

Field Crop Report



Canola/Edible Beans: Brian Hall

Canola: Harvest is 50% complete in western Ontario, and swathing has started in New Liskeard area. Yields have been highly variable ranging from 0.5-1.3 t/ac. Seed size is very small, but seed quality is good. To estimate seed loss during combining, a loss of 2 seeds per square foot is equal to approximate loss of 1 lb/ac. Average canola harvest losses are 50 – 100 lb/ac. If storing canola for even a short period, aeration is critical to remove field heat and even out moisture variations. Weed seeds and foreign material can cause canola to heat quickly. The high oil content of canola holds onto heat longer than other seeds increasing the time for the seed to cool. It can become rancid easily if not stored correctly. Heat damaged canola is evident by higher brown seed content when seed is crushed upon inspection. Over 2 brown seeds in 1000 (0.2%) can result in downgrading.

Edible Beans: Harvest of cranberry beans is underway with below average yields and small seed size. Maturity of other beans is advancing quickly and white bean harvest is expected to start soon. Anthracnose has not been reported, but scout later maturing white and black beans up to late pod fill stage. Scout fields for feeding damage from bean leaf beetle, tarnished plant bug and stink bug. Plant bugs pierce pods and feed on seeds causing distorted seed and increasing the pick. A treatment may be required when an average of one to two tarnished plant bugs per sweep are found during the pod filling stages. Check pre-harvest interval on any products prior to use.

Cereals: Peter Johnson/Scott Banks

Spring cereal harvest is virtually complete. Yields were average to above average for many parts of the province. Grain protein was low in a significant portion of the spring wheat. There is a trade off in high yielding fields resulting in low grain protein levels, or low grain protein may have been caused by reduced nitrogen availability from dry weather during the grain fill period. Otherwise grain quality was excellent, with good test weights and low fusarium head blight infection.

For growers looking to plant winter wheat this fall, the Winter Wheat Variety Performance Trial Report is now available at: http://www.gocereals.ca/variety_trial.php

Corn: Greg Stewart/Joel Bagg

Recent rainfall has once again increased the risk of nitrate poisoning. Consider the potential for nitrate poisoning, as well as silo gas. Nitrates accumulate in the corn plants when there is a large amount of soil nitrates, and a lack of moisture that interferes with normal plant growth. Nitrate accumulation is often greatest following a rain that ends a dry period. Following rainfall, the conversion of nitrates to plant protein resumes and nitrate levels return to more normal levels in a few days. Wait at least 5 to 7 days following a rainfall ending a dry period before harvesting. Weeds such as lambsquarters and pigweed can also be high nitrate accumulators. Long, sustained dry periods are less likely than brief, intense dry periods to accumulate high nitrate levels.

The bottom third of the stalk contains a much higher level of nitrates. If nitrates are a potential concern, the cutter bar could be raised to leave more of the stalk in the field, but this will also further reduce yields in a year when feed is needed. Harvesting at normal heights for silage, sampling the fermented silage for nitrates, and managing dietary nitrate levels is recommended. More information is available at: <http://bit.ly/omafracornsilage>

Insects: Tom Cowan

Spider mites in Corn and Soybeans: The cooler weather and rainy days should give some relief from spider mite pressure. Many of the insect infecting fungi that attack spider mites need cooler weather with higher humidity to be effective at controlling the mite population. Take a look at the mites on the leaves of the plants. If the mites don't move when they are disturbed then they are dead. Some heavily infested areas of the field may have spider mites that are turning orange. The lack of food in these areas along with the shorter days has triggered a resting state in these mites. They will not be feeding anymore and will start to look for a place to hide.

Western Bean Cutworm: Peak flight for WBC has occurred in most counties in Ontario. Available data indicates that the following counties have seen peak WBC flights:

Counties with peak flights in week 8 July 8 – 14th
Haldimand-Norfolk, Hamilton-Wentworth, Leeds & Grenville

Counties with peak flights in Week 9 July 15 – 21st
Brant, Elgin, Essex Lambton, Niagara, Oxford, Waterloo and York

Counties with peak flights in Week 10 July 22 – 28th
Dufferin, Grey, Huron, Perth, Simcoe and Wellington

Counties with peak flights extending over week 9 and 10
Chatham-Kent, Prince Edward County and Ottawa

Weather Summary



| Location | Aug 8 - Aug 14 2012 | Temperature (°C) | | Rainfall (mm) | Heat Units CHU | Total Since May 1 | |
|--------------|------------------------|------------------|------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
| | | Max | Min | | | Rain | CHU |
| Outdoor | 2012 | 23.6 | 15.4 | 64.7 | 167.2 | 259.4 | 2323.1 |
| Farm Show | 30 Yr. Avg. | 25.5 | 14.3 | 20.5 | 172.4 | 295.2 | 2216.2 |
| Windsor | 2012 | 24.5 | 16.8 | 38.1 | 184.9 | 297 | 2750.9 |
| | 30 Yr. Avg. | 26.7 | 15.9 | 19.7 | 185 | 264.3 | 2413 |
| Trenton | 2012 | 25.2 | 17.3 | 25.4 | 189.2 | 229.2 | 2443.8 |
| | 30 Yr. Avg. | 25.2 | 14.1 | 16.6 | 170.5 | 267.9 | 2136.9 |
| Mount Forest | 2012 | 21.8 | 14.9 | 85.6 | 162.3 | 243.3 | 2229.1 |
| | 30 Yr. Avg. | 24.7 | 13.3 | 20.2 | 163.7 | 291.8 | 2055.1 |
| London | 2012 | 24.5 | 15.7 | 51.4 | 176.6 | 222.6 | 2471.9 |
| | 30 Yr. Avg. | 25.6 | 14.5 | 20.4 | 173.9 | 293.8 | 2240.3 |
| Hamilton | 2012 | 26.2 | 16.5 | 32.5 | 183.1 | 162.7 | 2406.5 |
| | 30 Yr. Avg. | 25.7 | 15.1 | 20.2 | 177.9 | 274.9 | 2247.8 |
| Ottawa | 2012 | 25.1 | 17 | 40.8 | 186.9 | 212.4 | 2420.8 |
| | 30 Yr. Avg. | 25.7 | 14.5 | 17.4 | 174.1 | 302 | 2223.8 |
| Elora | 2012 | 22.7 | 14.8 | 39.4 | 164.2 | 188.2 | 2236.4 |
| | 30 Yr. Avg. | 25.2 | 13.5 | 20.7 | 166.7 | 291.8 | 2113.9 |
| Peterborough | 2012 | 23.8 | 15.5 | 18.6 | 172.7 | 277.1 | 2246.1 |
| | 30 Yr. Avg. | 25 | 13.7 | 15.8 | 167.5 | 270.6 | 2104.6 |

For more information please contact the CropLine at 1-888-449-0937, www.omafra.gov.on.ca/croppest, www.fieldcropnews.com

