

# Alberta Crop Report

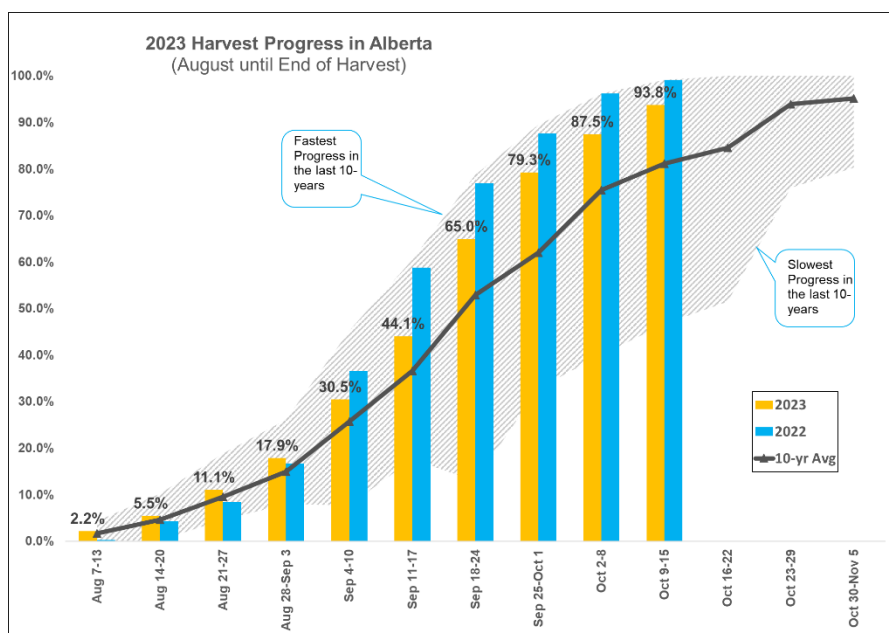
## Crop conditions as of October 10, 2023 (Abbreviated Report)

Dry and warm conditions all week assisted harvest progress (See Table 1) and as of October 10, harvest of major crops is now 94 per cent complete across the province, 13 per cent ahead of the 5-year average and up 6 per cent from last week. While the North West Region, still has the most left to combine, it progressed 16 per cent since October 3, to 86 per cent complete. The Central, North East and Peace Regions are all within 8 per cent of completion as well, with the South virtually complete.

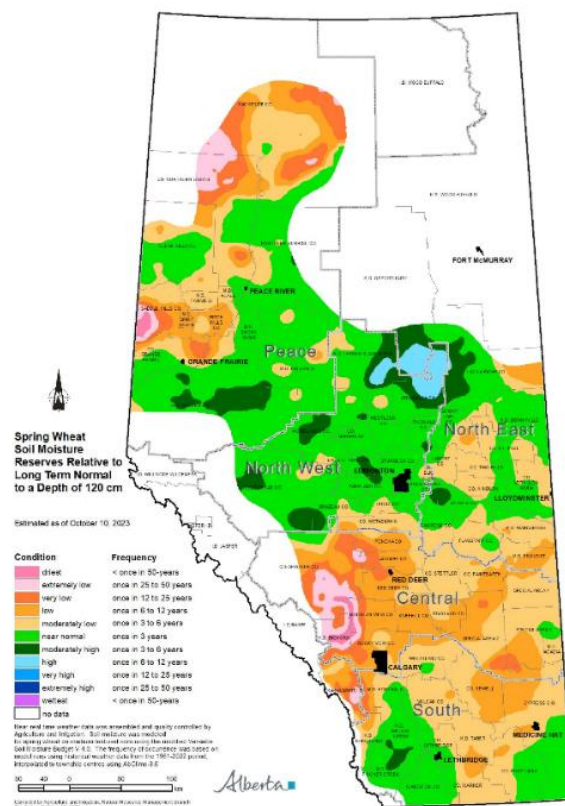
**Table 1: Harvest Progress (Major Crops) as of October 10, 2023**

	Estimated Per Cent of Major Crops Combined					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	99.8%	98.2%	96.3%	94.1%	98.8%	97.6%
Barley	99.8%	99.0%	98.7%	95.6%	96.1%	98.5%
Oats	100.0%	95.5%	94.9%	77.4%	93.6%	90.2%
Canola	99.1%	82.8%	85.2%	75.5%	92.7%	87.2%
Dry Peas	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	99.7%	99.9%
Major Crops, Oct 10	99.6%	93.3%	92.0%	85.9%	95.4%	93.8%
Major Crops, Oct 3	98.9%	87.3%	83.5%	70.2%	91.0%	87.5%
5-Year (2018-22) Avg	90.3%	77.1%	80.0%	76.5%	73.5%	80.5%
10-Year (2013-22) Avg	92.8%	78.3%	79.5%	73.8%	79.3%	81.7%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey



Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey



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

Provincial pasture conditions have been reported as 43 per cent poor, 40 per cent fair, 17 per cent good and 0 per cent excellent. This means that many ranchers have been putting cattle out on harvested fields and feed reserves will be very important over winter. Provincial forage reserves for the 2023-2024 winter are estimated at 10 per cent deficit, 21 per cent shortfall, 66 per cent adequate and 4 per cent surplus. Feed grain reserves are estimated at 6 per cent deficit, 15 per cent shortfall, 69 per cent

adequate and 10 per cent surplus. Hay supply is estimated at 11 per cent deficit, 18 per cent shortfall, 65 per cent adequate and 6 per cent surplus.

While dry conditions helped harvest progress over the week, soil moisture conditions lack the needed precipitation to support fall seeded crops. The majority of the southern half of the province received no showers over the last week while the North West and North East Region received up to 5 mm. Surface soil moisture conditions (5-year average in brackets) are rated 29 (20) per cent poor, 37 (26) per cent fair, 27 (40) per cent good, 7 (13) per cent excellent and 1 (2) per cent excessive (See Table 2). The poorest surface soil moisture conditions are seen in the South and Central Regions, while the most excessive conditions are in the North West Region. Sub-surface soil moisture conditions (5-year average in brackets) is rated 36 (23) per cent poor, 33 (28) per cent fair, 26 (35) per cent good, 6 (13) excellent and 0 (1) excessive.

**Table 2: Alberta Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of October 10, 2023**

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	43.8%	47.4%	8.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Central	41.1%	37.8%	21.1%	0.0%	0.0%
North East	11.2%	38.2%	48.2%	1.9%	0.5%
North West	0.0%	11.7%	47.1%	34.3%	6.9%
Peace	10.6%	27.6%	39.3%	22.5%	0.0%
Alberta, Oct 10	28.6%	36.9%	27.1%	6.5%	0.9%
Alberta, Oct 3	27.0%	38.2%	27.0%	6.1%	1.6%
5-yr (2018-2022) Avg	19.5%	25.6%	40.3%	12.9%	1.6%
10-yr (2013-2022) Avg	14.0%	24.4%	42.4%	17.2%	2.0%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

## Regional Assessments:

### Region One: South (Strathmore, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Foremost)

- Sugar beet and special crops are the only crops with significant harvest left to complete in the South Region. Otherwise, harvest has been virtually complete for the last three weeks.
- Some showers throughout the week were followed by hot days on the weekend. Night times are nearing frost.
- Surface soil moisture conditions rated good to excellent increased 2 per cent to 9 per cent good to excellent.
- Currently hay supply in the South Region is estimated to be at 57 per cent deficit or shortfall, while 43 per cent of the region is considered to have adequate or surplus hay supply. Overall, 54 and 58 per cent of forage and feed grain reserves are estimated to be adequate to surplus, respectively.
- Growing season conditions resulted in poor pasture conditions with livestock returning from grazing leases earlier than in other years. Pasture growth conditions are rated as 56 per cent poor, 40 per cent fair, 4 per cent good and 0 per cent excellent.

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

- Some parts of the region have completed harvest while others experienced delays during the week due to cool rains. Harvest was back progressing by the end of the week with the help of warm weather.
- Harvest is currently 93 per cent complete, 16 per cent ahead of the 5-year average and up 6 per cent from last week.
- Minimal moisture throughout the week caused surface soil moisture rated good to excellent to decrease 1 per cent to 21 per cent.
- In the Central Region, forage reserves for the 2023-2024 winter are estimated to be 68 per cent adequate to surplus and 78 per cent of feed grain reserves are estimated to be adequate to surplus.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated as 48 per cent poor, 34 per cent fair, 18 per cent good and 0 per cent excellent.

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

- Harvest progressed 9 per cent since last week to 92 per cent complete, 12 per cent ahead of the 5-year average.
- There is still 15 per cent of canola left to harvest but stalks are tough and kernels are green.
- Surface soil moisture in the North East is rated 50 per cent good to excellent, down 1 per cent from last week.

- In the North East, forage reserves and feed grain reserves for the 2023-2024 winter are estimated to be 77 and 94 per cent adequate to surplus, respectively.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated as 29 per cent poor, 44 per cent fair, 27 per cent good and 0 per cent excellent.

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

- Harvest progressed 16 since last week to 86 per cent complete. Oats and canola have the most left to combine.
- There are still wet spots in fields and late crop growth with tough stalks in some areas delaying harvest completion. However, recent heavy frost in some areas and dry weather should assist harvest completion.
- Surface soil moisture rated good to excellent increased 5 per cent to 81 per cent.
- In the North West, forage reserves and feed grain reserves for the 2023-2024 winter are estimated to be 87 and 92 per cent adequate to surplus, respectively.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated as 14 per cent poor, 48 per cent fair, 38 per cent good and 0 per cent excellent.

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

- Harvest in the Peace Region progressed 5 per cent last week and is now 95 per cent complete. This is 22 per cent ahead of the 5-year average.
- In the Peace, forage reserves and feed grain reserves for the 2023-2024 winter are estimated to be 78 and 92 per cent adequate to surplus, respectively. However, 61 per cent of hay quality is considered to be poor to fair.
- Pasture growth conditions are rated as 26 per cent poor, 43 per cent fair, 30 per cent good and 2 per cent excellent.
- Surface soil moisture rated good to excellent decreased 2 per cent to 62 per cent.

## Contact

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