

Alberta Crop Report

Crop conditions as of June 4, 2024

Seeding across the province is virtually complete this week. Recent widespread rains brought moisture across the province, delaying seeding of some low-lying areas; however, it was favourable overall for crop emergence. Provincially, seeding progress of all crops is at 97 per cent, which is similar to the five-year average of 97 per cent and 10-year average of 96 per cent (see Table 1). Seeding progress in most regions is in line with historical averages, with the Peace Region being a notable exception. Seeding in the Peace is well ahead of the historical five-year average of 88 per cent and 10-year average of 89 per cent.

Provincial emergence of all crops is reported at 67 per cent, in line with the five-year average of 67 per cent and 10-year average of 66 per cent. Regional crop emergence for all crops is at 72 per cent in the South, 71 per cent in the Central Region, 65 per cent in the North East, 54 per cent in the North West, and 63 per cent in the Peace. An extended period of warmer weather would be welcome in all areas to help promote plant development.

Table 1: Alberta Seeding Progress as of June 4, 2024

	% Seeded					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat *	99.0%	99.9%	99.0%	96.3%	99.7%	99.0%
Durum	98.2%	100.0%	-	-	-	98.5%
Barley *	98.1%	94.0%	87.8%	91.5%	93.1%	93.9%
Oats *	96.5%	89.0%	84.9%	87.0%	92.9%	88.5%
Canola *	98.4%	98.9%	92.6%	95.1%	98.4%	96.3%
Dry Peas *	99.4%	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	99.3%	99.6%
Mustard	93.7%	100.0%	-	-	-	93.9%
Flax	97.5%	100.0%	100.0%	-	-	98.0%
Potatoes	100.0%	100.0%	-	98.0%	-	100.0%
Chickpeas	99.9%	100.0%	-	-	-	99.9%
Lentils	95.7%	100.0%	-	-	-	96.5%
Corn	99.0%	100.0%	-	-	-	99.5%
All Crops, June 4	98.0%	98.0%	94.6%	94.7%	98.0%	96.8%
Major Crops (*), June 4	98.6%	98.0%	94.6%	94.7%	98.0%	96.9%
5-year (2019-2023) Avg	99.5%	98.8%	97.3%	93.8%	88.3%	96.7%
10-year (2014-2023) Avg	98.9%	97.3%	93.8%	93.8%	89.2%	95.5%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Tame hay and pasture have continually improved in most areas thanks to the recent precipitation, with reports of cattle being turned onto pastures in areas of the Central, North West and North East Regions. Throughout the province, 73 per cent of pasture growth is rated as good or excellent, surpassing the five-year average of 53 per cent (see Table 2). Similarly, tame hay growth stands at 71 per cent rated as good or excellent, exceeding the province's five-year average of 56 per cent. Regional ratings of good to excellent pasture (tame hay) growth conditions are 63 (64) per cent for the South, 84 (85) per cent for the Central, 76 (69) per cent for the North East, 86 (86) per cent for the North West, and 45 (44) per cent for the Peace (see Figure 1). It is anticipated that the full benefits of recent moisture on both tame hay and pasture could be realized with the arrival of warmer temperatures.

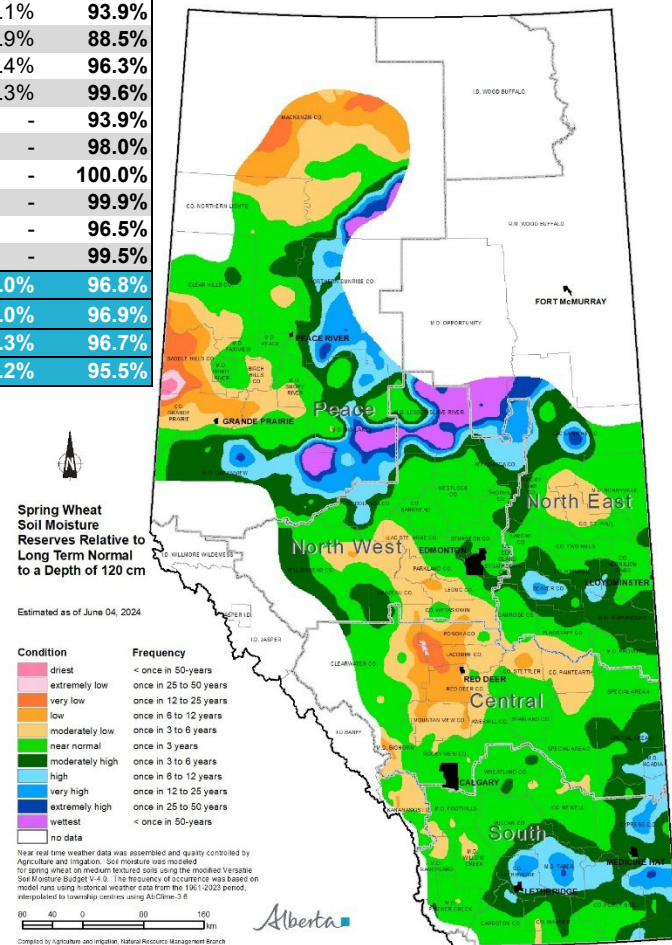


Figure 1: Pasture and Tame Hay Growth Conditions as of June 4, 2024

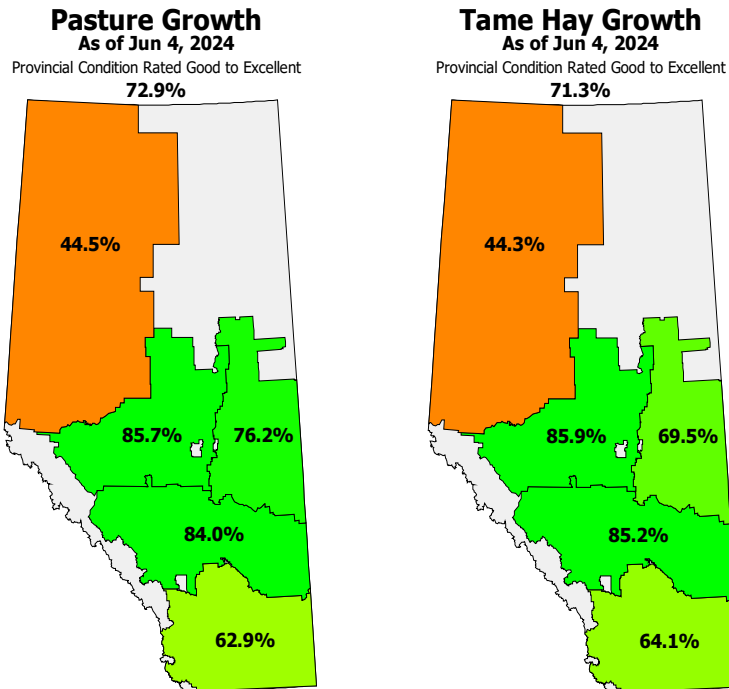


Table 2: Pasture Growth Conditions as of June 4, 2024

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
South	4.7%	32.3%	60.4%	2.5%
Central	2.3%	13.7%	77.7%	6.3%
North East	0.3%	23.6%	67.7%	8.4%
North West	0.0%	14.3%	57.4%	28.3%
Peace	13.2%	42.3%	43.2%	1.3%
Alberta	3.4%	23.7%	65.9%	7.0%
5-year (2019-2023) Avg	15.6%	31.2%	48.0%	5.1%
10-year (2014-2023) Avg	13.8%	28.4%	49.8%	8.0%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Both surface and sub-surface soil moisture conditions remained reasonably stable across most areas of the province. Provincial surface moisture (sub-surface moisture) good-to-excellent ratings were reported as 75 (65) per cent, a change of -3 (-1) per cent from last week, which is above the five-year historical average of 56 (55) per cent for this week. Regional surface moisture (sub-surface moisture) conditions reported as good-to-excellent are reported as 60 (54) per cent in the South, 79 (60) per cent in the Central, 92 (77) per cent in the North East, 82 (72) per cent in the North West and 69 (83) per cent in the Peace.

Table 3: Alberta Surface Soil Moisture Ratings as of June 4, 2024

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	3.2%	36.4%	48.5%	11.7%	0.2%
Central	1.9%	19.0%	70.7%	8.4%	0.0%
North East	0.0%	5.9%	63.2%	29.0%	1.9%
North West	0.0%	9.0%	51.8%	30.6%	8.6%
Peace	4.1%	25.6%	49.4%	20.0%	0.9%
Alberta	2.0%	21.6%	58.0%	16.9%	1.5%
5-year (2019-2023) Avg	13.9%	28.8%	43.5%	12.8%	1.0%
10-year (2014-2023) Avg	12.5%	25.0%	40.1%	19.7%	2.6%

Source: AGI/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Regional Assessments:

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

- South seeding progress for all crops (major crops) is 98 (99) per cent complete, compared to the five-year average of 100 (100) per cent.
- Pest pressure from grasshoppers, flea beetles and army cutworms are noted as over threshold in some areas.
- Sub-surface moisture is 8 per cent poor, 38 per cent fair, 46 per cent good, 8 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Conditions of tame hay are reported as 5 per cent poor, 31 per cent fair, 61 per cent good, and 3 per cent excellent.

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

- Central progress for seeding of all crops (major crops) is 98 (98) per cent complete, compared to the five-year average of 99 (99) per cent.
- Pest pressure from flea beetles are slightly over threshold in some areas of the region.
- Sub-surface moisture is 7 per cent poor, 33 per cent fair, 59 per cent good, 1 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Conditions of tame hay are reported as 2 per cent poor, 13 per cent fair, 73 per cent good, and 12 per cent excellent.

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

- North East seeding progress for all crops (major crops) is 95 (95) per cent complete, compared to the five-year average of 97 (97) per cent.
- No pests are currently identified as over threshold, with limited pressure from grasshoppers and flea beetles reported.
- Sub-surface moisture is 7 per cent poor, 15 per cent fair, 57 per cent good, 20 per cent excellent, and 1 per cent excessive.
- Conditions of tame hay are reported as 0 per cent poor, 30 per cent fair, 65 per cent good, and 5 per cent excellent.

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

- North West progress on seeding of all crops (major crops) is 95 (95) per cent complete, compared to the five-year average of 94 (94) per cent.
- No pests are currently identified as over threshold, with limited pressure from flea beetles reported.
- Sub-surface moisture is 7 per cent poor, 21 per cent fair, 51 per cent good, 21 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Conditions of tame hay are reported as 0 per cent poor, 14 per cent fair, 56 per cent good, and 30 per cent excellent.

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

- Seeding progress for all crops (major crops) is 98 (98) per cent complete, compared to the five-year average of 88 (88) per cent.
- No pests are currently identified as over threshold, with limited pressure from flea beetles and army cutworms reported.
- Sub-surface moisture is 2 per cent poor, 15 per cent fair, 66 per cent good, 17 per cent excellent, and 0 per cent excessive.
- Conditions of tame hay are reported as 15 per cent poor, 41 per cent fair, 43 per cent good, and 1 per cent excellent.

Contact

Agriculture Financial Services Corporation
Product Innovation Department
Insurance Products and Product Innovation Unit

Geoff Backman - Product Coordinator
Manglai - Product Coordinator
Email: mediainquiry@afsc.ca

Our thanks to Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen and AFSC staff for their partnership and contribution to the Alberta Crop Reporting Program. Agriculture and Irrigation compiles the climate map.

Note to Users: The contents of this document may not be used or reproduced without properly accrediting AFSC and the Government of Alberta.