

Issue 4 (Week 20) – May 21, 2024

Crop Report



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Weekly Provincial Summary

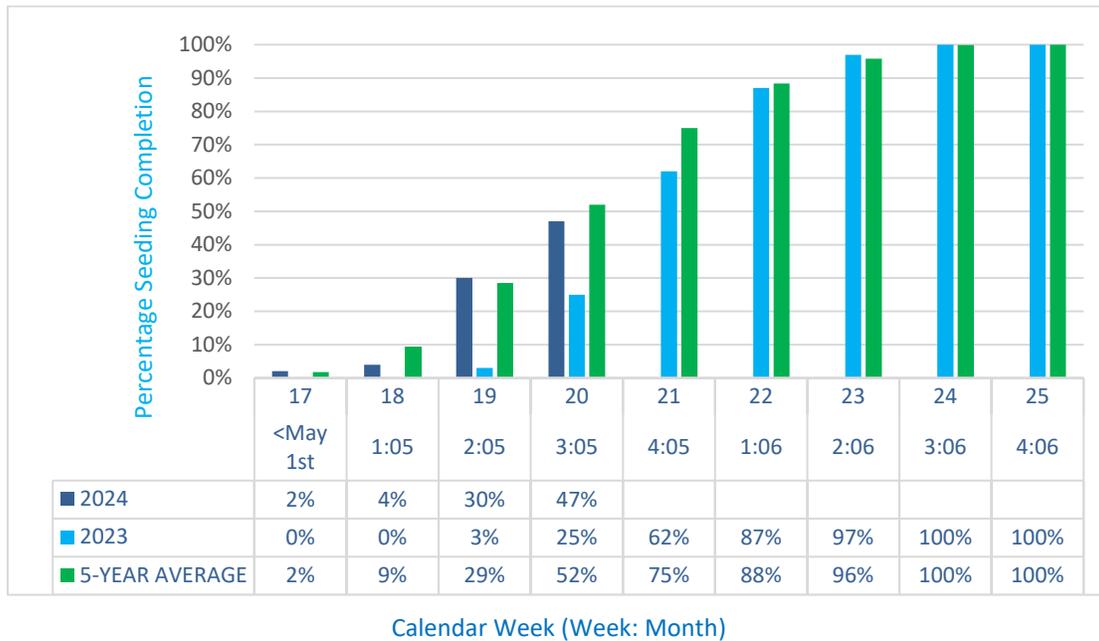
Agro-Manitoba received variable amounts of precipitation over the past eight days. Precipitation amounts ranged from 7.4 mm to 67.8 mm (Table 1). The Interlake, Central, and Northwest regions accumulated the most precipitation between May 13 and 20. Reedy Creek (67.8 mm) received the most precipitation.

Table 1. Measurements of eight-day accumulated precipitation (May 13 – 20) in Manitoba’s Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location	Driest Location
Central	Brunkild (59.5 mm)	Altona (10.7 mm)
Eastern	St. Adolphe (51.9 mm)	Dominion City (19.3 mm)
Interlake	Lake Francis (58.2 mm)	Moosehorn (14.7 mm)
Northwest	Reedy Creek (67.8 mm)	Swan Valley (9.0 mm)
Southwest	Eden (58.7 mm)	Waskada (7.4 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to May 20 range from 24.2 mm to 43.0 mm and are based on 30-year historical data. Total accumulated rainfall has been variable across agro-Manitoba for the start of the growing season. With recent rainfall events, the majority of the province has accumulated 100% of normal precipitation since May 1.
- The majority of agro-Manitoba is showing optimal to wet soil moisture conditions at the surface depths.
- Percent Normal Accumulated Growing Degree Days represents the variation of accumulated Growing Degree Days (GDD) from the historical record over a 30-year period from May 1 – May 20, 2024. The majority of Agro-Manitoba has accumulated more than 105% of the 30-year average of GDD.
- To find interactive soil temperature/moisture and air temperature information see Agri-Maps Current Weather [viewer](#).
- Provincial seeding progress is about 47% complete and it is slightly behind of the 5-Year average of 52% for week 20. (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Seeding Progression in 2024 Compared to Previous Years



Overview

Seeding progress has been observed in many areas of the province this past week and is now at 47% complete. Producers have focused on planting corn (65% complete), cereals (70% complete) and peas (90% complete). Canola planting has just started with 20% of the acres planted. Producers are planting a variety of crops based on soil and weather conditions. Soil temperatures were adequately warm and the seeding of more sensitive crop types such as soybeans has begun. Soybean planting is at 34% completion. The Interlake region is behind other regions due to recent rains and sits at 30% complete.

Cereals

- Winter cereal fertilizer applications are complete with field survival at 85-95% and only a few fields terminated. Winter cereal stands are growing rapidly and tillering in the warm temperatures with fields greening up dramatically.
- Spring wheat and barley are sitting at 77% complete across the province with the Central region being the most advanced at 85% complete. Early planted fields are in the 3 to 4 leaf stage.
- Grain corn planting is 65% complete.

Oilseeds

- Canola planting is at 20% and sunflower is at 26% completion across the province.

Pulses and Soybeans

- Field pea planting is at 90% completion across the province. The Interlake region however is only at 45% complete due to recent rains. Most of the pea acres in Manitoba are grown in the West and Northwest regions.
- Soybean planting is at 34% completion across the province.

Forages & Livestock

Forages

- Warmer temperatures and recent precipitation have benefited hay and pastures. Grasses and forages have noticeable growth.
- Tame hay growth is now up to 8 to 10 inches. Pastures and alfalfa are quickly greening up and will make use of the current availability of moisture. Alfalfa is about 6 inches in height.
- In the Northwest Region, producers are struggling to seed corn silage crops in a timely manner with frequent rains hampering field access.
- Hayfields and pastures are growing well but would benefit with some warmer temperatures. Winter Triticale intended for cattle feed is growing well, seeding of annual cereals and corn intended for cattle feed has begun.
- Perennial Rye grass has had significant winterkill in the Interlake region.

Livestock

- Nearly all creeks, streams, dugouts, and sloughs have refilled to capacity.
- For the most part cattle are still being fed close to their winter-feeding area or on a holding / sacrificial pasture until turned out. Producers are checking their fences and carrying out necessary maintenance work ahead of the grazing season.
- Most cattle have entered some kind of pasture to avoid the mud that has appeared in the overwintering areas and to make the most of the strong pasture growth. In some cases, there may be enough growth to meet livestock nutritional needs, but supplementary feeding is taking place on most farms.
- Some cattle are being turned out to pasture where there is carryover forage or turned out with supplemental feed. More cattle will go out over the next 7 to 10 days. Producers want to ensure forage growth is adequate, 5-6" tall, before grazing.
- Calving is ongoing but will wrap up by the end of the month. The first few mosquitoes have been reported and ticks have emerged with abundance.

Regional Comments

Southwest

Rainfall on Monday brought a significant pause to seeding activities in the early parts of the week. Brandon and its surrounding areas received 10-15mm of rain, with much of this precipitation occurring in the northern parts of the region. Southern areas such as Souris, Deloraine, and Melita received only 2-4mm of rain, allowing producers in these regions to proceed with seeding. Throughout the past week, daytime temperatures ranged from 15 to 20°C.

Overall seeding progress in the region is about 45-50% complete. Some producers are slightly ahead depending on their field conditions. Cereal seeding is estimated to be 70 to 80% complete, soybeans are at 30-40% and pea seeding is 80-90% complete. Canola seeding has also begun in certain areas, with 5-10% complete. Grain corn is 60% completed.

Soybeans have been planted, as indicated by the presence of land rollers in the fields. Sunflower planting is expected to commence for most growers this week.

Most wheat, barley, and oat crops have been seeded, and cereals are beginning to emerge, while peas have already emerged. Seeding of other crops is still ongoing, with low spots being seeded where subsoil moisture levels permit. Soil temperatures are hovering around the 13-15°C mark, providing ideal conditions for canola seeding, with sufficient moisture in the topsoil and a dry, mellow crust.

Northwest

Mixed weather this week brought slower progress across the region. Scattered showers were enough to stop some seeding however access to some fields was still possible. There were some reports of hail in localized areas, along with precipitation. Highest accumulated precipitation amounts were in Reedy Creek and The Pas with 67 and 59mm, respectively. Weeds and volunteers continue to actively grow. Herbicide applications are ongoing with good spray conditions.

Overall seeding progress in the region is about 40-45% complete. Field pea seeding continues with progress approximately 90% complete. Earliest seeded field peas are emerging.

Spring wheat seeding continues and is approximately 75% complete. Earliest seeded wheat has emerged and is growing nicely. Barley and oat seeding is approximately 30% complete. Canola seeding is 25% and soybean is 15% complete. Winter wheat and fall rye crops are growing nicely, with a small amount of winterkill.

Central

The past week had several rainfall events, with some being accompanied by lightning and high winds. A particularly notable storm passed through the RMs of Morris and Montcalm on Thursday night generating weather warnings. These rain events left soils too wet to access fields for field operations for several days.

Seeding has progressed with spring wheat, barley, and oats at 90% complete. Much of the early seeded cereals are at the three to four leaf stage. Field peas are at 98%, soybeans at 40% and canola at 30% complete, with some of the earliest planted canola at the cotyledon stage. Sunflower seeding progress is at 35%, and corn at 70% complete. Potato planting is approximately 80%. The proportion of each crop seeded varies greatly at the local level across the region, with percentage of crops in the ground generally lower in the north of the Central region, and higher in the south.

Aside from seeding, field preparations including soil testing, dry fertilizer spreading, spraying pre seeds/dribble banding fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia applications, harrowing/cultivating and rolling of emerged crops are taking place across the region where required.

Weeds are quickly appearing in fields including kochia, volunteer canola and wheat, flixweed, fleabane, foxtail barley, redroot pigweed, lamb's quarters, thistles and dandelions.

Striped flea beetles have been active for a few weeks and cruciferous flea beetles have recently emerged and are consuming volunteer canola seedlings and flixweed. Small numbers of diamondback moths have been found in monitoring traps across the Central region, but none at levels that would indicate a concern at this stage.

Eastern

Rainfall accumulations across the Eastern region last week ranged from 20 to over 50mm. Rainfall occurred on most days during the reporting period and varied from intermittent drizzle to severe storms that included heavy downpours and large amounts of hail in localized areas. Rainfall amounts were noted as highly variable, even over short distances, leading producers to monitor their land carefully to avoid missing opportunities for seeding or field work. Standing water remains evident in some fields across most parts of the region. The reporting period began with below normal daytime and nighttime temperatures but quickly climbed to normal or above normal temperature ranges.

Given the weather conditions, producers struggled to make progress on seeding and field work activities. Field accessibility decreased dramatically during the reporting period although soil temperatures remained adequately warm. Given the current weather forecast for the upcoming week, producers are pulling out all the stops to get more acres seeded. Partial fields are being seeded and seeding in less than ideal seedbed conditions is occurring. Retailers have noted that some customers are modifying their seeding plans in response to the weather conditions.

Winter cereal stands continued to grow rapidly with stem extension beginning on most fields. Crop condition continued to improve with fields greening up dramatically. Herbicide applications are ongoing with about 30% of winter cereal acres completed.

Overall, spring seeding was around 55% complete across the region. Individual producer progress varies significantly with some not started and others over 80% complete.

Approximately 85% of spring wheat, oat and barley acres are in the ground. Very early seeded wheat is in the two to three leaf stage and in good condition. Later seeded crops range from emergence to the one leaf stage. About 75% of corn acres has been planted. Some corn and field pea emergence has been noted.

Approximately 40% of soybean acres, 50% of sunflower acres and 30% of canola acres were planted across the region last week with some canola emergence noted. As producers wrap up spring cereal and corn seeding, their focus has shifted to oilseed crops.

A limited amount of pre and post emergent herbicide application has also occurred and will continue when conditions allow.

Interlake

The Interlake region continues to experience wet, cloudy, and rainy weather conditions. There were scattered showers throughout the week, with much variability in rainfall amounts. Most areas in the South Interlake including Clandeboye, Teulon and Woodland received about 15-18mm. Rainfall accumulation across the North Interlake region was less than 5mm. Most locations in the South Interlake region have adequate moisture conditions with standing water in low areas.

Limited seeding progress this week due to wet conditions. Overall seeding progress is about 30% complete depending on location and field conditions. Seeding has stalled out since Tuesday afternoon rains in the South Interlake region.

Seeding progress is further advanced in the South Interlake with corn seeding estimated at 60%, soybeans at 15%, peas at 40% and spring cereals at 40%. With soil conditions improving, more seeding progress is expected in the northern parts of the Interlake.