

Moisture Situation Update – May 27, 2013

Synopsis:

Late last week a large upper cold low pressure system brought upwards of 100 mm of rain to the foot hills and mountain areas, along a broad band between Jasper and the Crowsnest Pass.

Forecast from ESRD's fire weather section

- Starting tomorrow, (Tuesday May 27,th) a large low pressure trough will move into the province bringing less, but significant amounts, of moisture to the mountain and foothills between Grande Prairie and the US Border, with clearing expected by the weekend. Meteorologists at ESRD fire weather section, see no significant break in this pattern of lows bringing moisture into the province in the medium term. This is often very typical for this time of year; however, bear in mind that long range forecasts are difficult to pin down precisely.

5-day precipitation accumulations May 22 to May 26 2013 --see map

- Most of the province saw at least 5 mm of rain or more, with the exception of the Peace Region, north of Grande Prairie where little to no rain was recorded.
- The brunt of this storm was centered along the mountains and foothills, west of Red Deer and Calgary, with some areas seeing over 100 mm of precipitation.
- The agricultural areas along Highway 2, between Edmonton and Lethbridge saw anywhere from 20 to 80 mm with areas in and around Calgary seeing upwards of 80 mm.

Perspective

- This moisture was generally very well timed with many areas currently already seeded.
- The Peace Region missed out on most of this moisture, which means no seeding delays. Here, typically wetter patterns begin to develop towards the end of the first week in June.

Interesting facts

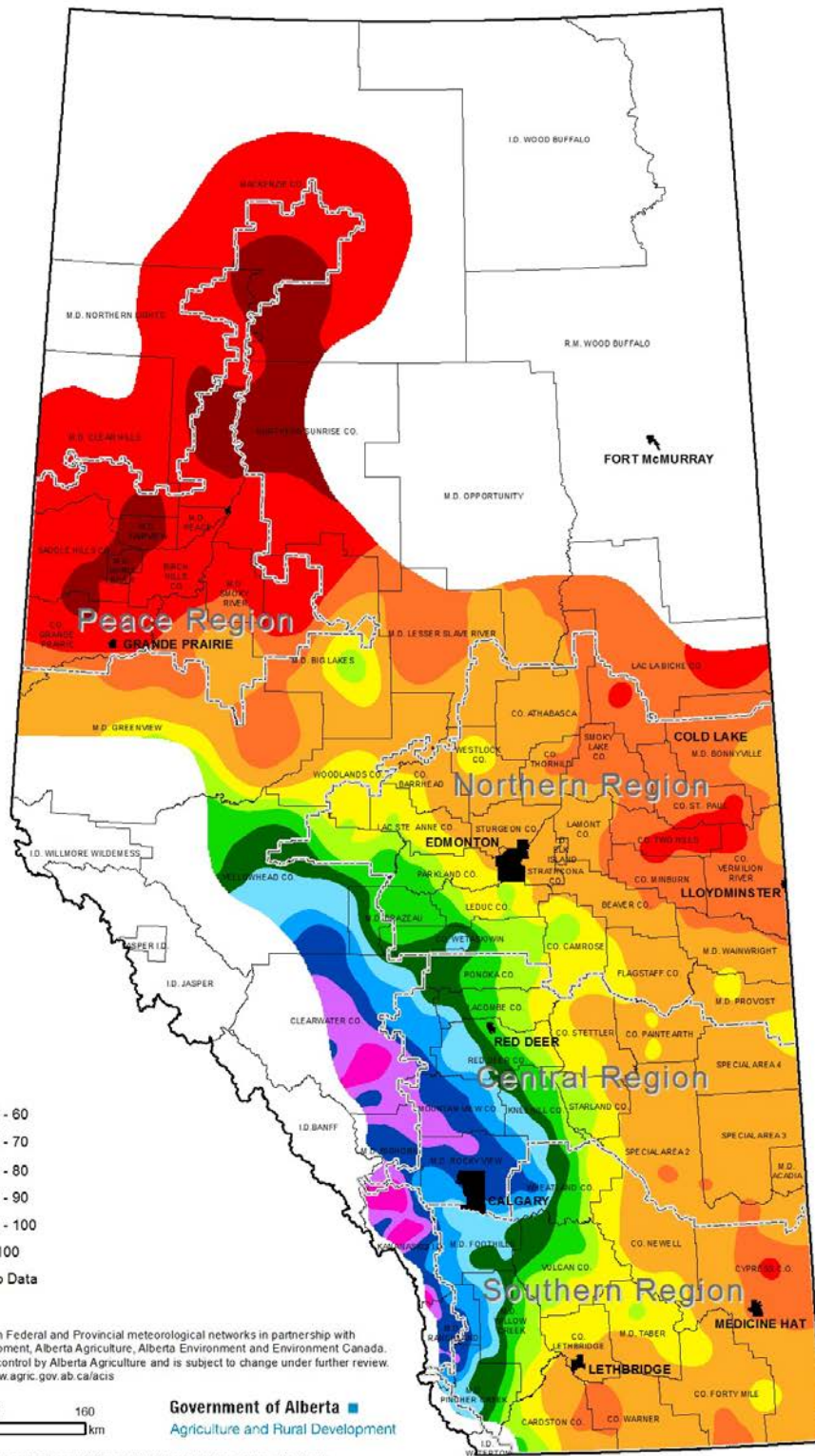
- Out of the more than 350 stations tracked by Alberta Agriculture, 10 saw more than 100 mm of precipitation over the past five days. Most of these were in the foothills, south Nordegg and north of the Crowsnest Pass. The greatest amount was recorded at Lost Creek South (134.5 mm) along the Continental Divide, west of Chain Lakes Provincial Park.

Additional Maps can be found at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/maps

Near-real-time hourly station data can be viewed/[downloaded](#) at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations Note: Data has about a two hour lag and is displayed in MST (add one hour for daylight savings time)

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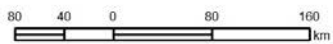
Precipitation Received During the Past 4.96-days

May 22, 2013 to May 26, 2013 aprox. 2300 hrs

Precipitation (mm)

	< 1		50 - 60
	1 - 5		60 - 70
	5 - 10		70 - 80
	10 - 20		80 - 90
	20 - 30		90 - 100
	30 - 40		> 100
	40 - 50		No Data

Near-real-time data was collected from Federal and Provincial meteorological networks in partnership with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Agriculture, Alberta Environment and Environment Canada. Data has passed preliminary quality control by Alberta Agriculture and is subject to change under further review. Live station data can be viewed at www.agric.gov.ab.ca/lacs



Government of Alberta
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