

Alberta Crop Report



Crop Conditions as of June 2, 2020

Precipitation in the last week both helped and hindered Alberta producers. In areas where seeding is complete moisture is helping with development of the crops. Meanwhile in areas that have faced challenges seeding this year's crop, rain has caused further delay. Generally, all areas would benefit from some warmer weather. Provincial seeding of the 2020 crop is at 93 per cent, up 14 per cent from last week. This is slightly behind the five-year average of 94 per cent. The South, Central and the Northeastern regions are all but finished seeding with the major crops all nearing 100 per cent of the acres in the ground. The northern parts of the province are still facing seeding challenges. The Northwest is 88 per cent complete, six per cent behind the five-year average, while the Peace is 72 per cent complete, 18 per cent behind the five-year average.

Table 1: Alberta Seeding Progress as of June 2, 2020

	% Seeded					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	99.9%	99.5%	98.4%	96.2%	65.8%	94.7%
Durum Wheat	99.9%	98.8%	---	---	---	99.8%
Barley	99.6%	97.6%	83.8%	63.7%	60.1%	89.4%
Oats	99.7%	95.5%	81.1%	59.0%	61.6%	75.7%
Canola	99.0%	99.9%	93.4%	90.9%	70.4%	91.1%
Dry Peas	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Mustard	100%	100%	---	---	---	100%
Flax	97.8%	100%	100%	---	---	98.4%
Potatoes	100%	100%	---	100%	---	100%
Dry Beans	95.0%	---	---	---	---	95.0%
Chickpeas	100%	100%	---	---	---	100%
Lentils	100%	100%	---	---	---	100%
Mixed Grain	95.0%	96.9%	---	---	---	96.9%
Average	99.4%	99.2%	94.2%	87.8%	71.9%	93.3%
Last Year	99.7%	99.6%	99.6%	99.5%	99.8%	99.6%
5-year Average	98.5%	96.2%	90.5%	93.7%	89.7%	94.4%
May 30, 2017	98.2%	88.8%	65.4%	67.5%	56.6%	79.0%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

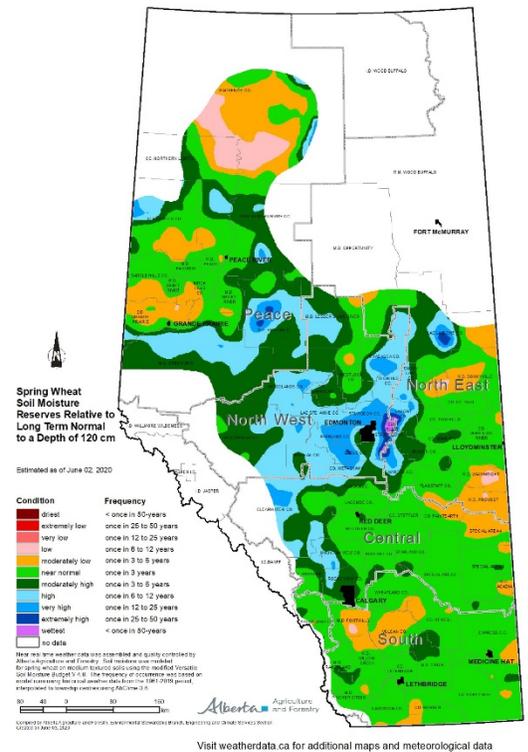
Across the province, tame hay growth rated as good or excellent is at 84 per cent compared to the five-year average of 54 per cent. Pasture growth is at 83 per cent good or excellent compared to the province's five-year average of 54 per cent. Even with forage crops currently in very good shape, they would benefit from some warmer days.

Table 2: Surface Moisture Rating as of June 2, 2020

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	0.7%	21.5%	58.5%	18.6%	0.7%
Central	1.5%	8.2%	54.9%	34.4%	1.0%
North East	---	2.4%	59.7%	33.8%	4.1%
North West	---	---	18.8%	60.6%	20.6%
Peace	---	2.1%	27.1%	67.6%	3.2%
Average	0.6%	9.9%	50.0%	35.6%	3.9%
Last Year	22.8%	28.6%	43.5%	4.6%	0.5%
5-year Average	15.7%	24.4%	37.1%	18.9%	3.9%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Surface soil moisture is very good throughout the province with 86 per cent rating good or excellent. Regionally, the Peace, North East and Central areas are all rated around 90 per cent good or excellent while the South and North West areas are nearing 80 per cent good or excellent ratings. There are concerns of excessive moisture particularly in the North West where 21 per cent is rated as having excessive moisture. A late spring snow melt and ample moisture during the growing season has resulted in near or above average soil moisture reserves across the majority of the province's growing areas (see map). Excess moisture has left the Southern Peace, North West and west-half of the Central Regions with above average soil moisture reserves, estimated to be above one in six-year highs.



Regional Assessments:

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

- Heavy rains and strong winds in some areas have caused some crop damage resulting in some reseeded. Crop growth would benefit from some warm weather.
- Spring seeded cereals are approaching early tillering stage of the Zadocs growth scale, fall seeded cereals are in late stem elongation stage, close to 80 per cent of dry peas are at least at the one to three node stage, while over half of the seeded canola has now reached one to three leaf stage.
- Pests are becoming more prevalent, and some areas have reported moderate infestations of flea beetles and gophers.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as 15 (14) per cent fair, 73 (70) per cent good, and 13 (16) per cent excellent.

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

- Rain occurred throughout most of the region this week with some areas receiving in excess of two inches. The precipitation is welcome but has slowed seeding or resulted in a few reseeded crops. Dry warm days are needed to help with seeding and crop emergence.
- Spring seeded cereals are in the early seedling stage of the Zadocs growth scale, fall seeded cereals have just entered the stem elongation stage, less than half of the dry peas have reached the one to three node stage, while less than a third of the seeded canola has reached the one to three leaf stage.

- Pests are becoming more prevalent, with some areas reporting moderate infestations of flea beetles, grasshoppers, and gophers.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as 18 (14) per cent fair, 71 (75) per cent good, and 11 (11) per cent excellent.

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

- Most of the region received precipitation this week with reports of up to three and a half inches in some areas. Several warm days are needed to allow the ground to dry so seeding can resume. Some unseeded acres are expected.
- Spring seeded cereals are in the early seedling stage of the Zadocs growth scale, fall seeded cereals are in the boot stage, over half of the dry peas have reached the one to three node stage, while about six per cent of the seeded canola has now reached one to three leaf stage.
- Pests are becoming more prevalent, and some areas have reported moderate infestations of gophers.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as 19 (14) per cent fair, 72 (73) per cent good, and 10 (12) per cent excellent.
- The remaining spring harvest of 2019 overwintered crop is at standstill due to moisture this week. Spring thrashed grain samples report the presence of excreta.

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

- Heavy rains, up to three and a half inches, were reported over the weekend bringing seeding to a halt in affected areas. Unseeded acreage is likely in areas.
- Spring seeded cereals are approaching early seedling stage of the Zadocs growth scale, one quarter of dry peas are in the one to three node stage, while almost all of the seeded canola has just emerged.
- Pests are becoming more prevalent, with some areas reporting moderate infestations of gophers.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as 18 (22) per cent fair, 27 (26) per cent good, and 55 (53) excellent.

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

- Showers occurred this week throughout the region resulting in some minor seeding delays but not enough precipitation to completely shutdown seeding.
- Spring seeded cereals are in the late germination stage of the Zadocs growth scale, almost all of the seeded dry peas and canola have just emerged.
- Pasture conditions (tame hay shown in brackets) are rated as three (three) per cent poor, 12 (12) per cent fair, 75 (75) per cent good, and 10 (10) excellent.

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