

Moisture Situation Update – June 11, 2018

Synopsis:

Over the past few days, most of the provinces agricultural areas have received timely rains due to a large and slow moving upper low pressure system (**see map 1**). This was very welcome as many areas were getting very dry with crop moisture stress and elevated fire danger becoming a growing concern.

The highest rainfall accumulations were seen in the North East, with several stations reporting upwards of 100 mm since the start of June. Some areas east of Edmonton experienced very active weather with funnel clouds sighted, giving storm chasers a real run for their money.

The weather station near Andrew recorded more than 25 mm in a single hour. Stations near St. Paul and St. Lina both saw in excess of 20 mm over a two hour period. This weather system was also been accompanied by hail and strong winds with wind gusts frequently exceeding 75 km/ hour, several times over the past few days. It's more than likely that many localized areas saw rainfall and wind speeds well in excess of those reported here.

Only a few locales were all but missed by this storm. These include the extreme southwest portions of the province, centered on the M.D. of Pincher Creek were several stations recorded less than 5 mm of rain.

Forecast from AF's Fire Weather Meteorologists.

Looking out over the next few days, more rain is expected for the northwestern portions of the province, as the system slowly moves eastward. Thankfully upwards of 30 to 40 mm more is expected to fall, soaking the northern Peace Region, an area that has been exceptionally dry over the past several years.

Towards the weekend a second low will make its way into Alberta from the south. It is expected to bring much needed rains to the south west, an area all but missed by the recent spate of wet weather. Again, this system will be wide spread, with rains expected across many parts of the province ranging as far north as the town of Peace River. This cool wet weather is not over yet.

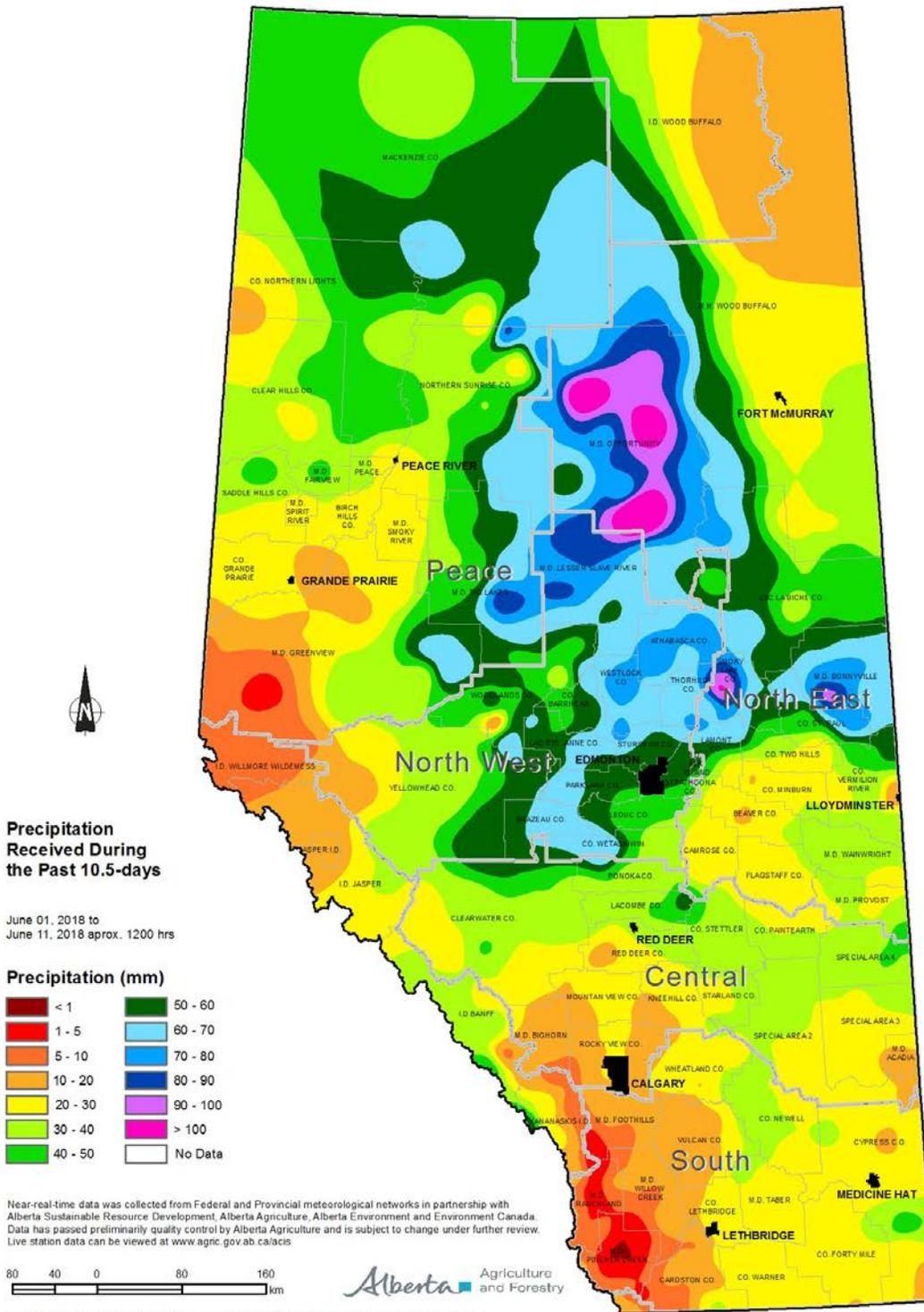
Near-real-time hourly station data can be viewed/downloaded at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations

Note: Data has about a two hour lag and is displayed in MST.

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Map 1



Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data