



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW No. 16

REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

9:30 AM

Council Chambers
Administration Building

-
- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|--|---|
| #1 | CALL TO ORDER | | |
| #2 | ADOPTION OF AGENDA | | |
| #3 | MINUTES | 3.1 Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting minutes held Wednesday, April 29, 2020 to be adopted. | 3 |
| | | 3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes | |
| #4 | DELEGATION | | |
| #5 | BUSINESS | 5.1 Managers' Report | 7 |
| #6 | MEMBERS BUSINESS & REPORTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chairman Warren Wohlgemuth• Vice-Chairman Stephen Lewis• Reeve Dale Smith• Councillor Bill Smith• Member Richard Brochu• Member Larry Smith• Member Mark Pellerin | |
| #7 | CORRESPONDENCE | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• VSI Quarterly Report• Agriculture Moisture Situation Update – May 4, 2020• Alberta Crop Conditions as of May 5, 2020• Alberta Crop Conditions as of May 12, 2020• AAAP Request for Participation – 2020 Crop Reporting Program• Trudeau Pledges \$252 Million in COVID-19 Aid for Farmers | |
| #8 | ADJOURNMENT | | |

Minutes of a
REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW NO. 16
Greenview Administration Building,
Valleyview, Alberta, on Wednesday, April 29, 2020

1: Chairman Warren Wohlgemuth called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT	A.S.B. Member – Chair	Warren Wohlgemuth
	A.S.B. Member – Vice-Chair	Stephen Lewis
	A.S.B. Member – Reeve	Dale Smith
	A.S.B. Member – Councillor	Bill Smith
	A.S.B. Member	Richard Brochu
	A.S.B. Member	Larry Smith

ATTENDING	Asst. Manager, Agriculture Services	Dave Berry
	Agriculture Supervisor Trainee	Kristin King
	Manager, Marketing & Communications	Stacey Sevilla
	Recording Secretary	Lianne Kruger

ABSENT	Manager, Agriculture Services	Quentin Bochar
	A.S.B. Member	Mark Pellerin

#2: MOTION: 20.04.28. Moved by: REEVE DALE SMITH
AGENDA That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the April 29, 2020 Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda with the following additions;
5.4 Policy Discussion – Rental Equipment
5.5 Fire Area

CARRIED

#3.1 REGULAR AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES MOTION: 20.04.29. Moved by: MEMBER LARRY SMITH
That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the minutes of the Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 as presented.

CARRIED

#3.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES
3.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

The Agriculture Service Board inquired on the letter that the board requested be sent to the Minister of Agriculture regarding Fusarium graminearum. Administration responded that the letter has been sent to Minister Devin Dreesen and cc'd to MLA Todd Loewen and MD Greenview Council.

**#4.0
DELEGATION**

4.0 DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations present.

**DEADSTOCK
DISPOSAL FOR
ACREAGE OWNERS**

MOTION: 20.04.30. Moved by: COUNCILLOR BILL SMITH
That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to research policy on deadstock disposal for acreage owners.

CARRIED

**#5
BUSINESS**

5.0 BUSINESS

**5.1 SMOKY APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATION ASSOCIATION (SARDA)
CONDITIONAL GRANT**

**SARDA
CONDITIONAL
GRANT**

MOTION: 20.04.31. Moved by: REEVE DALE SMITH
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the request from SARDA to utilize the 2020 calendar year grant without requested conditions applied.

CARRIED

5.2 VETERINARY SERVICES INCORPORATED (VSI) – ADDITION OF BEES

**VSI – ADDITION OF
BEES**

MOTION: 20.04.32. Moved by: REEVE DALE SMITH
That the Agricultural Service Board recommend to Council that Policy AG12 Veterinary Services Incorporated include bees as an eligible species.

CARRIED

**VSI CONTRACT
RENEGOTIATION**

MOTION: 20.04.33. Moved by: VICE-CHAIRMAN STEPHEN LEWIS
That the Agricultural Service Board recommend to Council that Administration renegotiate the contract between VSI Services and Greenview to reflect the addition of bees as an eligible species.

CARRIED

Chair Warren Wohlgemuth recessed the meeting at 10:31 a.m.
Chair Warren Wohlgemuth reconvened the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

5.4 AG RENTAL POLICY AG09

**POLICY AG09 –
RENTAL
EQUIPMENT**

MOTION: 20.04.34. Moved by: REEVE DALE SMITH
That Agricultural Service Board receive the information on AG Rental Policy AG09 as presented.

CARRIED

5.5 FIRE PROTECTION AREA

FIRE PROTECTION AREA

MOTION: 20.04.35. Moved by: REEVE DALE SMITH

That the Agricultural Service Board receive the provincial fire ban for information as presented.

CARRIED

MANAGERS REPORT

5.3 MANAGERS' REPORT

MOTION: 20.04.36. Moved by: REEVE DALE SMITH

That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Managers' report as presented.

CARRIED

#6 MEMBERS' BUSINESS & REPORTS

6.0 MEMBERS' BUSINESS & REPORTS

CHAIRMAN WARREN WOHLGEMUTH updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which Include;

- None to report

VICE-CHAIR STEPHEN LEWIS updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which Include;

- None to report

MEMBER RICHARD BROCHU updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which Include;

- None to report

COUNCILLOR BILL SMITH updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which Include;

- None to report

MEMBER LARRY SMITH updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which Include;

- None to report

REEVE DALE SMITH updated the Agriculture Service Board on his recent activities, which Include;

- None to report

MEMBER MARK PELLERIN was unavailable to give his report.

**ASB MEMBERS
REPORTS**

MOTION: 20.04.37. Moved by: MEMBER LARRY SMITH
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the Members reports as information.
CARRIED

**#7
CORRESPONDENCE**

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

**ASB
CORRESPONDENCE**

MOTION: 20.04.38. Moved by: VICE-CHAIRMAN STEPHEN LEWIS
That the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence as presented.
CARRIED

**#8
ADJOURNMENT**

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: 20.04.39. Moved by: REEVE DALE SMITH
That this Agricultural Service Board meeting adjourn at 11:57 p.m.
CARRIED

MANAGER, AGRICULTURE SERVICES

ASB CHAIRMAN

**M.D. of Greenview Agricultural Services
Department Activity Report**

For the Period: April 2020 – May 2020

**ENQUIRIES – Manager, Asst. Manager, Administrative Assistant and Ag. Supervisor
Trainee, Beautification Coordinator**

Weeds	3
Pests	22
Trees	1
Workshops	3
Wetlands	0
Rentals	72
Equipment Purchasing	0
Extension	2
Employment	4
VSI	6
Beautification	6
Miscellaneous	53
TOTAL ENQUIRIES	172

MEETINGS / CONFERENCES / TRAINING

Manager Agriculture Services

Asst. Manager Agriculture Services

- April 28, 2020 – Webinar Deadstock
- May 4, 2020 – Coyote Predation Control 1080
- May 5, 2020 – Grande Cache
- May 6, 2020 – Admin Position Interviews
- May 7, 2020 – Grovedale take WI pickups there and gather spray trucks
- May 11, 2020 – Coyote Predation Control 1080
- May 12, 2020 Policy Review Committee
- May 13, 2020 – ASB/AF GoTo mtng
- May 13, 2020 – Community Services meeting
- May 13, 2020 – Webinar AISC
- May 15, 2020 – Meet with Community Services Gen Mgr
- May 19, 2020 – take new post pounder to Crooked Creek
- May 21, 2020 – Safety Committee mtng
- May 20, 2020 – 21 Seasonal training

Agriculture Supervisor Trainee Agriculture Services

- April 30, 2020 Meeting with Communications Department
- April 30, 2020 AG- Mobile Training - Webinar
- May 1, 2020 PRAAAF Regional Seasonal Training Meeting

- May 7, 2020 Deliver seasonal trucks to Grovedale, pick up spray trucks from Grovedale
- May 8, 2020 Leading Through Turbulent Times – Webinar
- May 8, 2020 PRAAAF Regional Seasonal Training Meeting
- May 13, 2020 ASB/AF Update
- May 13, 2020 Insect Frass – Webinar
- May 14, 2020 AG-Mobile Training – Webinar
- May 20-21, 2020 Grande Cache Weed Inspector Training
- May 22, 2020 Regional Seasonal Training Meeting
- May 25, 2020 Reporting Aquatic Invasive Species – PRAAAF Webinar
- May 26, 2020 Herbicide 101 – PRAAAF Webinar
- May 26, 2020 Legislation – PRAAAF Webinar
- May 28, 2020 Proper PPE – PRAAAF Webinar

GC Beautification Coordinator Agriculture Services

STAFFING

We currently have two Vegetation Management Techs working in Valleyview, 2 Beautification Techs and one Weed Inspector working in Grande Cache. The remaining Agriculture Services Staff is scheduled to start June 1, 2020

RESOURCES, EQUIPMENT, AND FACILITIES

The Agriculture Department started the move to the new building in mid-December, we are approximately 50% moved. There are still two sheds, the chem shed and the last of the supplies to be moved. Vehicles and some of the rental equipment has been moved over to the yard site.

BUDGET

EXTENSION EVENTS

Currently planning a number of events for 2020 and will keep the ASB updated as dates and locations are finalized.

- Canning and Food Preparation, Valleyview – September 6, 2020
- Canning and Food Preparation, Grande Cache – September 9, 2020

SARDA and PCBFA have been conducting a number of Extension events in partnership with Ag Services and Ag Services has been posting the information to our web page, Facebook, and Twitter accounts.

PROGRAMS

➤ **VETERINARY SERVICES INCORPORATED**

Three (3) new card has been issued.

PEST AND NUISANCE CONTROL

To date, 68 wolves have been presented for payment. Total 2020 incentive expenditures: \$20,400.00

YEAR	WOLVES	AMOUNT
2018	90	\$27,000.00
2019	56	\$16,800.00
2020	68	\$20,400.00
Total	214	\$64,200.00

WOLF PREDATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There has been 0 new requests for assistance with verified wolf predation. There has been zero wolves removed.

Problem Wildlife Officer has been requested to come out 0 times and visit some farm/ranch operations, and has provided advice and information to the ratepayers. Have also had discussions with another 0 individual regarding wolves.

COYOTE PREDATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There has been 0 new requests for assistance with verified coyote predation. There has been 0 coyotes removed, and (0) compound 1080 tablets were issued as per the Form 7.

Problem Wildlife Officer has been requested to come out 0 times and visit some farm/ranch operations, and has provided advice and information to the ratepayers. Have also had discussions with another 0 individual regarding coyotes.

OTHER PREDATORS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There have been 0 new requests for assistance with other predator problems (bears). There has been 0 pests removed. Have also had discussions with another 0 individual regarding bears.

OTHER PREDATORS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There have been 0 new requests for assistance with other predator problems (cougars). There has been 0 pests removed. Have also had discussions with another 0 individuals regarding cougars.

OTHER PROBLEM WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There have been 0 new requests for assistance with other problem wildlife species problems (Skunks). There has been 0 pests removed and 0 traps rented. Have also had discussions with another 0 individuals regarding skunks.

There have been 0 new requests for assistance with other problem wildlife species problems (Ravens). There has been 0 pests removed.

There have been 0 new requests for assistance with other problem wildlife species problems (Magpies). There has been 0 pests removed. Traps are available for sale.

WILD BOAR BOUNTY

The wild boar program has ended as of March 2020.

Education Opportunities

N/A

➤ **RENTAL EQUIPMENT**

Rentals is very busy at this time of year dependent on the weather, there have been 54 pieces of Equipment rented for 2020. The Yardman is working on maintenance and repairs.

The updated rental catalogue is close to complete. We have been working closely with our communications department to ensure branding consistency and ensuring all relevant information is available for our ratepayers. Once the catalogue is complete, we will be again working with communications to create a social media campaign to highlight our equipment.

➤ **VEGETATION MANAGEMENT**

ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

The program has sprayed approximately 0 Km (0%) of Greenview roads for 2020. The areas to be sprayed this year are Wards 1, 2, 6 and 7.

The program has sprayed approximately 0 Km of shoulder on Greenview roads for grass control, in a cooperative venture with the Operations Department.

SPOT SPRAYING / ATV / UTV/TRACTOR

The program has sprayed approximately 0 Ha requiring approximately 0 hours of spray time (includes: landfill, transfer station sites, private land spraying, fence line program, Grande Cache Coops/Enterprises. Etc.) for 2020.

BRUSH SPRAYING

The program has sprayed approximately 0 Ha of brush for 2020. Have received new maps from Operations and will continue spraying brush.

HAMLET SPRAYING

The program has sprayed approximately 0 Ha of Parks/Alleyways/Open Spaces for 2020.

PESTICIDE CONTAINER STORAGE

Containers continue to be collected. The recycled jugs will be shredded on a date in August-September

FENCELINE AND PRIVATE LAND SPRAY PROGRAMS

0 agreements have been signed to date for 2020.

SPRAY EXEMPTION AGREEMENTS

116 agreements have been received so far Deadline of April 30, 2020.

BUTTERCUP/BURDOCK INCENTIVE PROGRAM

0 agreements have been signed to date for 2020.

WEED CONTROL

White Zone

#	Re-Inspections	Weeds Present	Personal Contact	Phone Calls	Weed Alerts	Weed Warnings	Notices	Enforce

Greenzone

#	Re-Inspections	Weeds Present	Personal Contact	Phone Calls	Weed Alerts	Weed Warnings	Notices	Enforce

Hamlets

#	Re-Inspections	Weeds Present	Personal Contact	Phone Calls	Weed Alerts	Weed Warnings	Notices	Enforce

Weed/Pest inspection program is being reviewed and protocols are being set to work around the Covid-19 pandemic.

AG Mobile – Complimentary training session have been offered and utilized for the new documentation program. Greenview has a date set (June 4) for training seasonal staff specifically on this program with MuniSight.

We have been working closely with our Communications department to create a media campaign for Grande Cache. This will be branded as the Urban Weed Awareness campaign.

➤ AGRICULTURAL PESTS

Greenview will continue to conduct enhanced monitoring for Clubroot, now that it has been confirmed within the municipal boundaries. An electronic map for 2017, 2018 and 2019 has been created showing the affected parcels. Additionally 50 comprehensive samples were

sent to the lab for testing to confirm the severity of the infestations. One sample from every LSD was also sent to Dr. Strelkov's laboratory to determine the pathotype of the clubroot galls for the 2019 season, and the results are below (also see Schedule A).

Pathotype results:

2017 - 3H

2018 - 3H

2019 – 8A, 8, P3, 3H, 3, P2, 8D, 8, and a new designation (likely 3B). All 13 tested isolates were from pathotypes with no resistance breakdown.

# Inspected	Suspect	Confirmed	Letter to Adjacent Landowners	Phone Calls

SEED CLEANING PLANT

- No Change

GC BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

- Flowers/Trees
 - Flowers have been ordered and should arrive the first week of June.
 - Flower beds are prepped and ready go.
- Mowing
 - Started the mowing program May 21, 2020.
- Vegetation Control
- Miscellaneous
 - Setting up the new shop and equipment maintenance.
 - Cleaned up rocks along the ball diamond fence and along Shand Ave along where the new fiber optic line was installed.
 - Rototilled and mulched at the Tourism Centre
 - Turf repair.
- Christmas Decorations for Hamlet Area
- Snow Removal

WETLANDS/ALUS/WATERSHEDS

Schedule A

On Thu, Apr 30, 2020 at 12:34 PM Victor Manolii <vmanolii@ualberta.ca> wrote:
Hello Quentin and Kristin,

Just to let you know that we finished pathotyping all of the isolates that we received last fall from your Greenview MD, except 2 isolates where gall material was insufficient. Also, recently all the SAS stats, plus 95% standard deviation interval were performed.

Pathotyping results are the following:

1. NW 16-68-20 W5 - (Greenview-1-19) - Pathotype 8A (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 8 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P3 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
2. NE 35-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-2-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
3. NW 35-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-3-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
4. SE 34-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-4-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
5. SE 02-70-22 W5 - (Greenview-5-19) - Pathotype 8D (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 8 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P3 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
6. SW 02-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-6-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
7. SE 03-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-7-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
8. SE 05-73-01 W6 - (Greenview-8-19) - Insufficient gall material
9. SW 35-70-25 W5 - (Greenview-9-19) - Pathotype 8D (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 8 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P3 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
10. SW 04-69-19 W5 - (Greenview-10-19) - Insufficient gall material
11. SE 09-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-11-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
12. NE 15-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-12-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
13. NW 14-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-13-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**
14. NW 35-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-14-19) - Pathotype 3H (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P2 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**

Schedule A

15. SW 22-72-02 W6 - (Greenview-15-19) - Require a new designation! (probably 3B, but not sure yet) (by CCD, Strelkov et al., 2018), Pathotype 3 (by Williams, 1966), Pathotype P3 (by Some et al., 1996) **No resistance breakdown!**

The reference for these 3 pathotype systems are the following: **A.** New CCD set (Canadian Clubroot Differential; Strelkov, S.E., Hwang, S.F., Manolii, V.P., Cao, T., Fredua-Agyeman, R., Harding, M.W., Peng, G., Gossen, B.D., McDonald, M.R., and Feindel, D. 2018. Virulence and pathotype classification of *Plasmodiophora brassicae* populations collected from clubroot resistant canola (*Brassica napus*) in Canada. Can. J. Plant Pathol., 40(2): 284-298; **B.** Williams P.H. 1966. A system for the determination of races of *Plasmodiophora brassicae* that infect cabbage and rutabaga. Phytopathol. 56: 624-626; **C.** Some A., Manzanares M.J., Laurens F., Baron F., Thomas G., Rouxel F. 1996. Variation for virulence of *Brassica napus* L. amongst *Plasmodiophora brassicae* collections from France and derived single-spore isolates. Plant Pathol. 45: 432-439. The good news is that all 13 tested isolates were from pathotypes with no resistance breakdown.

Also, in the near future, we are planning to send you a report as well.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Victor

V.S.I. SERVICES (1980) LTD

A nonprofit organization providing veterinary care in Alberta

BOX 137

FAIRVIEW AB T0H 1L0

PH 780 835 5440

vsiservices16@gmail.com

May 3, 2020

Mrs. Denise Thompson, CAO
Municipal District of Greenview #16
Box 1079
Valleyview, AB
T0H 3N0

Dear Denise

I am sending this letter as a follow up to the first quarter report of VSI expenditures, for your jurisdiction, that was e-mailed to Hazel.Edwards@mdgreenview.ab.ca.

While covid-19 is changing a lot of things, veterinarian livestock services seemed to continue mostly along previous lines. Following is an estimate of your current VSI account status:

	Claims	Payments	Balance
Jan. 1, 2020			\$ 8,901
Payments in 2020		\$ 110,100	\$ 119,001
First Quarter	\$ 21,172		\$ 97,829

Administrative fees and investment income have not been calculated or included for the first three months of 2020.

Overall there is a 6.1% increase in total claims for the first quarter of 2020 compared to 2019. Total costs have increased \$ 8,114 over the same time period. Both are well within projections.

Four (4) of the sixteen (16) VSI jurisdictions had an increase in their first quarter costs. Increases ranged from 23.9 to 180.2 % of 2019 first quarter costs. Decreases in the other eleven (11) jurisdictions ranged from 3.3 % to 60.8 % of 2019 first quarter costs. One county was virtually unchanged

Your 2020 first quarter claims are \$ 2,294 (9.8%) lower than they were in 2019.

If you have any questions or if you detect any errors in the report or in my calculations in this letter please let me know.

Yours sincerely

Rik Vandekerkhove, Manager

cc Hazel Edwards

Agricultural Moisture Situation Update

May 4, 2020

Synopsis

Early this week a large weather system brought significant moisture to a wide swath of the province, with upwards of 20 to 50 mm falling across an area lying between Red Deer and Whitecourt. Within this zone, western portions received a rain/snow mix with some lands receiving upwards of 15 cm of fresh snow. Fortunately, the snow cover will be very short lived as day-time temperatures are climbing into the teens in the wake of this system.

Precipitation over the past 3-days (map 1)

Notably, the northern parts of the Southern Region and much of the Central Region received 5 to 15 mm, which will be helpful for the pastures that have been needing moisture, following a relatively dry spring.

Most of the North West Region received well over 10 mm with the greatest amounts centered near Whitecourt, with the station called little Paddle Headwaters, located about 15 km west of Mayerthorpe, measuring 71.4 mm.

Several areas were missed by this event and this includes the northern parts of the North East Region, along with the south-western and northern portions of Peace Region and most of south-western Alberta.

Soil Moisture Reserves (map 2)

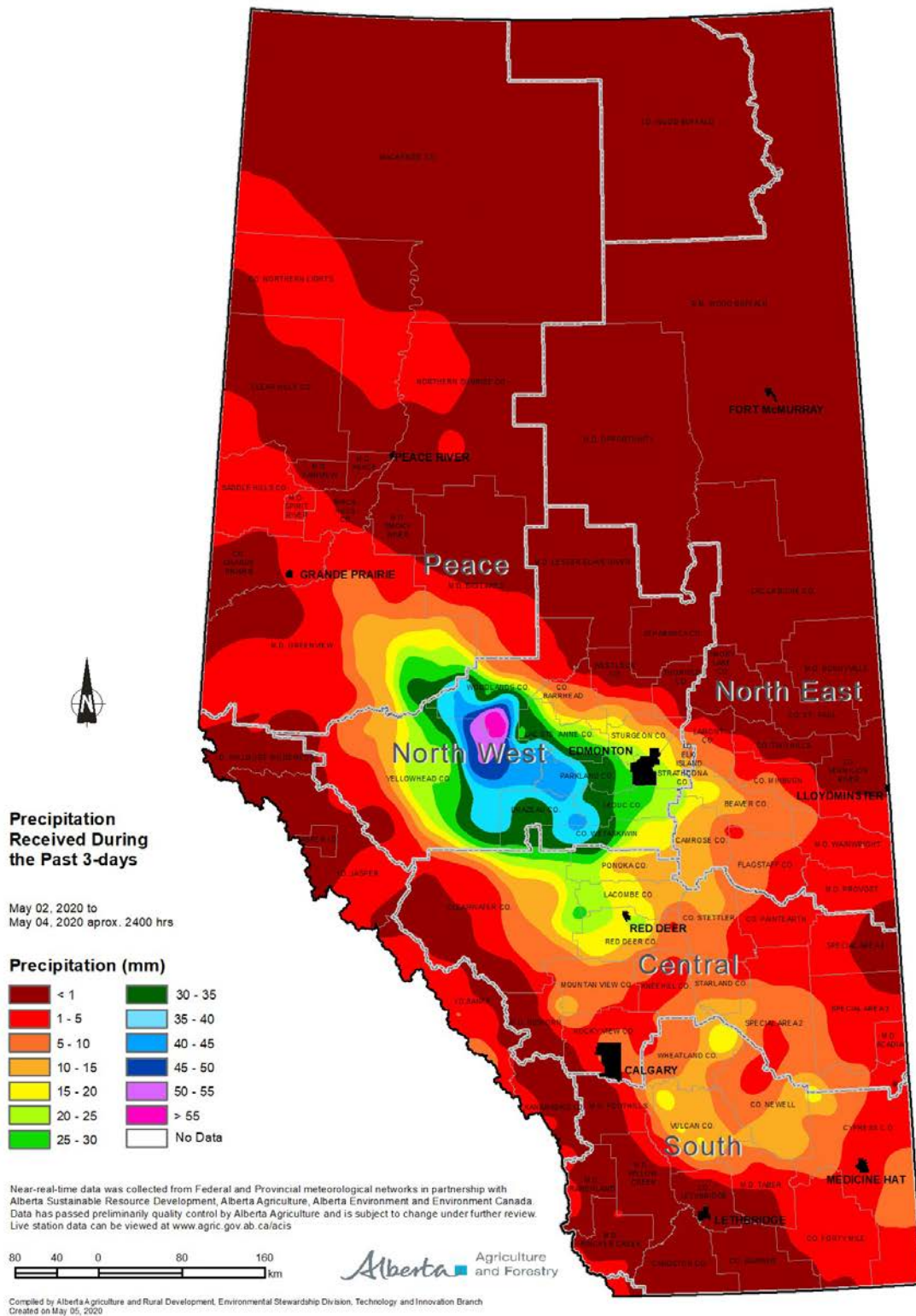
In the wake of this system, soil moisture reserves remain extremely variable across the province, ranging from one in 12 to 25 year lows through small areas in the Central and North East regions, to one in 50-year highs through the Fox Creek/Edson area and also around Hawk Hills in the northern Peace Region.

Perspective

For those areas with low soil moisture reserves, there is still time to receive adequate moisture as May and June mark the beginning of the wet season.

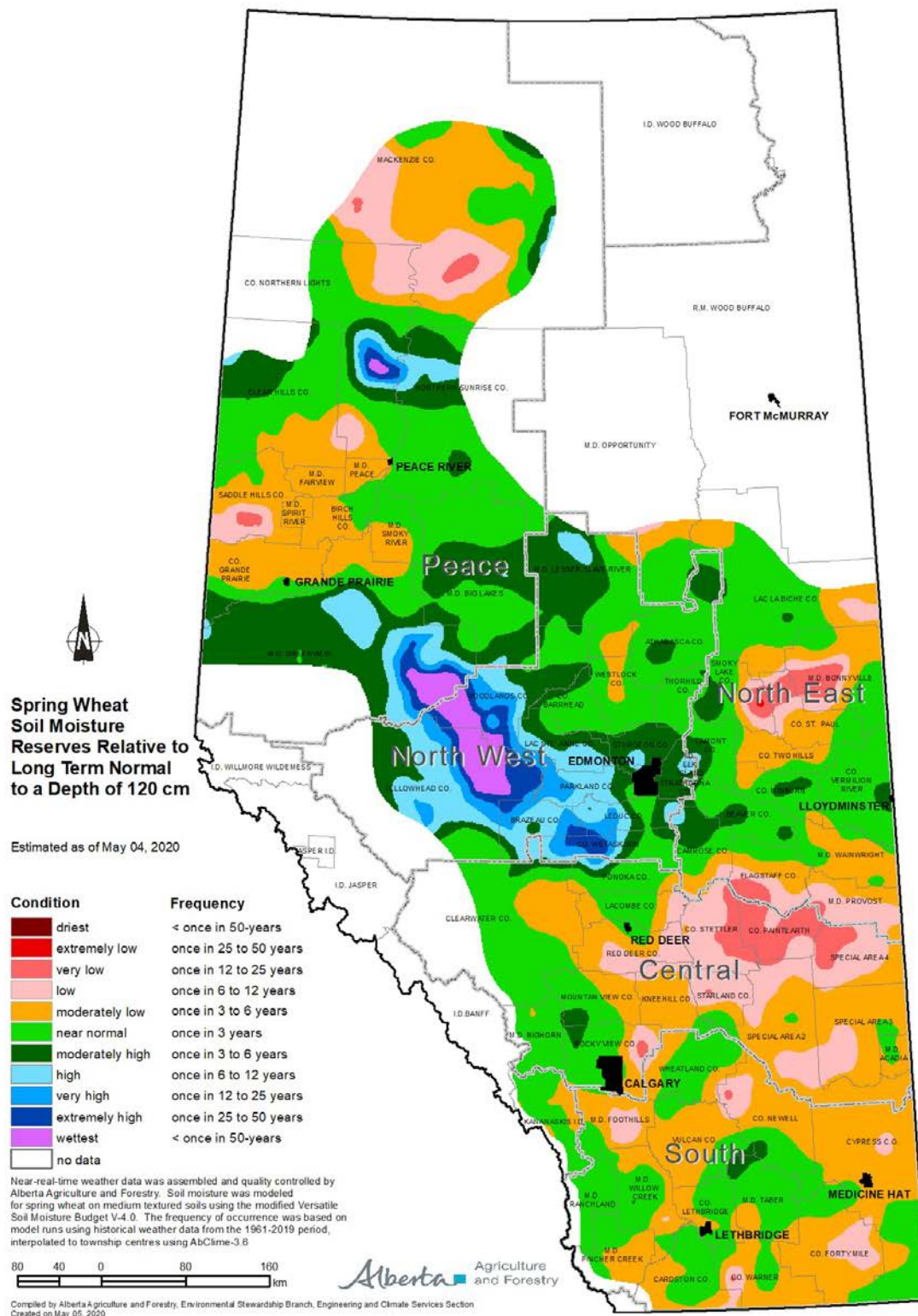
Those areas that have above average soil moisture conditions need dry weather now to speed what has been a slow start to spring farming operations. If seeding completes in a timely fashion these areas will benefit from stored soil moisture in the coming weeks, as long as extremely wet weather does not dominate the growing season.

Map 1



Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

Map 2



Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/moisture-situation-update>

Classification: Protected A

Alberta Crop Report



Crop Conditions as of May 5, 2020

Before the 2020 planting can proceed, many areas of the province have to finish harvesting the 2019 crop. As of the last Crop Report on December 3, 2019, Alberta had 10 per cent of acres left unharvested. The South has mostly wrapped up the 2019 harvest, but as you move north in the province the amount of overwintered crop still out increases (Table 1), with NW and Peace areas furthest behind. The quality of the overwintered production is quite good. Provincially, close to 70 per cent of the spring harvested cereal grains (spring wheat, barley, oats) are coming off as good quality feed. The spring harvested canola is also good quality with 84 per cent coming off as 3 Canada or better.

Table 1: 2019 Unharvested Crops as of May 5, 2020

	% of Overwintered Acres Still In Field					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	0.3%	19.2%	33.5%	67.9%	79.9%	33.9%
Barley	0.6%	12.3%	37.1%	56.7%	82.4%	29.5%
Oats	0.3%	5.1%	36.5%	74.2%	81.2%	56.0%
Mixed Grain	---	1.9%	---	---	---	1.9%
Canola	0.3%	9.6%	23.1%	58.2%	76.0%	35.3%
Flax	1.0%	100.0%	---	---	---	17.1%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Table 2: Alberta Seeding Progress as of May 5, 2020

	% Seeded					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	31.1%	4.2%	1.6%	0.0%	1.0%	9.2%
Durum Wheat	40.3%	8.3%	---	---	---	36.0%
Barley	26.4%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	9.2%
Oats	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%
Canola	11.5%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	2.2%
Dry Peas	42.7%	21.2%	3.1%	0.2%	0.9%	19.9%
Mustard	20.3%	2.0%	---	---	---	14.1%
Flax	13.2%	0.0%	0.0%	---	0.0%	9.6%
Potatoes	59.2%	0.0%	---	0.0%	---	51.5%
Dry Beans	0.0%	---	---	---	---	0.0%
Chickpeas	48.4%	20.0%	---	---	---	47.4%
Lentils	17.2%	15.9%	---	---	---	17.0%
Mixed Grain	15.0%	0.0%	---	---	---	0.3%
Average	28.1%	4.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.6%	9.4%
Last Year	48.2%	6.8%	2.1%	1.1%	2.4%	16.4%
5-year Average	36.8%	11.5%	2.0%	1.4%	3.1%	14.2%
May 2, 2017	19.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.7%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Provincially, seeding is slightly behind schedule with nine per cent of the 2020 crop planted. Progress is being made in the South and Central areas of Alberta: producers in the South have planted 28 per cent of their crop while the Central area has planted four per cent of the acres. As expected, planting is just starting in North East, North West and Peace areas. (Table 2). Fall-seeded crops in Alberta are up and looking good with ratings of 75 per cent good or excellent.

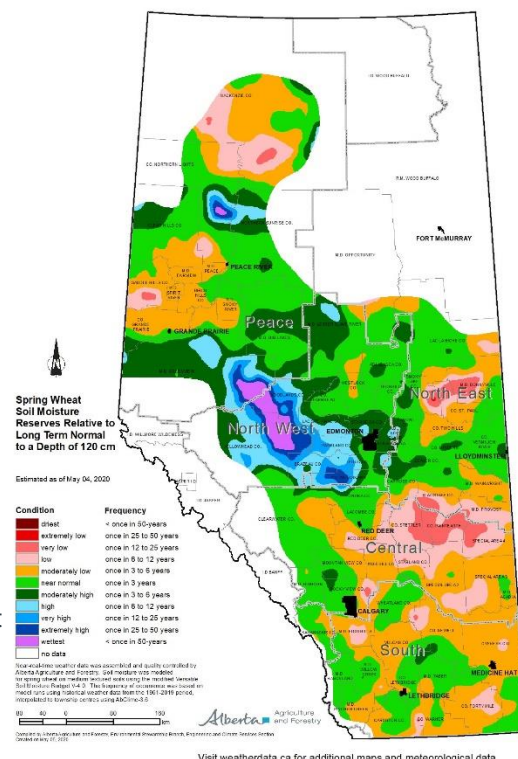
In spite of the cooler spring temperatures, tame hay and pasture growth is close to average this year. Tame hay growth is currently 48 per cent good or excellent as compared to the five-year average of 52 per cent. Pasture growth is 57 per cent good or excellent compared to the historical average of 53 per cent. Forage reserve feedback indicates that approximately 90 per cent of producers have adequate forage to get them through the next few weeks until grazing begins.

Table 3: Surface Moisture Rating as of May 5, 2020

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	3.8%	40.9%	45.9%	9.2%	0.2%
Central	0.5%	14.7%	57.1%	25.8%	1.9%
North East	0.9%	4.8%	31.3%	60.4%	2.6%
North West	---	5.2%	5.2%	75.4%	14.2%
Peace	---	0.3%	21.6%	67.6%	10.5%
Average	1.5%	18.7%	38.8%	37.2%	3.8%
5-year Average	5.9%	20.8%	42.8%	22.7%	7.8%
May 2, 2017	0.4%	6.6%	25.8%	44.4%	22.8%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Observers estimate 76 per cent of the province as having good or excellent surface soil moisture (See Table 3). Excessive moisture is a major issue across much of the North West area of the province, as well as parts of the Peace area (see Map), which experienced the bulk of the wet conditions last fall. A significant period of dry, warm weather is needed to allow soils to dry sufficiently to support the weight of harvesting and seeding equipment. Conversely, the areas shaded in pink display moisture levels ranging from six-to-12 and 12-to-25 year lows.



Regional Assessments:

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

- Seeding progress is currently at 28 per cent complete for all crops, with sugar beets leading at 78 per cent and corn with almost 17 per cent of intended acres now seeded. Approximately four percent of seeded acres have emerged.
- Fall-seeded crops are looking good with an estimated 79 per cent rated good or excellent.
- Surface soil moisture is rated at 55 per cent good or excellent.
- Spring hay growth is currently 74 per cent good or excellent, while pasture is 76 per cent good or excellent.
- As of December 3, 2019, approximately two per cent of acres were left unharvested which are mostly in the bin now.
- Spring thrashed quality is 3 Can or better for 87 per cent of canola; cereals range from 64 to 84 per cent good feed.
- Estimated forage and feed grain reserves are over 80 per cent adequate, with up to nine per cent in surplus.

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

- Seeding progress is currently at four per cent complete for all crops, with negligible acres emerged at this early date.
- Fall-seeded crops are looking good with an estimated 71 per cent rated good.
- Surface soil moisture is rated at 85 per cent good or better.
- Both spring hay and pasture growth is currently 61 per cent good or excellent.

- As of the last crop report, December 3, 2019, approximately seven per cent of acres were left unharvested. Of that 7 per cent, approximately 10 per cent canola, 12 per cent barley and 19 per cent spring wheat are left to harvest. The majority of mixed grain and oat acres were put to another use such as baling.
- Spring thrashed quality is 3 Can or better for 84 per cent of canola; cereals range from 51 to 85 per cent good feed.
- It is estimated that both forage and feed grain reserves are 87 per cent adequate with up to nine per cent in surplus.

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

- Seeding progress is currently one per cent complete for all crops compared to the five-year average of two per cent.
- Fall seeded crops are looking good, with an estimated 74 per cent rated good.
- Surface soil moisture is rated at 94 per cent good or better.
- Spring hay growth is currently 56 per cent good or excellent, while tame pasture is rated 48 per cent good or better.
- As of the last crop report, December 3, 2019, approximately 13 per cent of acres were left unharvested. Of that 13 per cent, approximately 23 per cent of canola, 37 per cent of oats and barley, and 34 per cent spring wheat is left to harvest.
- Spring thrashed quality is 3 Can or better for 86 per cent of canola; cereals range from 71 to 80 per cent good feed.
- Estimated forage (feed grain in brackets) reserves are 78 (79) per cent adequate with up to 17 per cent in surplus.

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

- Seeding progress is currently zero per cent complete for all crops compared to the five-year average of one per cent.
- Surface soil moisture is rated 81 per cent good or excellent, with 14 per cent as excessive.
- Perennials have a slow start, with spring hay growth (tame pasture in brackets) rated 20 (13) per cent good.
- As of the last crop report December 3, 2019, approximately seven per cent of acres were left unharvested. Of that seven per cent, approximately 58 per cent of canola, 74 per cent of oats, 57 per cent of barley and 68 per cent spring wheat is left to harvest.
- Spring thrashed quality is 3 Can or better for 84 per cent of canola; cereals range from 55 to 70 per cent good feed.
- Estimated forage (feed grain in brackets) reserves are 65 (82) per cent adequate with up to 25 (17) per cent surplus.

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

- Seeding progress is currently one per cent complete for all crops compared to the five-year average of three per cent.
- Surface soil moisture is rated at 89 per cent good or excellent, with 11 per cent as excessive.
- Perennials have a slow start with spring hay growth (tame pasture in brackets) rated 21 (23) per cent good or better.
- As of the last crop report, December 3, 2019, approximately 32 per cent of acres were left unharvested. Of that 32 per cent, approximately 76 per cent of canola, 81 per cent of oats, 82 per cent of barley and 80 per cent spring wheat were left to harvest.
- Spring thrashed quality is 3 Can or better for 79 per cent of canola; cereals range 76 to 80 per cent good feed.
- Estimated forage (feed grain in brackets) reserves are 76 (61) per cent adequate with up to 12 (30) per cent surplus.

Contacts

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May 8, 2020

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Alberta Crop Report



Crop Conditions as of May 12, 2020 (Abbreviated Report)

A week of variable weather was experienced across Alberta, which supported soil drying in some areas and added more moisture in others. Field operations are still impacted in many areas of the North East, North West and Peace regions due to waterlogged soil conditions. Of the acres left unharvested in fall of 2019, 14 per cent of spring wheat acres, 12 per cent of barley, 29 per cent of oats and 16 per cent of the canola acres remain in the field (see Table 1). In areas where the spring harvest nears completion, producers have been able to make considerable seeding progress. Almost half of the acres are now seeded in the South and a quarter of the acres in the Central area (see Table 2). The North East and Peace are approaching 10 per cent of the crop in the ground. Parts of the North West area reported some snow and rain during the week that has hampered the 2019 harvest, as well as the 2020 plantings, which are currently estimated as three per cent done. If we compare this spring to 2017, all areas are ahead of where they were that year, with provincial seeding progress eight points ahead, at an estimated 21 per cent of crop acres in the ground.

Table 1: 2019 Unharvested Crops as of May 12, 2020

	% of Overwintered Acres Still In Field					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	0.1%	7.7%	8.0%	52.1%	25.3%	13.9%
Barley	0.0%	3.5%	9.4%	44.0%	23.6%	12.2%
Oats	---	0.0%	10.5%	59.0%	25.8%	29.0%
Canola	0.0%	1.1%	4.2%	49.1%	28.9%	15.5%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

Table 2: Alberta Seeding Progress as of May 12, 2020

	% Seeded					
	South	Central	N East	N West	Peace	Alberta
Spring Wheat	52.0%	34.9%	13.0%	5.4%	7.2%	26.0%
Barley	45.5%	21.5%	0.4%	2.1%	2.1%	21.7%
Oats	40.5%	15.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	6.6%
Canola	27.9%	9.1%	3.0%	1.4%	7.5%	9.2%
Dry Peas	73.6%	59.3%	34.0%	7.2%	9.9%	45.9%
Average	47.1%	25.0%	8.5%	3.2%	7.2%	20.7%
Last Week	28.1%	4.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.6%	9.4%
Last Year	66.7%	39.8%	32.0%	38.9%	28.8%	42.4%
5-year Average	56.2%	33.0%	20.3%	19.9%	16.8%	31.5%
May 9, 2017	39.6%	10.2%	2.1%	0.2%	0.9%	12.8%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

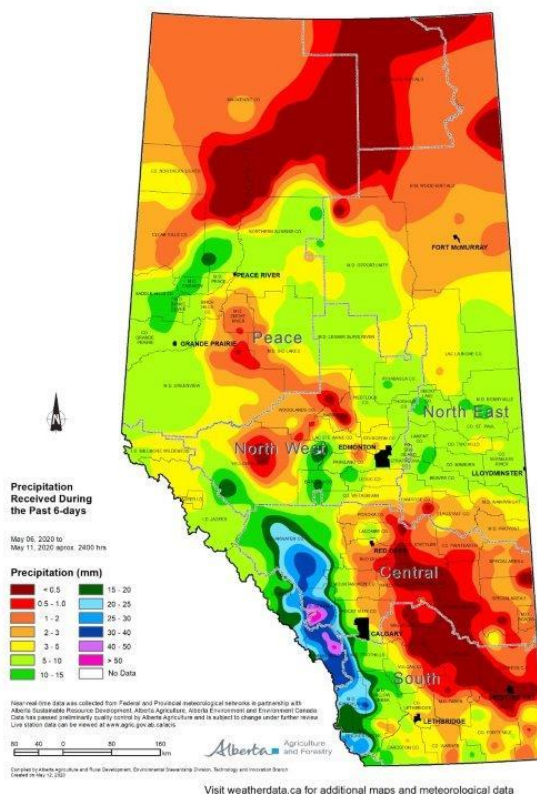
Surface soil moisture ratings are mostly unchanged in all areas of the province compared to last week, with the North West still reporting over 14 per cent of the acres having excessive moisture (see Table 3). Warm dry weather is needed to allow the soils to dry and support the weight of harvesting and seeding equipment. Observers estimate 77 per cent of the province as having good or excellent surface soil moisture, which will support germination and provide crops with an excellent start to the growing year.

Table 3: Surface Moisture Rating as of May 12, 2020

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Excessive
South	3.9%	35.8%	50.9%	9.2%	0.2%
Central	1.5%	16.6%	56.4%	24.5%	1.0%
North East	---	4.8%	32.0%	60.6%	2.6%
North West	---	4.7%	8.1%	72.7%	14.5%
Peace	0.2%	2.9%	24.3%	64.6%	8.0%
Average	1.7%	17.7%	41.0%	36.3%	3.3%
5-year Average	8.4%	25.6%	39.5%	20.8%	5.7%
May 9, 2017	0.7%	11.5%	25.0%	44.5%	18.3%

Source: AF/AFSC Crop Reporting Survey

All areas reported cool temperatures through the week, resulting in delayed emergence of the 2020 crop. The pasture and hay fields are starting to show reasonable growth but would benefit from warmer temperatures. Precipitation over the six days leading up to this survey period tells a varied tale across Alberta (see Map). The foothills received in excess of 20 mm (blue and purple shaded areas) while over half the province received six mm or less (yellow to red areas).



Regional Assessments:

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

- The last week has seen fairly dry weather across much of the region, with some scattered showers in the western area. Cool nights are not supportive of ideal growing conditions, and have slowed crop emergence.
- Seeding has progressed 21 points over last week with an estimated 47 per cent of acres now in the ground, compared to the five-year average of 56 per cent. Reports predict that seeding will be finished in this area by last week of May. Sugar Beets are now 98 per cent planted with potatoes following closely behind at 85 per cent in the ground. Dry Beans planting operations will be underway within the week.
- Surface soil moisture ratings remain in respectable shape with 60 per cent rated good or excellent.

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

- The last week has seen warmer, drier weather allowing the standing water to dry up and producers to get in the field.
- Seeding has progressed 21 points over last week with an estimated 25 per cent of acres now in the ground compared to the five-year average of 33 per cent. Reports predict that seeding in this area will be finished by end of May.
- Surface soil moisture ratings remain in great shape with 81 per cent rated good or excellent.
- Decent progress is being made on the unharvested acres, with less than one per cent of 2019 acres remaining in the field. Of the unharvested acres, an estimated one per cent canola, eight per cent spring wheat and four per cent barley acres remain in the field, in contrast with last week's stats of 10 per cent, 19 per cent and 12 per cent respectively.

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

- Reports indicate that the counties of Lamont and Smoky Lake, and parts of Lac La Biche, had snow and rain last week while Two Hills and Minburn have quite a bit of standing water in the low spots hampering field activity.
- Seeding is now underway with an estimated nine per cent of acres in the ground compared to the five-year average of 20 per cent. Reports predict that seeding in this area will be finished by June 6.

- Surface soil moisture ratings of excessive remain unchanged from last week at three per cent.
- Substantial progress is being made on the unharvested acres, with one per cent of 2019 acres remaining in the field. Of the unharvested acres, an estimated four per cent canola, eight per cent spring wheat, 11 per cent oats and nine per cent barley acres remain in the field, in contrast with last week's stats of 23 per cent, 34 per cent, 37 per cent and 37 per cent respectively.

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

- Much of this area remains too wet to achieve any considerable seeding or harvesting progress. Last week brought snow to many counties in the western portion of the region, with rain scattered throughout the area.
- Seeding is underway with an estimated three per cent of acres in the ground compared to the five-year average of 20 per cent. Reports predict that seeding in this area will be finished by late May or the first week of June.
- Surface soil moisture ratings of excessive remain unchanged from last week at just over 14 per cent.
- Moderate progress is being made on the unharvested acres, with less than four per cent of 2019 acres remaining in the field. Of the unharvested acres, an estimated 49 per cent canola, 52 per cent spring wheat, 59 per cent oats and 44 per cent barley acres remain in the field, in contrast with last week's stats of 58 per cent, 68 per cent, 74 per cent and 57 per cent respectively. Recent snow may result in some acres now being unrecoverable.

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

- The last week has seen warmer, drier weather allowing the standing water to dry up and producers to get in the field.
- Seeding has progressed six points with an estimated seven per cent of acres now in the ground compared to the five-year average of 17 per cent. Reports predict that seeding in this area will be finished within the first few days of June.
- Surface soil moisture ratings of excessive has declined from 11 per cent last week to eight per cent this week.
- Significant progress is being made on the unharvested acres with 10 per cent of 2019 acres remaining in the field. Of the unharvested acres, an estimated 29 per cent canola, 25 per cent spring wheat, 26 per cent oats and 24 per cent barley acres remain in the field, in contrast with last week's stats of 76 per cent, 80 per cent, 81 per cent and 82 per cent respectively.

Contacts

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May 15, 2020

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From: Melodie Mynzak [<mailto:Melodie.Mynzak@gov.ab.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 5:08 PM
To: Melodie Mynzak <Melodie.Mynzak@gov.ab.ca>
Cc: Ashan Shooshtarian <Ashan.Shooshtarian@gov.ab.ca>; Reynold Jaipaul <Reynold.Jaipaul@gov.ab.ca>; Roy Larsen <Roy.Larsen@gov.ab.ca>
Subject: Request for Participation - 2020 Crop Reporting Program

This email has been sent as a bcc to all Agricultural Fieldmen and Assistant Agricultural Fieldmen

We would like to thank those of you who participated in the Alberta Crop Reporting Program last year. Your time and valuable information made the program a success and was much appreciated.

This year, the 2020 Crop Reporting Program is once again requesting your assistance to collect the survey data. It would be appreciated if you can spend some time each month (in our estimation about 30 minutes), to fill out a short questionnaire. As prior, the questionnaire can be completed electronically through our on-line web based system. Attached for your convenience and reference is the 2020 Crop Reporting Calendar.

As the first AAAF survey is scheduled shortly, we ask that you contact us if you are NOT able to participate this year. We will send to each AAAF respondent a link to the next survey, this Friday afternoon (May 15). If you are able to participate but have changes to who will be completing the surveys, please let us know the survey respondent and email address, and we will make this change.

If you participated in 2019, you will be receiving shortly a hard copy of the Agriculture Statistics Yearbook, to thank you for your participation.

Thank you again for the partnership, and we look forward to your continued support.

Best regards,

Ashan Shooshtarian

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2020 Alberta Crop Reporting Calendar - Agriculture & Forestry (AF) and AAFF				
Survey Number	Questionnaires Available to Participants <u>BY 1:00 PM</u>	Reminder Sent to Participants <u>BY 8:15 AM</u>	Survey Date Complete Questionnaires & Return to AF <u>BY 12:00 NOON</u>	AF/AFSC Crop Report Public Release <u>BY 1:00 PM</u>
AF 2	Fri, MAY 15	Tue, MAY 19	Tue, MAY 19 (3:30)	Fri, MAY 22 (A)
AF 4	Fri, JUN 12	Tue, JUN 16	Tue, JUN 16	Fri, JUN 19 (A)
AF 6	Fri, JUL 10	Tue, JUL 14	Tue, JUL 14	Fri, JUL 17 (A)
AF 8	Fri, AUG 7	Tue, AUG 11	Tue, AUG 11	Fri, AUG 14 (A)
AF 10	Fri, SEP 4	Tue, SEP 8	Tue, SEP 8 (3:30)	Fri, SEP 11 (A)
AF 12	Fri, OCT 2	Tue, OCT 6	Tue, OCT 6	Fri, OCT 9 (A)
AF 14 ^{xx}	Fri, OCT 30	Tue, NOV 3	Tue, NOV 3	Fri, NOV 6 (A)

^{xx} if required

A) Report by Ashan Shooshtarian, AF

Stat holiday on Mon of that week

Trudeau pledges \$252 million in COVID-19 aid for farmers, processors

Dairy commission's credit line extended for storage program

By [Kelsey Johnson](#)

Reading Time: 2 minutes

Published: May 5, 2020



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks at Rideau Cottage in Ottawa in this April 24, 2020 file photo. (Photo: Reuters/Blair Gable)

Ottawa / Reuters — Canada will invest \$252 million to help some of the country's farming and food processing sectors weather the coronavirus outbreak, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Tuesday, adding more money could come later if needed.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture, one of Canada's biggest farm groups, [asked Ottawa last week](#) for an initial \$2.6 billion in emergency funding to help the farming and food sector cover losses and additional costs caused by the pandemic.

Agriculture is considered an essential industry in Canada, where officials have shut non-essential businesses and have urged people to stay at home since mid-March.

The prime minister has repeatedly said Ottawa is focused on maintaining Canada's food supply chain.

"This is an initial investment and if we need to add more, we will," Trudeau said.

Canada's total coronavirus death toll edged up by less than four per cent to 3,915 on Tuesday from 3,766 on Monday, according to official data, in a sign the outbreak has peaked. Only once in the last 16 days has the toll jumped by more than 10 per cent in a day and medical officials say the curve is clearly flattening.

Several food processing plants, primarily in the meat industry, have had to temporarily shut down or cut shifts after workers became infected with COVID-19, the illness caused by the novel coronavirus.

Trudeau said beef and pork producers, who have been forced to keep livestock on farms longer because of processing shutdowns, will receive \$125 million in AgriRecovery funding, a disaster relief program traditionally cost-shared between Ottawa and Canada's 13 provinces and territories.

That funding is expected to go toward programs "to manage livestock backed up on farms, due to the temporary closure of food processing plants." Such programs would include a cattle set-aside, as recently proposed by the Canadian Cattlemen's Association and the federal opposition Conservatives.

Another \$77 million will help food processors buy personal protective equipment for workers, adapt to new health protocols, and increase domestic processing capacity.

Ottawa will also launch a \$50 million food surplus purchase program to buy large quantities of certain items such as potatoes and poultry, where overall demand has fallen dramatically because of restaurant and bar closures. The food will then be redistributed to organizations focused on food insecurity.

Trudeau also announced a \$200 million extension to the Canadian Dairy Commission's line of credit in support of programs to purchase and store surplus dairy products such as cheese and butter, in order to avoid dumping milk.

To boost the CDC's borrowing limit, the government "will work with opposition parties to achieve the required legislative change," Trudeau's office said in a release later Tuesday.

Trudeau's office also said Tuesday it will work with the provinces and territories to increase the allowable interim payments available through AgriStability to 75 per cent of a producer's estimated final payment, from the current 50 per cent. Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island have already done so for the 2020 program year.

The PMO also said it would work with the provinces and territories "to explore possibilities for expanding the AgriInsurance program to include labour shortages as an eligible risk for the horticulture sector."

— Reporting for Reuters by Kelsey Johnson; additional reporting by David Ljunggren. Includes files from Glacier FarmMedia Network staff.