

Alberta Crop Report



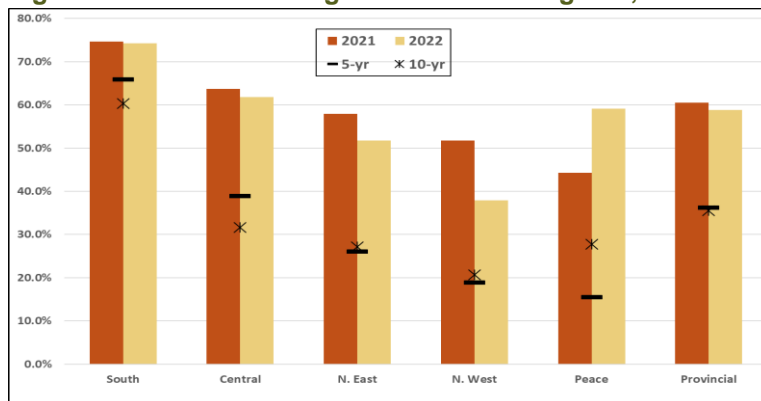
Crop Conditions as of September 13, 2022 (Abbreviated Report)

The weather remained warm and dry, and harvest advanced substantially (by 25 per cent from a week ago). Overall, about 59 per cent of major crops have now been combined, ahead of the 5-year and 10-year averages of 36 per cent (see Table 1). About 17 per cent of major crops are in swath and 24 per cent remain standing. Over the past week among regions, producers in the Peace Region made the most significant progress (harvesting an additional 39 per cent), followed by producers in the North East Region (advancing progress by 31 per cent) and Central Region (harvesting a further 23 per cent). Harvest in the South and North West Regions advanced by 17 per cent. Compared to the 5-year averages (2017-2021), harvest progress is ahead for all regions (see Figure 1). Harvest progress in the South is similar to last year, while in the Peace it is ahead.

Table 1: Estimates of Crop Harvest Progress as of September 13, 2022

	Per cent of Crops Combined					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	81.7%	77.7%	68.6%	49.0%	70.4%	72.0%
Barley	85.1%	82.6%	69.6%	63.4%	69.9%	77.8%
Oats	92.9%	57.5%	56.2%	38.2%	67.1%	55.3%
Canola	45.7%	24.7%	26.0%	13.5%	44.5%	31.0%
Dry Peas	99.5%	96.2%	98.9%	99.2%	83.8%	95.5%
Major Crops, Sep 13	74.2%	61.8%	51.7%	38.0%	59.2%	58.8%
Major Crops, Sep 6	56.9%	38.5%	20.9%	20.8%	20.0%	33.4%
Major Crops, Last Year	74.6%	63.7%	57.9%	51.7%	44.3%	60.5%
5-yr (2017-2021) Avg	65.9%	38.9%	26.0%	18.9%	15.5%	36.2%
10-yr (2012-2021) Avg	60.3%	31.6%	27.2%	20.7%	27.8%	35.5%

Figure 1: Provincial & Regional Harvest Progress, 2022 vs 2021 and Averages



Source: AFRED/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Compared to the long-term normal, growing season precipitation accumulation has been near normal for most parts of the province, except for the North West Region, northern and western parts of the North East Region and the southern half of the Peace Region, where precipitation has been moderately low (see Map 1). However, over the past 60 days, conditions turned dry in much of the province. For most parts of the province, the past 60-days precipitation accumulation relative to normal has been either low, very low, or in some spots, extremely low (see Map 2). The only exception was for

the South Region, where it was near normal. Dry conditions from mid-July have led to the depletion of soil moisture reserves (see Figure 2), but June rainfall contributed to the 2022 growing season. Also, there is still ample time between now and the 2023 growing season to build soil moisture reserves and surface water supplies to an acceptable level. A relatively wet and warm fall would help alleviate moisture stress for pastures and hay land.

Map 1: Growing Season Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Normal; April 1 2022 to September 13, 2022

Map 2: 60-Day Precipitation Accumulations Relative to Normal; July 16, 2022 to September 13, 2022

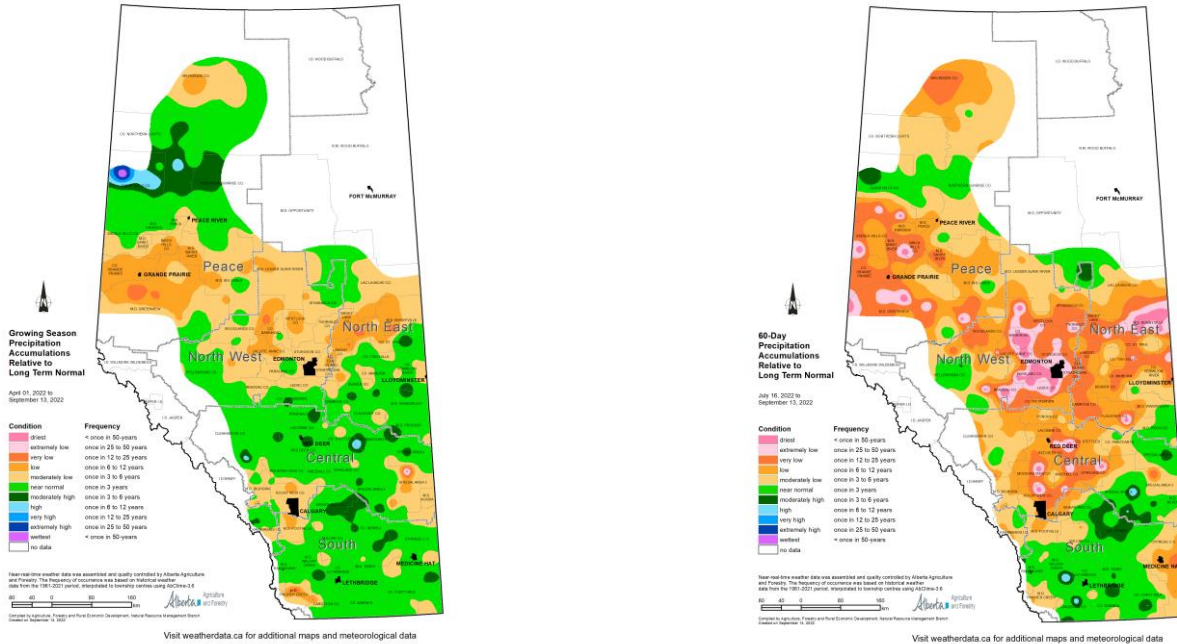
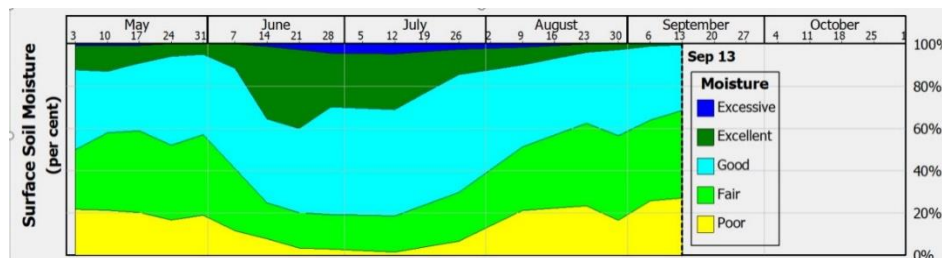


Figure 2: Alberta Surface Soil Moisture Ratings over the Season, 2022



Source: AFRED/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Currently, pasture and hay growth is generally slow, and in the case of pasture is being grazed with no recovery. In some areas, livestock are moving onto harvested fields. Provincial pasture growing conditions are now rated as 29 per cent poor, 51 per cent fair, and 20 per cent good, with similar ratings for tame hay (see Table 2).

Table 2: Pasture Growing Conditions as of September 13, 2022

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
South	33.5%	52.0%	14.5%	0.0%
Central	18.7%	57.4%	23.9%	0.0%
North East	31.8%	48.5%	19.8%	0.0%
North West	22.8%	53.0%	24.3%	0.0%
Peace	56.5%	14.4%	28.8%	0.3%
Alberta	29.2%	50.4%	20.3%	0.0%
5-yr (2017-2021) Avg	36.0%	29.1%	31.5%	3.4%
10-yr (2012-2021) Avg	23.2%	31.2%	40.0%	5.6%

Source: AFRED/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Regional Assessments:

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

- The weather has notably been cooler, returning back to seasonal temperatures. Some showers have slowed harvest progress, but producers were still able to combine an additional 17 per cent of major crops.
- Regionally, 74 per cent of crops have been combined (compared to the 5-year average of 66 per cent), eight per cent are swathed and 18 per cent are still standing.
- Almost all dry peas, 82 per cent of spring wheat, 85 per cent of barley and 93 per cent of oats are now in the bin. Canola was delayed in some fields, mostly due to a dry spring, pests and frost. About 46 per cent of canola has now been combined and another 13 per cent is in swath.

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

- Low temperatures and light frost were reported in some parts of the region. A few scattered showers slowed down harvest, yet producers combined an additional 23 per cent of their major crops.
- Harvest is currently underway, with 62 per cent of major crops in the bin, well ahead of the 5-year average of 39 per cent). About 16 per cent have been swathed and 22 per cent are still standing.
- About 96 per cent of dry peas, 78 per cent of spring wheat, 83 per cent of barley and 58 per cent of oats are now in the bin. Almost 25 per cent of canola has been harvested and another 38 per cent is in swath.

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

- Weather has been continually warm and dry, advancing harvest progress by 31 per cent from a week ago.
- Overall, 52 per cent of major crops have been combined (compared to the 5-year average of 26 per cent), 25 per cent are swathed and 23 per cent are still standing.
- About 99 per cent of dry peas, 69 per cent of spring wheat, 70 per cent of barley and 56 per cent of oats are now in the bin. For canola, 26 per cent has now been combined and another 46 per cent is in swath.

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

- Mostly favourable weather have advanced the regional harvest progress by 17 per cent from a week ago. Spotty light showers and hail storms were reported in some parts of the region.
- In this region, 38 per cent of crops are combined (compared to the 5-year average of 19 per cent), 25 per cent are swathed and 37 per cent are still standing.
- Almost all dry peas, 49 per cent of spring wheat, 63 per cent of barley and 38 per cent of oats are now in the bin. About 14 per cent of canola has now been combined and another 46 per cent is in swath.

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

- Warm and windy days have allowed for a significant harvest progress of 39 per cent.
- Overall, 59 per cent of crops have been combined (compared to the 5-year average of 15 per cent), 13 per cent are swathed and 28 per cent of crops are still standing.
- About 84 per cent of dry peas, 70 per cent of spring wheat and barley and 67 per cent of oats are now in the bin. Nearly 45 per cent of canola has been harvested and 26 per cent is in swath.

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