Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Field Crop Report

Resources: (Call 1-800-668-9938 to order):
Publication 811 *Agronomy Guide for Field Crops* ($30),
Publication 812 *Field Crop Protection Guide* ($15)
OMAFRA Publication 75 *Guide to Weed Control* ($15)

Ontario

Weather Summary

Location	July 14 - 20, 2010	Temperature (°C)		Rainfall	Heat Units	Total Since May 1	
		Max	Min	(mm)	CHU	Rain	CHU
Windsor	2010	30	19.8	55.5	212	350.1	1997
	30 Yr. Avg.	28.7	18.2	25.4	202	225.2	1835
London	2010	27.5	17.2	25.8	195	324.9	1750
	30 Yr. Avg.	27	15.4	20.1	183	220	1589
Outdoor Farm Show	2010	27.1	16.8	19.4	188	233.2	1625
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.9	15.3	24	182	227.9	1601
Hamilton	2010	28.6	18.1	15.7	201	338.3	1706
	30 Yr. Avg.	27.1	15.8	23.8	185	211.7	1592
Elora	2010	27.3	16.4	16.2	196	346.8	1673
	30 Yr. Avg.	25.7	15	21	178	225.2	1494
Mount Forest	2010	26.3	16.1	38.7	185	374.5	1580
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.5	14	20.4	173	205.7	1458
Peterborough	2010	27.9	17.7	23.8	191	269.8	1623
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.9	13.5	21.3	171	191.4	1460
Trenton	2010	27.8	18.3	26.4	202	256.7	1784
	30 Yr. Avg.	26.8	15.8	13.2	184	183.8	1559
Ottawa	2010	28.4	18.2	17.7	205	196.7	1798
	30 Yr. Avg.	27.1	16.2	23.5	188	227.2	1656

WIN Weather INnovations Incorporated

Table Updated Daily at
www.weatherinnovations.com/weathersummary.cfm
This Report includes data from WIN and Environment Canada

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

Corn: Greg Stewart

Warm temperatures and adequate soil moistures continue to favour the pollination process across most of the province. The corn crop is generally viewed as being above average in potential and most areas will complete pollination prior to July 25. Non-uniformity as noted in uneven tassel emergence is still evident in a significant number of fields.

Western Bean Cutworm egg masses are now being detected in numbers considerably higher than in previous years, and are above threshold for treatment in some fields. Later planted corn seems to be more attractive to the moths laying eggs. Field scouting for WBC egg masses and/or larvae is required in some areas. Stay up to date with WBC issues and locations of WBC concentrations at www.cornpest.ca.

Soybeans: Horst Bohner

Warm weather continues to drive rapid plant development. Most fields have now entered the R3 or "beginning pod" growth stage. R3 is achieved when small pods are visible at the top 4 nodes of the plant. Early planted fields have over 20 pods already set. This is well ahead of normal development. Rainfall continues to be sporadic with some areas receiving excess moisture while other areas remain dry. Very low levels of soybean aphids can be found in many counties now but populations are only building slowly to date. High humidity has brought on downy mildew in some fields. Yield reductions from this disease are usually insignificant and control measures are not necessary. On the whole the crop is in good to excellent condition largely depending on planting date, rainfall, and field drainage.

Winter Wheat: Peter Johnson

Harvest progress has slowed due to frequent rainfall. The early harvested winter wheat in Southwestern Ontario had excellent yields and grain quality. Areas further north and east have pockets of higher fusarium levels in the grain. Effective harvest strategies to reduce infected kernels and stop the further spread of fusarium infection in the harvested wheat include: 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. Higher combine fan speed will blow out the fusarium-infected kernels that are small, shrunken and lighter than sound kernels. In cases of high fusarium level in the grain, store if possible as markets for this grain may develop as the season progresses.

Spring Cereals: Scott Banks

Early planted spring cereals are beginning to dry down and should be ready to harvest in about 7 to 10 days. Growers should monitor their fields for fusarium head blight infection as the crop begins to mature. Weather conditions from now until harvest will have the greatest impact on infection levels. Again, harvest as early as possible and use effective harvest strategies mentioned for winter wheat to maximize grain quality. Leaf rust is evident in several oat fields that were not sprayed with a fungicide.

Forages & Pastures: Jack Kyle

Forage and pasture growth continues to be good with adequate moisture throughout most of the province.

Pastures should be clipped if there are perennial weeds present or forages have matured. Clipping will prevent the weeds from setting seed and will stimulate forage growth. Assess pasture carrying capacity for the coming months and be prepared to reduce numbers, find some alternate pasture or plan on providing stored feed if necessary.

Early cereal harvest provides the opportunity to plant a second crop to be used as pasture. Oats seeded into wheat stubble at 3 bushels per acre can provide excellent pasture 6-8 weeks after seeding.

Soil Fertility: Keith Reid

A common complaint from areas that have received above normal rainfall is that corn following grain corn is suffering poor growth, particularly where solid manure has been applied. The exact reasons for this pattern are unclear, but likely contributing factors are poor soil aeration (from poor structural stability or excessive tillage), rapid depletion of soil oxygen by microbes consuming high levels of organic carbon (from corn residue plus manure), and high losses of nitrogen through denitrification. Dry weather will overcome many of these problems.