

Issue 5 – June 4, 2026

# Manitoba Potato Report



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## Provincial Summary

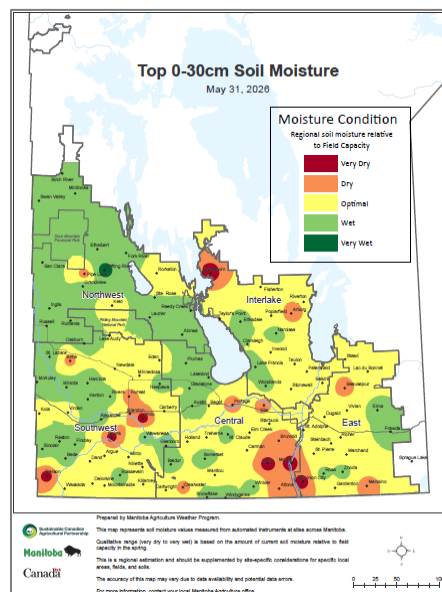
- Potato planting is nearly finished in the province, with a few growers having a few acres left due to heavy rains on June 2 and 3. Hilling has continued in most fields, with some requiring re-hilling.
- Less than 20% of the fields had some potato emergence by June 2. Aphid monitoring traps have been set up in selected seed potato fields.
- Regular weekly reports and other features will be provided, including late blight risk forecasting, updates on disease and insect pests on potatoes, and control recommendations. All reports and information will also be available at [Province of Manitoba | agriculture - Potato Report](http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/potato-report/) and <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm>.

## Ag Weather Data

### Precipitation and Soil Moisture

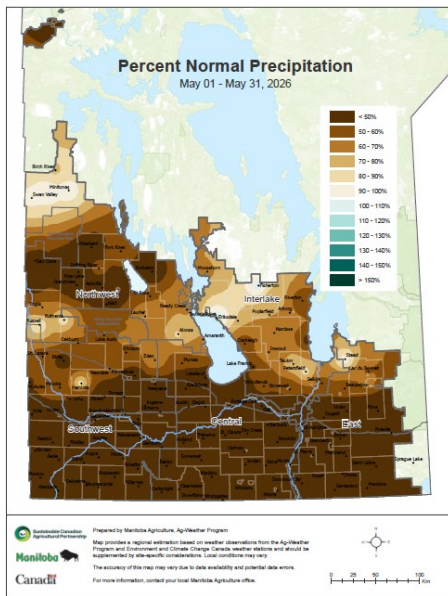
- In the potato growing areas, by May 31 the soils were generally categorized as optimal (based on Regional Soil Moisture Relative to Field Capacity) at 0-30 cm (Fig 1) but were categorized as “wet” at 120 cm depths. <https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-30cm.pdf>  
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-120cm.pdf>
- Precipitation (mm) by May 31 was minimal, ranging from 0 to 4.2 mm for the week (Table 1). The precipitation continues to be significantly below normal, ranging from 16-18% of normal (Glenboro and St. Claude) to around 37-39% of normal (Austin and Winkler) (Table 1, Fig 2a). <http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/percent-normal-precipitation.pdf>. Scattered heavy showers with thunderstorms were reported across the province on June 2 and 3.

*Fig 1. By May 31, soil moisture relative to field capacity at the 0-30 cm depth indicated mostly optimal conditions in potato-growing areas. At the 120 cm depth, soils were wetter (map not shown).*

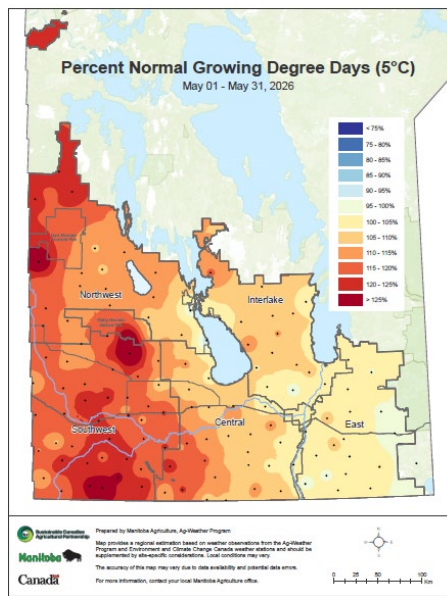


Report compiled by Dr. Vikram Bisht  
Potato and Horticulture Crop Pathologist, Manitoba Agriculture  
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2a



2b

Fig 2a (left): Total precipitation (mm) from May 25 to 31 has been very low and ranged from 16% to 39% of normal in most of the potato growing areas of the province.

Fig 2b (right): Warmer air temperatures during the week of May 25–31 increased cumulative growing degree days (GDD) to 100–125% of normal across most potato-growing areas.

### Temperatures – Air and Soil

- From May 25 to 31 the daytime high temperatures were hot and reached 33.9 to 36.5°C in the potato growing areas (Table 1, Fig 3). Overnight lows were also warmer compared to last week and ranged around 7.2°C at Shilo and Carman to 11.5°C in Holland. Thus, the week was 8 to 10 °C warmer than last week.
- A few warm days in the week, helped improve the Cumulative heat (Growing Degree Days, GDD base 5°C), from less than 50% to 100% and above normal (Table 1, Fig 2b).
- Soil temperature averages at 5 cm depths ranged from 6.0 to 20.8°C in the week. Bagot had the coolest soils, while Carberry and Carman were the warmest (Fig 4). The 20 cm depths had similar trend but were cooler. The soils have rapidly warmed up in the week and expected to fasten emergence.

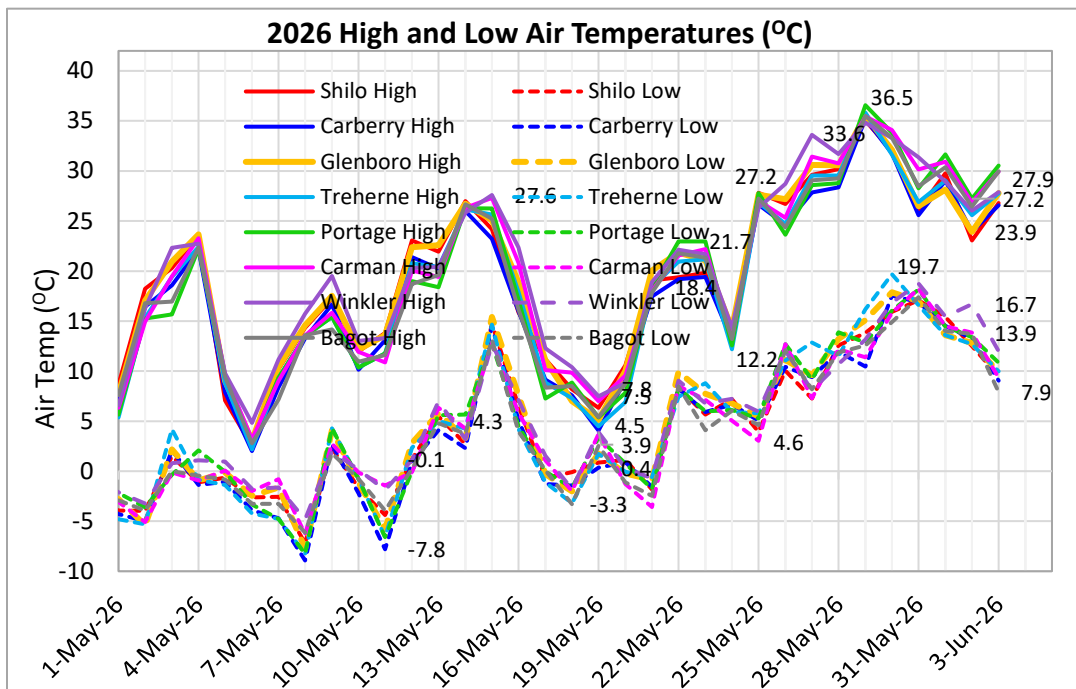


Fig 3. Air temperatures in the potato-growing areas soared above 30°C, ranging from 4.6°C on May 1 to a high of 36.5°C on May 29, and falling lower after that.

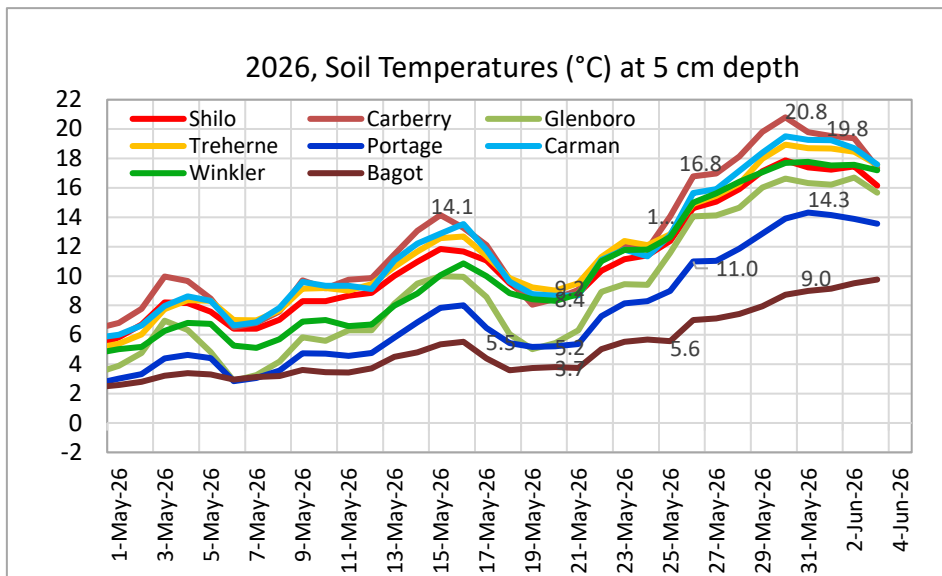


Fig 4. The soil temperatures in the 0-30 cm zone have warmed up over 14C in most potato-growing areas, but Bagot remains cold.

Table 1. Manitoba Ag Weather Data – May 25 – 31

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)
Altona	33.9	9.2	0.0	23	32	106
Austin	35.9	9.5	4.2	25	39	111
Bagot	35.5	8.2	0.3	17	26	105
Carberry EC	36.0	9.9	1.6	15	22	120
Carman	35.5	7.3	0.0	17	22	109
Glenboro	35.6	9.6	0.2	10	16	120
Holland	35.3	11.5	0.3	20	28	118
Morden	35.4	8.8	0.6	23	31	108
Portage EC	35.0	8.0	0.7	19	28	113
Rivers	35.4	9.4	0.0	21	34	121
Shilo	35.0	7.2	0.9	15	25	114
St. Claude	34.3	10.1	0.0	14	18	108
Treherne	35.8	11.1	0.0	15	21	111
Wawanesa	36.5	8.3	0.2	15	22	119
Winkler	34.8	8.1	0.0	29	37	112

For more Manitoba weather information, visit: [www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather](http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather)

More information on:

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

P-Days: [www.mbpotatoes.ca/pday.cfm](http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/pday.cfm)

## Crop Progress

- Potato planting is nearly finished, but some acres were unfinished due to heavy rainfall on June 2 and 3.
- In some early planted fields plants have emerged but not nearly 50%. Overall, less than 20% of fields are showing emergence. Normally, by June 1, 50% of fields have 50% or more emergence. This year, a cold

May delayed the emergence by more than 4-5 days, and 50% of fields may have 50% emergence by end of the week (June 6-7).

- Hilling has continued steadily in most fields, including those affected by windstorms.
- By June 2, not many fields have shown emergence (Fig 5 a-d); up to now less than 20% of fields are reported to have emergence. With a warm week at the end of May, it is expected that there could be nearly 50% emergence in 50% of the fields early in the coming week.
- Some seed rot has been reported in a few fields.



*Fig. 5 a-d. Potato emergence is starting and less than 20% of fields have emerging plants by June 2, but still a few days away from 50% emergence. a: George Moir (Marginet Farms), b & c: Orla Sheridan (Shilo Farms), d: Harrison Loewen (KR CropCheck).*

- There is a forecast for a few warm days, with daytime highs reaching up to 30°C in the weekend (June 6 & 7). There is a chance of scattered showers on June 4 and then on June 7-8. Overnight temperature lows are expected to be in low to high-teens [Manitoba - Weather Conditions and Forecast by Locations - Environment Canada](#)
- Late blight risk maps, P-Days, and SprayCast maps are available <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm>.

## Disease Monitoring

- Late blight risk forecasting will be provided on a regional basis at [www.mbpotatoes.ca](http://www.mbpotatoes.ca). Late blight disease risk is projected to start accumulating around June 1.
  - Late blight spore monitoring will be done using passive spore traps beginning in mid-June.
- Diseases like blackleg, early blight, verticillium wilt and powdery scab will be monitored during the season.
- Minor seed rot prior to emergence has been reported in a few fields.

## Insect Pest Monitoring

- Aphid monitoring using suction traps have been set up in seed potato fields; pan traps will be set up after hilling is completed in these fields. Monitoring will start on June 8 in eight seed fields as done in 2025.
- European Corn Borer monitoring will be started in 4<sup>th</sup> week of June.
- Colorado potato beetle incidences will be monitored and if possible tested for insecticide resistance.

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

All reports and information will also be available at <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm> and archived at [Manitoba Potato Reports](#)