harvest weather of early September which included frost and snow across the western half of the province. Quality is significantly below that of 2012 and 2013 and slightly below the 10 year averages for most crops. Quality appears to be concentrated in the middle of the grade scale with lower quantities of high quality production but also only average amounts of low quality production.

The condition of fall seeded crops has improved with 85% rated in good or excellent condition, up from 78% last week and 73% two weeks ago.

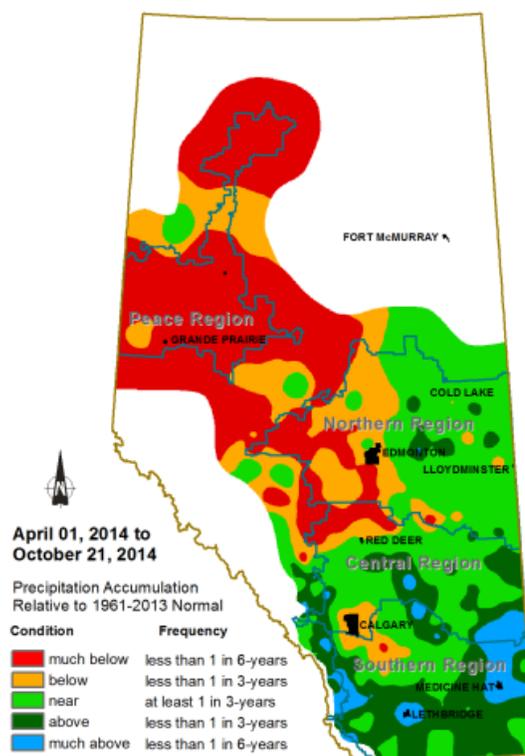
Provincial soil moisture ratings declined slightly. Both surface moisture and sub soil moisture are rated at 59% good or excellent, down 2% from last week.

**Table 1: Alberta Harvest Progress as of October 21, 2014**

	% Combined					Alberta
	South	Central	NE	NW	Peace	
Spring Wheat	99.9%	93.1%	99.5%	98.5%	97.9%	<b>97.9%</b>
Durum	100%	99.8%	---	---	---	<b>100%</b>
Winter Wheat	100%	100%	100%	---	---	<b>100%</b>
Barley	99.9%	93.6%	99.2%	99.1%	97.2%	<b>97.4%</b>
Oats	99.7%	93.2%	99.5%	96.2%	97.0%	<b>96.9%</b>
Canola	99.8%	92.9%	97.7%	96.9%	97.7%	<b>97.0%</b>
Field Peas	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	<b>100%</b>
Potatoes	99.5%	100%	100%	100%	---	<b>99.6%</b>
<b>All Crops</b>	<b>99.8%</b>	<b>93.6%</b>	<b>98.7%</b>	<b>97.8%</b>	<b>97.8%</b>	<b>97.7%</b>
	<b>As of October 14, 2014</b>					
<b>All Crops</b>	<b>98.4%</b>	<b>86.4%</b>	<b>94.4%</b>	<b>88.5%</b>	<b>91.9%</b>	<b>92.6%</b>

**Table 2: Dryland Yield Estimates as of October 21, 2014**

	Yield Estimates (bushels/acre)					Alberta
	South	Central	NE	NW	Peace	
Spring Wheat	43.8	44.3	50.6	58.4	39.2	<b>46.5</b>
Durum Wheat	46.7	41.0	---	---	---	<b>46.0</b>
Barley	63.9	64.7	75.0	76.6	61.9	<b>67.6</b>
Oats	62.5	72.3	85.1	92.9	76.9	<b>81.3</b>
Canola	38.7	37.7	42.1	46.1	30.2	<b>38.7</b>
Field Peas	44.5	44.8	47.4	48.1	39.8	<b>44.7</b>
Winter Wheat	51.5	41.4	49.0	---	---	<b>49.9</b>



## **Regional Assessments:**

The 2014 Alberta Crop Report Series provides summaries for the following five regions:

### **Region One: Southern (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)**

- Principally flax and sugar beets remaining to harvest.
- Expected yields are average to 5% above 5 year historical averages.
- Durum quality hard hit with only 40% grading # 1 or #2 CWAD.
- 90% of fall seeded crops rated in good or excellent condition.
- Surface soil moisture rated 51% & sub soil moisture rated 57% good or excellent.

### **Region Two: Central (Rimbey, Airdrie, Coronation, Oyen)**

- Very little harvest remains outside of the west central portion of the region.
- Expected yields are average to 5% above 5 year historical averages.
- Almost 25% of HRS wheat expected to grade 4 CWRS or lower.
- Only 52% of canola expected to grade 1 Canada due to green seed caused by September frost.
- 89% of fall seeded crops rated in good or excellent condition.
- Surface soil moisture & sub soil moisture rated 67% good or excellent.

### **Region Three: North East (Smoky Lake, Vermilion, Camrose, Provost)**

- Principally flax remaining to harvest.
- Expected yields are 10% to 15% above 5 year historical averages.
- 14% of HRS wheat expected to grade 4 CWRS or lower.
- 90% of fall seeded crops rated in good or excellent condition.
- Surface soil moisture rated 64% & sub soil moisture rated 68% good or excellent.

### **Region Four: North West (Barrhead, Edmonton, Leduc, Drayton Valley, Athabasca)**

- Principally canola remaining to harvest.
- Expected yields are 10% to 20% above 5 year historical averages.
- Less than 10% of barley expected to be eligible for malt due to quality.
- 88% of field peas expected to be eligible for food quality grades.
- Surface soil moisture rated 55% & sub soil moisture rated 35% good or excellent.

### **Region Five: Peace River (Fairview, Falher, Grande Prairie, Valleyview)**

- Small amount of all crops remain to be harvested due to being later seeded.
- Expected yields were affected by dry conditions and will be down 10 – 15%.
- 84% of HRS wheat expected to grade 1 CWRS .
- 91% of canola expected to grade 1 Canada.
- Surface soil moisture rated 52% & sub soil moisture rated 49% good or excellent.

*Please Note: This is the final Crop Report of the 2014 crop season. We wish to express our sincere thanks to all who were instrumental in providing their effort in the success of this endeavour.*