

OMAFRA Field Crop Report

July 29, 2010

WEBSITES WE LIKE:

Crop Production:

Corn: www.gocorn.net
Soybeans: www.gosoy.ca
Cereals: www.gocereals.ca
Canola: www.gosoy.ca/canolahome.php
Grain Farmers of Ontario: www.gfo.ca

Pest Management:

CropPest Ontario: www.ontario.ca/crops
Insect Updates: www.bautebugblog.com
Weed Control: www.weedpro75.com
Weed Identification: www.weedinfo.ca

Tillage:

Tillage Ontario: www.tillageontario.com

Nutrient Management:

Nitrogen Calculator: www.gocorn.net
Manure Calculator: www.gocorn.net
NMAN Software: <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/nm/nman/default.htm>

WEATHER SUMMARY:

(source: www.weatherinnovations.com/weathersummary.cfm)

Weather Summary							
Location	Jul 21 - 27, 2010	Temperature (°C)		Rainfall (mm)	Heat Units CHU	Total Since May 1	
		Max	Min			Rain	CHU
Windsor	2010	29.5	19.3	60	210	388.6	2208
	30 Yr. Avg.	27.8	17.6	14.6	198	239.8	2032
London	2010	27.9	16.1	23.4	188	348.3	1939
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.2	14.8	14.3	177	234.3	1766
Outdoor Farm Show	2010	27.1	16.3	28.8	178	262	1803
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.2	14.6	14.6	176	242.5	1777
Hamilton	2010	28.7	15.8	20.2	185	358.5	1888
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.3	15.3	16.3	181	228	1773
Elora	2010	26.2	14.6	44.2	177	403.4	1853
	30 Yr. Avg.	25.1	14.6	17.1	173	242.3	1667
Mount Forest	2010	25.3	14.4	115.9	173	490.4	1753
	30 Yr. Avg.	26	13	16.1	165	221.8	1623
Peterborough	2010	27.8	15.9	18.5	186	281.5	1807
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.4	12.5	12.6	163	204	1623
Trenton	2010	27.1	17.1	17.4	194	275.5	1980
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.4	14.8	9.9	178	193.7	1737
Ottawa	2010	27.2	16.1	0.6	186	197.3	1984
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.5	15.6	21.3	183	248.5	1839



Table Updated Daily at www.weatherinnovations.com/weathersummary.cfm

This Report includes data from WIN and Environment Canada

Corn: Greg Stewart

Heat unit accumulation from May 1 continues to be 8-10 % ahead of the 30 year normal. Pollination is complete in the majority of the acreage with most occurring under good soil moisture and temperature conditions. Successful pollination can be detected by careful removal of the husks, tapping the ear, and observing the silks that are no longer connected to the kernel. Silks that fall away freely indicate successful pollination. Western Bean Cutworm (WBC) egg masses are now being detected at numbers considerably higher than in previous years. Spraying has been indicated as necessary in some of these fields. The WBC moths are less likely to lay egg masses in corn that has tassels. Hence, corn that was planted later appears to be more prone to having egg masses. These fields should be priority number one for scouting. Stay up to date with WBC issues and scouting tips at <http://bautebugblog.com/new-western-bean-cutworm-scouting-video/>

For emerging issues, questions or to provide feedback on this report, contact the CropLine at: 1-888-449-0937. Technical information can also be obtained at the OMAFRA Field Crop Webpage at www.ontario.ca/crops and Crop Pest Ontario at www.omafra.gov.on.ca/croppest

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Spring Cereals: Scott Banks

Harvest is underway in barley and early planted wheat fields. The bulk of the crop is one to two weeks from harvest. Crown rust has severely affected many oat fields not sprayed for leaf disease control. The higher temperatures in the past few weeks have suppressed the secondary fusarium growth. Early harvested spring wheat samples have lower fusarium damaged kernel levels than expected.

Where fusarium concerns exist, use the effective harvest strategies to maximize grain quality. Several practices may help reduce infected kernels and stop the further spread of fusarium infection in the harvested wheat: 1) Harvest early, between 16% to 18% moisture content; 2) Use high fan speeds to blow out infected kernels; and 3) Immediately dry infected grain to 13% moisture content in a heated air dryer to stop the spread of infection. If significant fusarium is present, harvest should not begin above 18% moisture content as high moisture grain reduces the ability to blow out the lighter fusarium-damaged kernels. Operate the combine at slower ground speed to allow more time for air blast to separate good kernels from infected kernels. In cases of high fusarium levels in the grain, store if possible, as markets for this grain may develop as the season progresses.

Edible Beans: Brian Hall

White mould can now be found in some fields of white beans, especially those with lush canopies. There is no effective control. A later fungicide application may help to protect plants that have not been infected, but effective plant coverage is often impossible to obtain. Scout white and black bean fields for anthracnose. Fungicides for anthracnose provide 10-14 days of protection, so a second application may be required if wet weather or heavy overnight dews persist. Begin scouting for western bean cutworm, and bean leaf beetle and be prepared to implement control measures if thresholds are met.

Forages: Joel Bagg

Hay making has been a challenge in some areas, while some high quality hay, haylage and baleage has been made between rain events in other areas. Some dairy farms are finished or working on 3rd-cut.

Summer seeding of alfalfa can be successful, although an early spring seeding is usually more reliable. Summer seeding works best on light to medium textured, well-drained soils. Alfalfa needs at least 6 weeks of growth after germination to develop an adequate over-wintering crown before a killing frost. A good rule of thumb is 6 – 8 inches of growth. The summer seeding window is approaching for much of the province.

Recommended summer seeding dates are: > 2900 CHU areas - August 10th - 20th, 2500 - 2900 CHU areas - August 1st - 10th, < 2500 CHU areas- July 20th - 30th.

Lack of moisture for timely germination is often a significant risk, although it may not be an issue this year. If soil conditions become extremely dry and no rain is in the forecast, abandon your plans for summer seeding.

Conserving soil moisture is critical, so use as little tillage as possible to create a fine, firm seedbed, drill the seed rather than broadcasting it, and follow with a press wheel or packer to ensure good seed-soil contact. Summer seeding trefoil is usually not successful, since it is slower to establish and needs the entire season to produce a plant that will survive the winter.

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Canola: Brian Hall

Early planted canola is close to maturity, with harvest expected to begin next week. Reports of Cabbage seedpod weevil feeding on full pod stage canola have been reported. These are second generation adults and will do some minor feeding by probing pods and feeding on seeds. The damage is minor and no control measure is recommended.

Decide early if your field is a candidate for a pre-harvest glyphosate or desiccant treatment as fields can dry down rapidly. Glyphosate will be beneficial where perennial weeds such as sow-thistle, quackgrass and milkweed are actively growing or are in flower. Glyphosate is not a true desiccant, and may require up to 3 weeks for harvest maturity to be reached under cool, or cloudy weather. Reglone results in rapid dry down of plant tissue but can increase pod shatter if harvest is delayed. Reglone has contact activity only, so good plant coverage is critical for effective desiccation.

Winter Wheat: Peter Johnson

Harvest is moving ahead rapidly when weather conditions allow. Yields have been above average for many growers, with good quality, although test weights and falling numbers are dropping close to discount levels with each passing shower. Growers that harvested early at higher moistures have a distinct advantage in this regard. Growers storing wheat need to ensure wheat is thoroughly cooled after binning, and that diametaceous earth has been added if storage is planned beyond a couple of months. Wheat is more challenging to store than other grains.

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Have a question? Call the OMAFRA CROPLINE at:

1 888-449-0937

*An audio version of the OMAFRA CropLine is available at www.ontario.ca/crops under "podcasts"
or by searching "OMAFRA" at the iTunes store.*