

# Agricultural Moisture Situation Update

September 9, 2020

---

## Synopsis

Since the last report (August 27), generally dry conditions have prevailed throughout most of the provinces agricultural areas that were in need of a reprieve from rain, following an unusually wet growing season.

So far this season, early frosts have occurred in some areas, with many lands through the south half of the province, experiencing heavy frost this morning (September 8).

## 12-day precipitation accumulations as of September 8, 2020 (Map 1)

Dry weather has been welcome in recent days with most of the provinces wet areas in the North West, and North East experiencing less than 10 mm of rain. The other wet area (south of Red Deer) received up to 20 mm on Sunday, September 6, following nearly three weeks of relatively dry weather.

Parts of southern Alberta have received some moisture, with the south-half of the Southern region receiving 20 to 30mm. This rain was likely needed, as this area has been quite dry since at least the last week in July.

## Frost as of September 8, 2020 (Map 2 and Map 3)

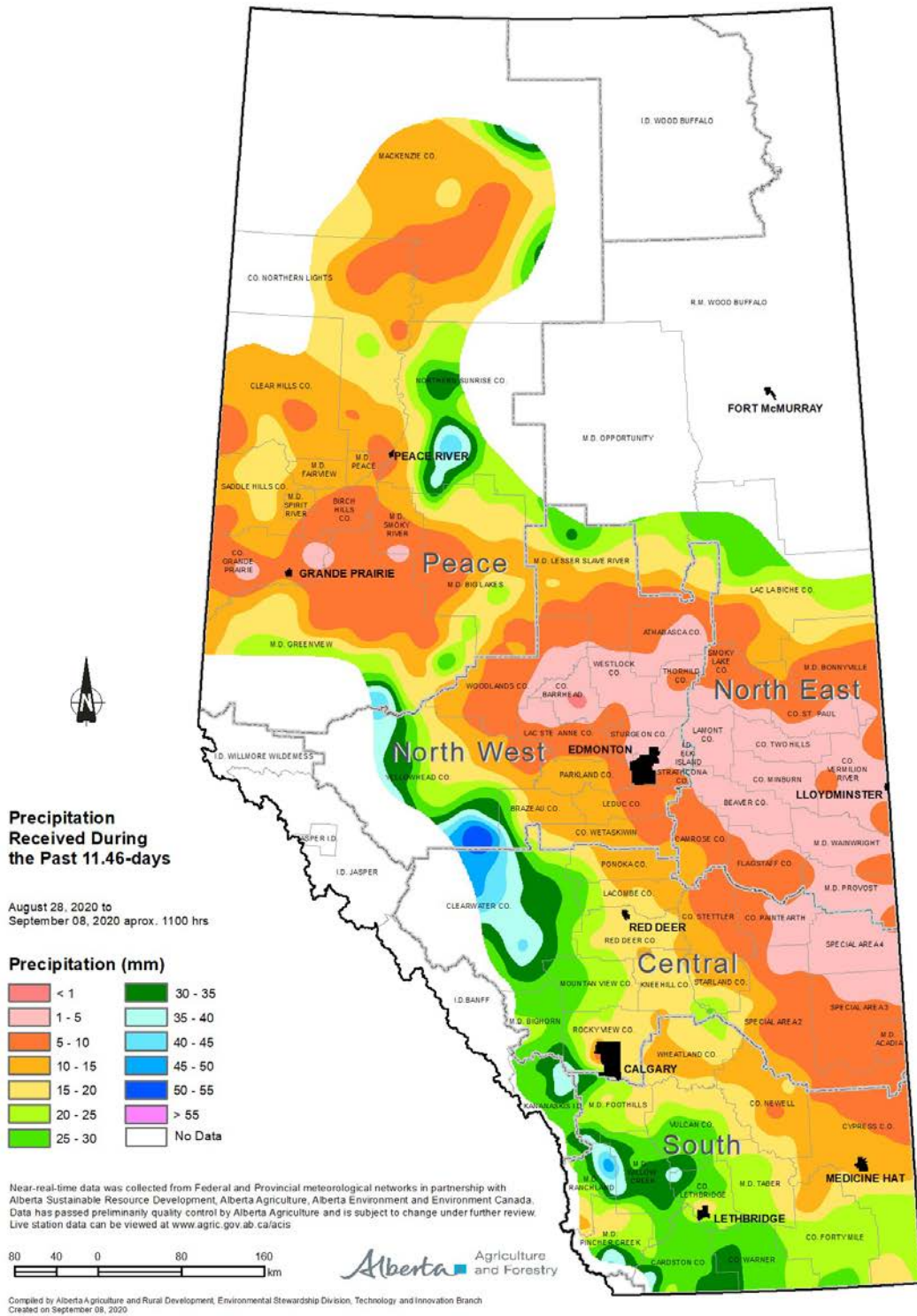
Frost came early this year, arriving on about August 31 (**Map 2**). While these first frosts were considered light, many lands along a wide band from the central Peace region down to the Special Areas saw temperatures dip below -1C.

Early in the morning on September 8, it turned cold again with many areas throughout the south-half of the province experiencing freezing temperatures, in some cases as low as -4C (**Map 3**). The station at Goose Berry Lake, just north of Consort, saw temperatures dip to -4.5C and it remained below freezing for just over 10 hours. Here temperatures this low by September 10<sup>th</sup> are very uncommon. You have to go back to 1989 to see a similar event and this is the only one on record looking back as far as 1961.

## Perspective

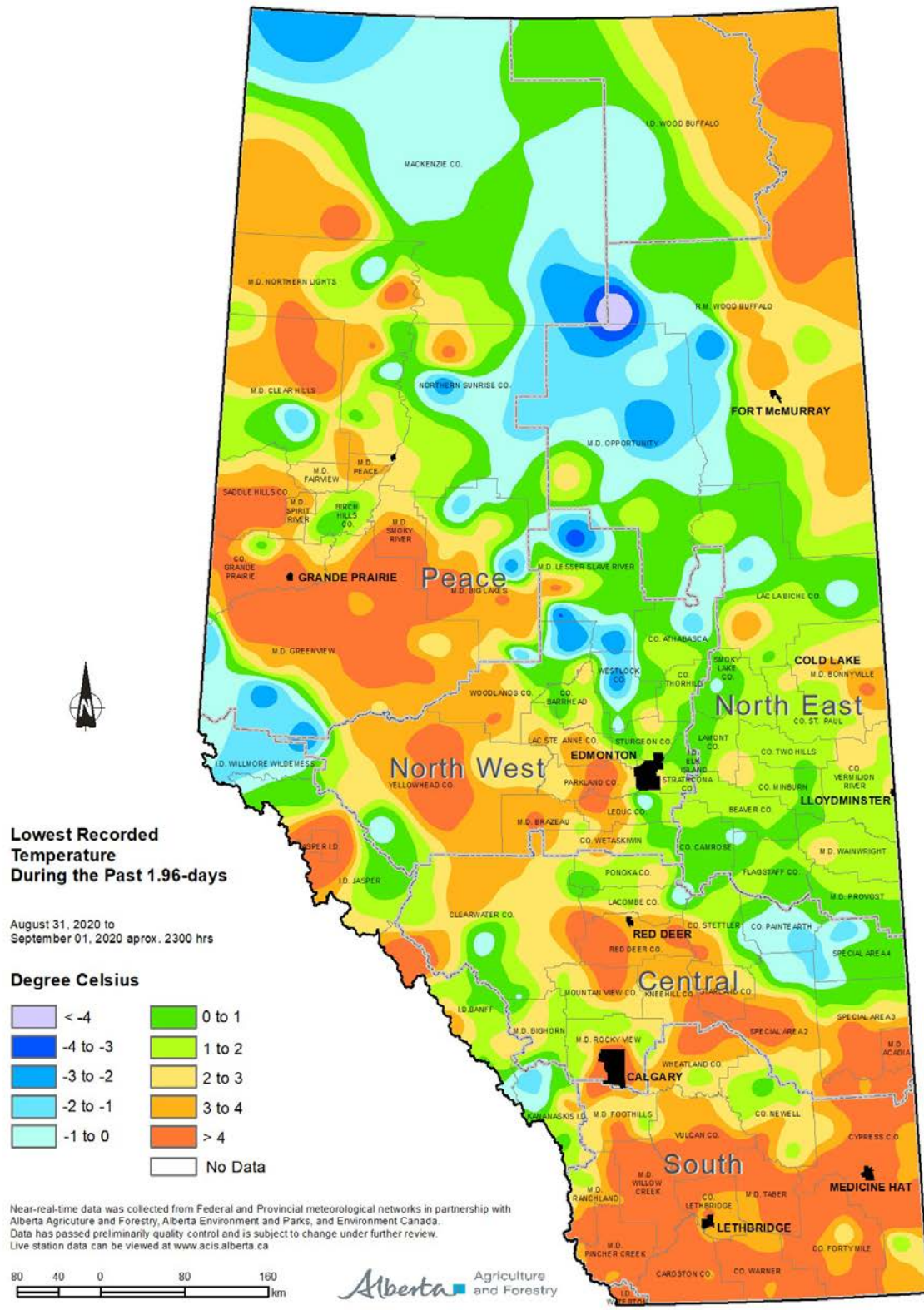
As we move into fall, warm dry weather is needed throughout most of the north-half of the province. Excess moisture and early snows have hampered harvest activities in these areas, over the past two to three years. A return to normal conditions or warmer would be welcome, with the first snowfall holding off ideally, until late October.

Map 1

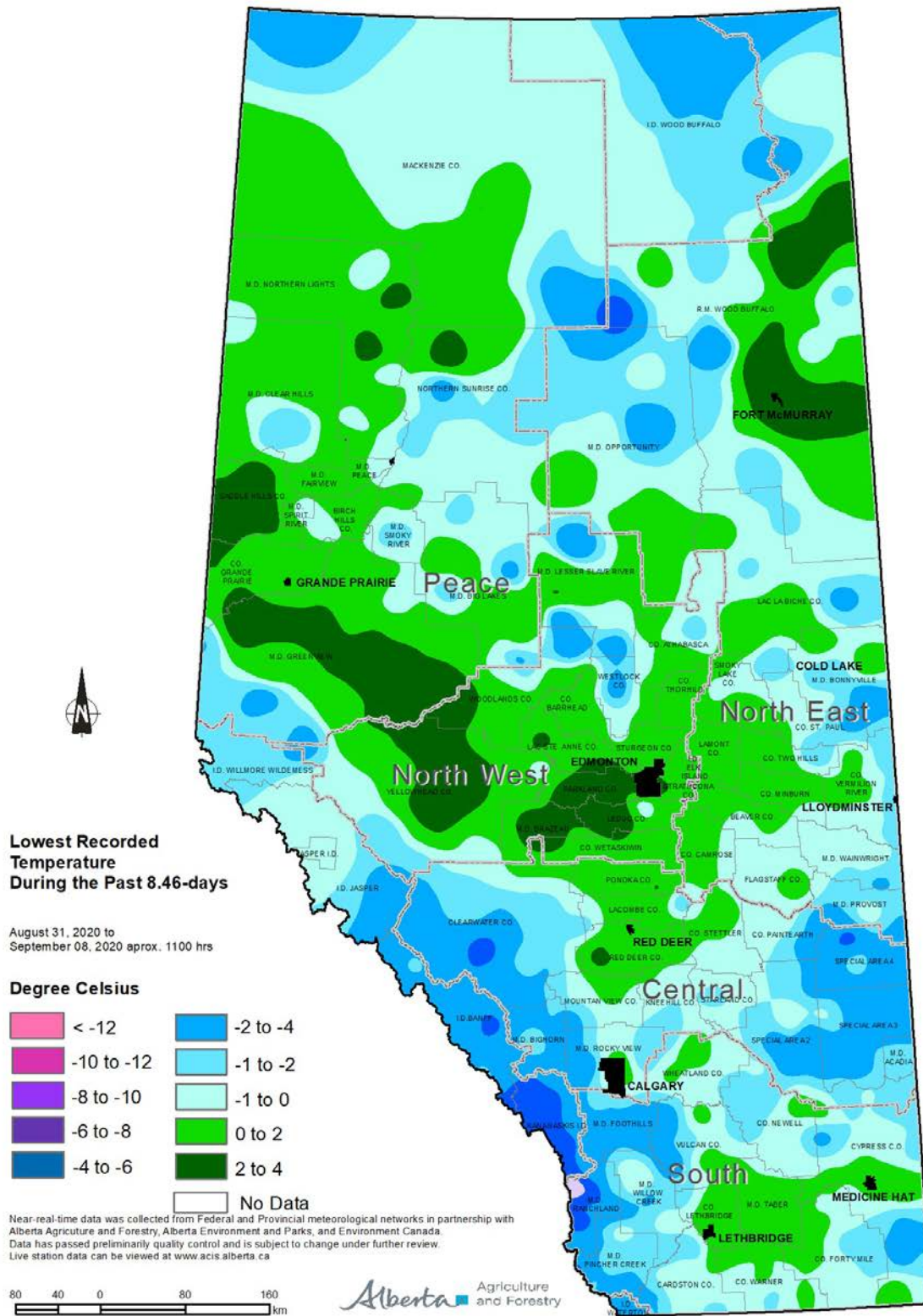


Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

Map 2



Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Stewardship Division, Technology and Innovation Branch  
Created on September 08, 2020



Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Stewardship Division, Technology and Innovation Branch  
Created on September 08, 2020