Field Crop Report

Ontario

Cereals: Peter Johnson / Scott Banks

Winter Wheat harvest provincially is now about 95% completed; harvest in shorter season areas is about 75% completed. Provincially, yields are close to average and generally better than expected. Quality is good for the most part with low fusarium levels. Straw yields are lower than expected, resulting in high demand and higher prices.

Timely planting of winter wheat will be a challenge in some areas, but seeding wheat after edible bean, cannery pea, spring barley or oat harvest provides an opportunity for early planting. Where wheat is planted more than 10 days prior to the optimum date, seeding rate should be decreased by 25 percent. Using lower seeding rates in this situation reduces risk of lodging, snow mould and increases yield potential. Wheat planted after a later than normal soybean harvest will require seeding rates to be increased to 1.8 to 2.0 million seeds per acre.

For the 2014 Winter Wheat Variety Performance Report, go to: http://gocereals.ca/

Spring cereals: Harvest has made good progress in the past week after being delayed in most areas. Yields have been average to slightly above average for most spring cereals. Lodging is an issue in some fields. Fusarium in spring wheat continues to be a concern. Keep combine wind speeds high to clean as many damaged kernels out of the sample as possible. High wind speeds can reduce toxin levels by as much as 50%.

Edible Beans and Canola: Brian Hall

Spring Canola harvest has started week of August 25 with early reported yields 1-1.25 tonne/ac. To minimize pod shattering losses with direct harvest, do not delay harvest. Field losses from heavy rain, wind or hail can be high, particularly if the crop is not heavy and knits together. Seed moisture can drop rapidly, often by 2-3% throughout the day. Harvesting in early morning or evening when the crop is slightly damp can help reduce harvest shatter losses. Set the combine reel speed to match ground speed and position it as far back as possible so that shattering occurs over the pan. Pre-harvest herbicide can be used to even out crop dry down, but be prepared to harvest when the crop is ready, to prevent increasing shattering losses. In fields with adequate plant population but uneven maturity, the typical time of swathing is 60% seed colour change on the main stem. If the crop is thin, then more yield will come from branches, so time of swathing should be based on whole plant seed colour change rather than just main stem.

Edible Beans are maturing rapidly and harvest of cranberry and other early maturing types will begin this week. Scout later maturing fields of white and black bean fields for anthracnose. Only in late maturing fields during green pod stage is control worthwhile but observe the 30 day preharvest interval with fungicides for anthracnose. Avoid harvesting heavily infected areas of a field, and notify your bean dealer prior to delivery.

Weather conditions have been suitable for common bacterial blight. Blight infection that spreads to pods can result in discolouration of seed. There is no control at time of year. Do not retain seed from infected fields for planting next season. Adzuki beans are being particularly hard hit by a new-to-Ontario blight, know as bacterial brown spot.

When using a preharvest herbicide remember to check with your dealer on approved products. When beans are direct harvested mechanical seed damage increases rapidly when moisture levels are below 16%. During harvest, monitor cracked seed coat damage as seed moisture content can decline quickly throughout the day. Make a dilute solution of household bleach using one part bleach to 5 parts water and soak a bean sample for 5-10 minutes. Blot dry and count the number of damaged seeds. Seeds with damaged seed coats will take up moisture quickly, and will appear swollen or have wrinkled seed coats.

Corn: Greg Stewart

Development of most of the corn crop in Ontario still lags significantly behind normal. Concerns that the crop will black layer continue to exist. Most of the crop is somewhere between the milk stage and dough stage. The end of the dough stage is marked by a few dents appearing on the kernels at the base of the ear. The time requirements from that stage until black layer is generally 30 to 35 days.

Corn with a few dented kernels at the base of the ear marks the end of dough stage

Weather Summary

WIN Weather Innovations Incorporated

Location	Aug 20 – Aug 26 2014	Temperature (°C)		Rainfall	Heat Units	Total Since May 1	
		Max	Min	(mm)	CHU	Rain	CHU
Outdoor Farm Show	2014	26.0	15.4	1.8	176.0	306.5	2341.9
	30 Yr. Avg.	24.2	13.2	17.4	161.5	323.2	2500.0
Windsor	2014	27.3	18.5	15.2	201.9	385.3	2788.9
	30 Yr. Avg.	25.5	14.8	17.2	175.2	293.8	2718.7
Trenton	2014	25.5	15.1	4.2	176.9	351.9	2499.0
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.7	12.4	18.5	154.7	296.6	2411.3
Mount Forest	2014	24.7	14.8	6.2	172.0	343.3	2219.5
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.4	12.2	18.5	152.7	323.0	2323.4
London	2014	25.9	16.3	2.6	185.5	318.5	2494.7
	30 Yr. Avg.	24.3	13.4	17.4	163.2	321.0	2526.7
Hamilton	2014	25.3	16.0	10.7	180.2	285.4	2407.7
	30 Yr. Avg.	24.4	13.8	15.8	166.2	302.3	2539.9
Ottawa	2014	25.8	14.8	30.3	175.1	434.6	2528.1
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.8	12.4	22.4	155.2	333.2	2501.2
Elora	2014	25.1	13.9	11.2	168.4	329.4	2196.1
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.9	12.3	17.4	154.9	321.4	2386.6
Peterborough	2014	24.9	14.2	22.5	169.8	377.3	2278.4
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.6	12.3	19.1	153.6	301.3	2375.3

For more information please contact the CropLine at 1-888-449-0937 or visit www.fieldcropnews.com

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