

Alberta Crop Report



Alberta Crop Conditions as of September 30, 2014 Abbreviated Report

Producers were able to make good harvest progress this past week despite having only a few good days early in the week before being stopped by wet weather in all areas of the province. Harvest is estimated to be 72% completed provincially, up from 52% completed last week. 76% of the spring wheat, 68% of the barley, 68% of the canola and 58% of the oats have been combined. Field pea harvest is virtually completed with 99.2% in the bin.

Harvest is most advanced in the South and Peace Regions with over 80% harvested (See Table #1). The Central Region is the area of the province with the greatest amount of work yet to be completed with only 58% done. Within the Central Region, the west portion is only 35% completed while the central and east portions are 65% and 75% harvested respectively.

Soil moisture ratings have improved in all regions which will benefit winter cereals currently being seeded. Surface soil moisture ratings improved to 74% of the province being rated good or excellent from 65% last week. Sub soil moisture ratings increased to 68% rated good or excellent from 63% last week.

Hay and pastures continue to perform very well due to the good moisture as we proceed late into the growing season. 64% of pastures and 44% of tame hay in the province is rated in good or excellent condition which bodes well for late fall grazing and for a good start to the growing season in the spring of 2015.

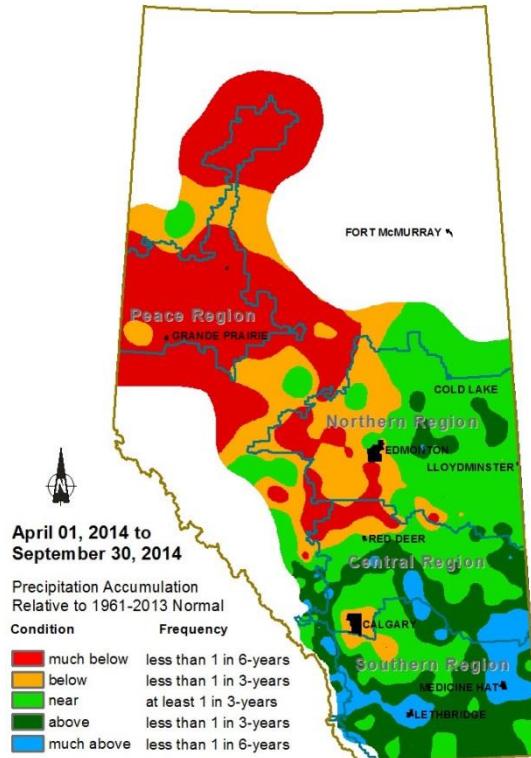
Table 1: Alberta Harvest Progress as of September 30, 2014

	% Combined					
	South	Central	NE	NW	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	85.6%	56.9%	76.2%	75.7%	85.4%	75.7%
Barley	87.9%	54.1%	65.0%	64.3%	74.5%	68.6%
Oats	75.8%	40.8%	60.8%	55.0%	70.5%	58.0%
Canola	84.8%	58.7%	64.6%	50.4%	80.8%	68.1%
Field Peas	99.4%	97.0%	100%	99.5%	99.8%	99.2%
All Crops	83.8%	58.2%	70.5%	61.9%	82.7%	72.22%
As of September 23, 2014						
All Crops	61.8%	39.4%	50.1%	37.6%	70.6%	52.43%

Source: ARD/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Table 2: Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of September 30, 2014

Region	Surface Soil Moisture (%)				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	1.4%	29.1%	54.4%	14.6%	0.5%
Central	0.9%	14.5%	67.6%	15.0%	1.9%
North East	0%	17.7%	53.1%	29.1%	0.2%
North West	0%	25.0%	75.0%	0%	0%
Peace	11.9%	37.3%	44.6%	5.0%	1.2%
Alberta	2.2%	23.5%	57.8%	15.7%	0.8%



Regional Assessments:

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

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

- Producers making good progress on harvest with 84% combined, up from 62% last week.
- Harvest delayed by light rain on the weekend.
- Sugar beet harvest scheduled to start October 1st.
- Surface soil moisture ratings improved to 69% good or excellent from 62% last week.
- Sub soil moisture ratings improved to 71% good or excellent from 66%.
- 75% of pastures and 58% of tame hay rated good or excellent.

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

- Producers made good progress on harvest despite frequent showers with 58% combined, up from 39% last week.
- Need an extended period of dry weather on west side of region as only 35% harvested.
- Surface soil moisture ratings improved to 73% good or excellent from 68% last week.
- Sub soil moisture ratings improved to 77% good or excellent from 69%.
- 90% of pastures and 86% of tame hay rated good or excellent.

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

- Harvest halted by 25-35 mm of rain this past weekend with 71% combined, up from 50% last week.
- Surface soil moisture ratings improved to 82% good or excellent from 80% last week.
- Sub soil moisture ratings improved to 79% good or excellent from 76%.
- 93% of pastures and 47% of tame hay rated good or excellent.

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

- Harvest delayed by wet weather in amounts from showers to 35 mm of rain this past weekend with 62% combined, up from 38% last week.
- Surface soil moisture ratings improved to 75% good or excellent from 74% last week.
- Sub soil moisture ratings unchanged at 40% good or excellent.
- 100% of pastures rated fair and 80% of tame hay rated fair or good.

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

- Harvest in south and central areas shut down by 25-50 mm of rain with 83% of the region completed, up from 71% last week.
- With harvest well progressed, the moisture was gratefully received since it was badly needed.
- Harvest is nearing completion in the north portion of the region with 90-95% combined, 80-85% is completed in the central portion while harvest is 70% complete in the south portion.
- Surface soil moisture ratings improved substantially to 50% good or excellent from 29% last week.
- Sub soil moisture ratings improved to 46% good or excellent from 39% last week.
- 85% of pastures and 80% of tame hay rated fair or good.