

Field Crop Report



Canola/Edible Beans: Brian Hall

Canola growth has improved tremendously with rainfall and warmer temperatures. Many canola stands are uneven in development, making timing of fungicide application difficult. At the optimum stage for spraying (30% bloom) there are about 18-20 open flowers or pods on the main stem. Time between first flower and 30% flower is between 6 to 8 days. For the fungicide to be effective it must be applied as a preventative treatment prior to any signs of white mould growth. Fungicides provide about 10-14 days of protection. High risk factors for infection include good soil moisture in 2 weeks leading up to flowering, dense crop canopy, and wet weather during flowering. Sclerotinia needs two days of wet weather for spores to germinate.

Optimum temperature for sclerotinia growth is 15-20°C. Temperatures over 30°C stop disease development.

Edible beans: The majority of the crop is in cotyledon to second trifoliate stage. Some reports of crop injury from pre-emergent herbicides where abundant rainfall occurred shortly before emergence. Plant populations are good except for where seed was not planted into moisture. Potato leaf hopper adults can be found in low numbers in most fields. Seed treatment with thiamethoxam (i.e. Cruiser) will provide control of moderate leafhopper populations for 4-6 weeks following planting. The leafhopper control threshold is 0.25 leafhoppers/plant at the unifoliate; 0.5 at second trifoliate and one at 4th trifoliate.

Cereals: Peter Johnson

The very dry weather that persisted during pollination and early grain fill across significant portions of southwestern and central Ontario will have significant impact on final yield. Pollination is the most critical time for moisture stress. Recent rains will help, but not recover all lost yield potential. Severe burn has been caused by fusarium fungicides in some fields. Moisture stress, thin cuticles, high UV radiation, high winds and variety are all factors in whether or not burn occurred. High levels of Cereal Leaf Beetle have been found in fields from Sarnia through to Strathroy, some above threshold. These are not typical CLB problem areas, and infestations were not caught in time for control to be of benefit.

Preharvest glyphosate will be beneficial in wheat fields with thin canopies and heavy weed pressure. Apply preharvest glyphosate when the stem just below the head (peduncle) changes from green to yellow. This is an easy visual indicator of crop maturity. At least 80% of the plants should have changed colour before preharvest application.

Early spring wheat fields are heading, and fusarium risk is high in many areas. Check your risk at www.weathercentral.ca. Fusarium fungicides should be applied. Oat fields require a fungicide at flag leaf stage to protect for rust.

Corn: Greg Stewart

Early planted corn (May 5-8) that was planted into good seedbeds is at the 12 leaf stage, V9 or 15 visible leaf tips and has entered the rapid growth phase. Most of the last planted corn is in or around the 5 leaf stage.

Corn has been showing above normal leaf damage from manure or UAN applications that made leaf contact or from herbicide injury. This may be due to thinner leaf cuticles as a result of more cool, cloudy and high humidity conditions than normal.

Side-dressing is completed on the early planted corn while later corn is still receiving N from either side-dress or streamer nozzle applications. A considerable number of fields have areas that appear N deficient; a soil nitrate test may help determine a top-up strategy, but these should be taken before the corn is beyond the 8th leaf stage.

Forages/Pastures: Joel Bagg/Jack Kyle

Forages: First-cut continues while some 2nd cut dairy haylage will start soon. Hay making weather was generally good in early June, but recent storms have rain-damaged some hay. Yields have been quite variable, ranging from good in eastern Ontario to some winter injured areas in western Ontario reporting yields 50-80% of normal. A tonne of mixed hay removes about 14 lbs P₂O₅ and 58 lbs of K₂O, currently equivalent to about 1.5¢ per lb of hay. Without replacement with manure or commercial fertilizer, soil tests will drop quickly within the life of the stand. Research shows there is a yield loss when soil tests drop below 12 ppm P and 120 ppm K in the stand (Don't Lose Hay To Poor Fertility <http://fieldcropnews.com/?p=3760>) Remove large hay bales from the field as quickly as possible to reduce spoilage losses from rain and ground wicking, and before any regrowth to minimize crown damage and yield loss from tractor and wagon traffic. The cost of indoor storage is only a small proportion of the total cost of producing hay, and is recoverable by maintaining forage quality and minimizing losses. Hay storages require good ventilation to enable moisture to dissipate from bales. Monitor hay storages for heating with a hand-held moisture and temperature probe, particularly hay that was baled "tough". Hay bale temperatures 2-3 days after baling are often 10°F (5°C) above what the ambient temperature was at baling. Higher temperatures indicate that there is microbial activity that should be monitored closely. (Silo and Hay Mow Fires <http://bit.ly/omafforage1>)

Pasture moisture levels are variable across the province with localized areas very wet or very dry. Where there is adequate moisture there has been good pasture growth. In some cases excess moisture has left fields very soft, by reducing paddock size and moving cattle frequently you can minimize damage to these fields. If you have some pasture that is mature consider clipping, making hay or grazing with high stock density to knock down these mature plants and stimulate new growth. Now is the time to be planning for late summer and fall pasture needs and taking the necessary steps to insure that you have good late summer and fall pasture available. Nitrogen fertilizer and summer planted annual crops are effective ways to increase late season pasture.

Soybeans: Horst Bohner

Soybean fields vary from the VE (emergence) to the R1 (first flower) growth stage. Thin plant stands are a concern in many areas. Extra care must be taken to keep these fields weed free to allow remaining soybean plants to fill in the canopy. Ideally, fields should be flowering by the first day of summer. Soybean development is 10-14 days late this year. Early planted fields have lost their dark green colour and look pale. Soybeans naturally go through a period when leaves turn light green or even pale yellow. This is the period just before the nodules start to supply adequate nitrogen to the leaves. Once the nodules have established and start providing enough nitrogen, the leaves will turn a dark green colour. No soybean aphids have been reported to date.

Weather Summary		WIN Weather Information Incorporated					
Location	June 18 - 24	Temperature (°C)		Rainfall	Heat Units	Total Since May 1	
	2014	Max	Min	(mm)	CHU	Rain	CHU
Outdoor Farm Show	2014	25.7	14.3	26.3	171.3	139.1	930.8
	30 Yr. Avg.	24.6	13.1	21.5	162.1	150.4	936.7
Windsor	2014	25.6	16.6	85.8	186.2	197.4	1147.9
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.1	14.5	19.5	175.3	136.7	1045.5
Trenton	2014	24.7	12.5	20.2	158.1	219.2	975.2
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.9	12.6	21.0	156.8	144.5	880.9
Mount Forest	2014	23.2	13.0	33.2	156.6	138.3	876.8
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.4	11.9	23.6	150.7	153.0	841.5
London	2014	25.8	15.1	22.5	177.9	131.2	992.3
	30 Yr. Avg.	24.8	13.3	21.1	163.9	151.3	949.8
Hamilton	2014	24.1	12.1	8.7	152.2	138.5	917.3
	30 Yr. Avg.	24.6	13.5	20.3	164.5	139.5	937.5
Ottawa	2014	24.2	12.5	45.3	156.7	211.9	1017.7
	30 Yr. Avg.	24.7	13.2	20.9	163.5	152.4	939.6
Elora	2014	23.8	12.7	23.8	156.8	133.0	863.7
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.8	12.3	23.1	154.7	148.7	877.3
Peterborough	2014	24.5	10.0	12.3	142.0	179.9	911.5
	30 Yr. Avg.	23.8	12.2	21.7	153.9	145.5	868.1

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

