

REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS:

The 2017 Alberta Crop Report Series continues to provide summaries for the following five regions:

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

- Warm, dry, windy weather is placing crops under stress.
- Crop Condition ratings declined 5 percentage points to 83% rated good or excellent. 5 year average is 76% g/e.
- Crop development of spring cereals range from early boot to mid heading, averaging flag leaf. Winter cereals range from early pollination to pollination completed, averaging late pollination.
- Canola averages 67% in rosette stage & 25% flowering. Field peas are 65% in 7-12 nodes & <1% flowering.
- Surface soil moisture ratings dropped to 66% good/excellent with all the change (-19%) moving to the fair category.
- 1st cut dryland haying 39% complete; 1st cut irrigated haying 57% complete.

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

- Warm, dry, windy weather with spotty light showers. Crops handling drier conditions well at this time. Will need precipitation soon to maintain potential.
- Crop Condition ratings declined 8 percentage points to 81% rated good or excellent. 5 year average rating is 69% g/e.
- Crop development of spring cereals range from early stem elongation to early boot stage, averaging late stem elongation. Winter cereal development from mid heading to mid pollination, averaging entering pollination.
- Canola averaging 67% in rosette stage & 12% flowering. Field peas are 81% in 7-12 nodes & 5% flowering.
- Surface soil moisture ratings fell 21 points to 70% rated good or excellent. Excessive moisture rating was unchanged.
- 1st cut dryland haying is 8% completed.

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

- More precipitation fell throughout much of the region.
- Crops are being affected by excessive moisture with water laying in fields and yellowing becoming prominent.
- Crop Condition ratings declined 3 points on the week to 83% rated good or excellent. 5 year average rating is 75% g/e.
- Crop development of spring cereals showing effects of seeding delays. Vary from 5 leaf stage to early stem elongation, averaging late tillering. Winter cereals range from early to late pollination.
- Canola at only 42% in the rosette stage, 3% flowering. Field peas at 72% in 7-12 node stages & 1% flowering.
- Surface soil moisture ratings dropped to 64% rated good or excellent from 67% last week. Excessive moisture rose 1 point to 34% of the region
- 1st cut dryland haying starting with <1% completed.

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

- Wet conditions prevail and worsened by more heavy precipitation this week. Yellowing of crops appearing.
- Crop Condition ratings declined to 60% rated good or excellent from 64%. 5 year average is 75% g/e.
- Crop development of spring cereals at 6 leaf stage to late tillering, averaging early tillering.
- Canola at only 18% in rosette stage, <1% flowering. Field peas with only 38% in 7-12 nodes, <1% flowering.
- Surface soil moisture ratings dropped 1 point to 62% rated good or excellent. Excessive moisture rose 1 point to 38%.
- 1st cut dryland haying underway with <1% completed.

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

- More precipitation this week though overall not excessive.
- Only region to report an improvement to the Crop Condition rating. Rating rose 1 point to 65% rated good/excellent.
- Crop development of spring cereals ranges from early tillering to early stem elongation, averaging late tillering.
- Canola showing only 29% in rosette stage & 5% flowering. Field peas average 30% in 7-12 nodes & 5% flowering.
- Surface soil moisture ratings dropped 3 points to 75% rated good or excellent. Excessive moisture declined 2 percentage points to 6% of the region.
- The harvest of 1st cut dryland hay is yet to begin.

Agriculture Financial Services Corporation
Actuarial, Analytics & Forecasting Unit
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James Wright, Risk Analyst
E-mail: james.wright@afsc.ca
Phone: 403-782-8336

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