

Crop Report

For the Period October 11 to October 17, 2022

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Harvest is virtually complete across Saskatchewan as dry weather through much of September and October allowed producers to effectively harvest their crops without major weather delays.

Harvest started early for many producers in the southwest and west-central regions after another dry growing season. Late seeding dates and weekly precipitation during the flowering and seed filling stages delayed harvest in the eastern and northern parts of the province until the latter half of August, but resulted in higher yield potential. However, the weather remained dry, and producers were able to gain momentum with their harvest and get all their crop in without any major issues.

Now that harvest is complete in all regions of the province, producers would like to see some steady precipitation before the ground freezes and winter arrives.

Crop yields vary throughout the province, depending heavily on the amount of moisture received throughout the season. Yields in the southwest and west-central regions are once again below average, with some producers reporting slightly improved yields compared to last year. Yields in the eastern and northern regions were much improved and many producers are reporting yields higher than average. The largest impacts on yields this year were drought, gophers, grasshoppers, wind and drowned out crops in the spring.

Average yields are being estimated as 44 bushels per acre for hard red spring wheat, 31 bushels per acre for durum, 93 bushels per acre for oats, 64 bushels per acre for barley, 36 bushels per acre for canola, 34 bushels per acre for peas and 1,165 pounds per acre for lentils.

Quality ratings for all crops are largely in the top two grade categories for each respective crop. The largest contributors to downgrading were light kernel weights due to drought, insect damage, grain bleaching or discolouring from rain, and an increase in diseases such as ergot in cereal crops such as spring wheat and durum.

One year ago

Harvest had been completed for almost two weeks. Weather throughout the harvest season was ideal and there were very few delays due to rain. Crop yields were overall below average and only a few producers who got timely rains saw yields that were average or better. All regions of the province were in desperate need of rain.

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Also available on the Ministry of Agriculture website at saskatchewan.ca/crop-report.



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Moisture conditions are a concern for some producers, especially those who have struggled through the season with infrequent and minimal rainfalls. Even the regions that started the year with a surplus of moisture are now becoming very dry and producers are hoping for rain soon.

Significant precipitation will be needed this fall and over winter to replenish moisture levels in the soil and dugouts. Heading into winter, topsoil moisture on cropland is rated as 22 per cent adequate, 35 per cent short and 43 per cent very short. Hay and pasture land topsoil moisture is rated as 16 per cent adequate, 37 per cent short and 47 per cent very short.

Hay yields greatly improved across much of the province as higher amounts of precipitation allowed for early growth and rapid regrowth throughout the growing season. Hay land in the southwest and west-central struggled once again through drought-like conditions which resulted in less-than-optimal hay yields. Provincially, average hay yields on dry land are reported as 1.4 tons per acre (alfalfa), 1.4 tons per acre (alfalfa/brome and wild hay), 1.10 tons per acre (other tame hay) and 2 tons per acre (greenfeed). On irrigated land, the estimated average hay yields are 2 tons per acre (alfalfa), 2.3 tons per acre (alfalfa/brome), 1.5 tons per acre (wild hay) and 3 tons per acre (greenfeed). Most of the hay going into winter is rated as fair to excellent, with only one per cent rated as poor.

Due to improved hay yields, winter feed supplies for livestock such as cattle have also improved. Producers in the northern and eastern regions have indicated they will have surplus or adequate inventories of hay, straw, green feed and feed grain. Producers in the southwest and west-central report they did not have the ability to replenish their feed stocks completely and are sourcing their feed from other parts of the province, with some purchasing hay from Alberta or Manitoba. For some producers, their feed inventory is too depleted and feed too costly to purchase, leading them to reduce their herd size to fit the feed they have available.

Water hauling was once again common for many areas of the province as dugouts, sloughs and other water bodies dried up and become unsafe for livestock. Producers constantly tested water quality and were forced to move cattle off pastures that had unsafe water, putting increased pressure on already struggling grasslands. More rain and an above

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average snowfall this winter is needed to ensure that water quantity and quality is not an issue next year.

Without large amounts of rain in the latter half of August and through September, many soils in the province were too dry for proper germination of winter cereals and producers elected to not risk seeding winter wheat and fall rye. Across the province seeded acres of winter wheat fell an estimated 23 per cent while fall rye acres fell 17 per cent. Producers who did seed winter cereals have reported that the crop did not germinate well or at all.

Now that harvest is complete, farmers will be able to complete fall work such as fixing fences, moving cattle, hauling grain and bales, picking rocks and other miscellaneous field work. Farmers will continue to do their field work until the ground freezes or a big snowfall occurs.

This is the final Crop Report of the 2022 growing season.

Saskatchewan Agriculture has a group of 200 volunteer crop reporters from across the province. Thank you for your valued dedication to the crop report. In 2022, there are seven crop reporters reaching their 25-year milestone; one reaching 30 years; two reaching 40 years; and two who have reported for over 45 years.

Congratulations!!

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Saskatchewan Harvest Progress - October 17, 2022

*Other - crop that will not be harvested due to weather, insect or disease damage or will be greenfeed or silage

Winter Wheat	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined	% other (greenfeed/silage)
southeast	0	0	0	100	0
southwest	0	0	0	90	10
east central	0	0	0	100	0
west central	0	0	0	95	5
northeast	0	0	0	100	0
northwest	0	0	0	100	0
provincial	0	0	0	98	2
Fall Rye	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined	% other (greenfeed/silage)
southeast	0	0	0	98	2
southwest	0	0	0	55	45
east central	0	0	0	100	0
west central	0	0	0	90	10
northeast	0	0	0	100	0
northwest	0	0	0	100	0
provincial	0	0	0	90	10
Spring Wheat	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined	
southeast	0	0	0	100	
southwest	0	0	0	100	
east central	0	0	0	100	
west central	0	0	0	100	
northeast	0	0	0	100	
northwest	0	0	0	100	
provincial	0	0	0	100	
Durum	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined	
southeast	0	0	0	100	
southwest	0	0	0	100	
east central	0	0	0	100	
west central	0	0	0	100	
northeast	0	0	0	100	
northwest	0	0	0	100	
provincial	0	0	0	100	
Barley	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined	% other (greenfeed/silage)
southeast	0	0	0	95	5
southwest	0	0	0	95	5
east central	0	0	0	85	15
west central	0	0	0	89	11
northeast	0	0	0	92	8
northwest	0	0	0	90	10
provincial	0	0	0	90	10
Oats	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined	% other (greenfeed/silage)
southeast	0	0	0	93	7
southwest	0	0	0	90	10
east central	0	0	0	95	5
west central	0	0	0	94	6
northeast	0	0	0	95	5
northwest	0	0	0	95	5
provincial	0	0	0	95	5

Canaryseed	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined
southeast	0	0	0	100
southwest	0	0	0	100
east central	0	0	0	100
west central	0	0	0	100
northeast	0	0	0	100
northwest	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
provincial	0	0	0	100
Flax	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined
southeast	0	0	3	97
southwest	0	0	4	96
east central	0	0	5	95
west central	0	0	0	100
northeast	0	0	0	100
northwest	0	0	1	99
provincial	0	1	2	97
Canola	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined
southeast	0	0	3	97
southwest	0	0	0	100
east central	0	0	1	99
west central	0	0	0	100
northeast	0	0	0	100
northwest	0	0	0	100
provincial	0	0	1	99
Mustard	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined
southeast	0	0	0	100
southwest	0	0	0	100
east central	0	0	0	100
west central	0	0	0	100
northeast	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
northwest	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
provincial	0	0	0	100
Soybeans	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined
southeast	0	0	8	92
southwest	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
east central	0	0	8	92
west central	0	0	0	100
northeast	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
northwest	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
provincial	0	0	8	92
Field Peas	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined
southeast	0	0	0	100
southwest	0	0	0	100
east central	0	0	0	100
west central	0	0	0	100
northeast	0	0	0	100
northwest	0	0	0	100
provincial	0	0	0	100
Lentils	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined
southeast	0	0	0	100
southwest	0	0	0	100
east central	0	0	0	100

west central	0	0	0	100	
northeast	0	0	0	100	
northwest	0	0	0	100	
provincial	0	0	0	100	
Chickpeas	% Standing	% in swath	% ready to straight combine	% combined	
southeast	0	0	0	100	
southwest	0	0	0	100	
east central	0	0	0	100	
west central	0	0	0	100	
northeast	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
northwest	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
provincial	0	0	0	100	

Estimated Provincial Hay Yields (tons/acre) - October 17, 2022

Provincial		
	Dry land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa	1.4	2.0
Brome/Alfalfa	1.4	2.0
Other Tame Hay	1.1	1.5
Wild Hay	1.0	1
Greenfeed	2	3.0

Southeast		
	Dry land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa	2.0	N/A
Brome/Alfalfa	2.0	N/A
Other Tame Hay	1.75	N/A
Wild Hay	1.5	N/A
Greenfeed	3.0	N/A

Southwest		
	Dry land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa	0.69	2
Brome/Alfalfa	0.6	1.3
Other Tame Hay	0.7	N/A
Wild Hay	0.7	1
Greenfeed	1.33	N/A

East-central		
	Dry land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa	1.5	N/A
Brome/Alfalfa	1.7	N/A
Other Tame Hay	1.3	N/A
Wild Hay	1.1	N/A
Greenfeed	2.1	N/A

West-central		
	Dry land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa	0.8	1.8
Brome/Alfalfa	0.9	N/A
Other Tame Hay	0.7	N/A
Wild Hay	0.7	1.1
Greenfeed	1.3	3.0

Northeast		
	Dry land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa	2	N/A
Brome/Alfalfa	1.8	N/A
Other Tame Hay	1.5	N/A
Wild Hay	1.3	N/A

Greenfeed	3.5	N/A
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Northwest		
	Dry land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa	1.4	N/A
Brome/Alfalfa	1.5	N/A
Other Tame Hay	1	N/A
Wild Hay	1.2	N/A
Greenfeed	2.0	N/A

2022 Crop Grades - October 17, 2022

*10 year average is calculated from 2012 to 2021

	1CW	2 CW	3CW	CW feed
		Winter Wheat		
2012	42	31	23	4
2013	42	45	10	3
2014	3	38	44	15
2015	36	45	17	2
2016	33	37	20	10
2017	76	19	5	0
2018	70	21	7	2
2019	23	34	26	17
2020	74	24	1	1
2021	62	25	9	4
10 yr avg	46	32	16	6
2022	77	22	1	0

	1CW	2CW	3CW	4CW
		Oats		
2012	20	55	21	4
2013	36	54	9	1
2014	10	62	23	5
2015	19	51	23	7
2016	13	59	18	10
2017	37	57	5	1
2018	32	53	11	4
2019	19	52	20	9
2020	40	48	7	5
2021	17	54	24	5
10 yr avg	24	55	16	5
2022	41	51	8	1

	1CAN	2CAN	3CAN	sample
		Mustard		
2012	84	12	3	1
2013	86	13	1	0
2014	56	30	12	2
2015	80	18	2	0
2016	64	29	6	1
2017	87	13	0	0
2018	80	19	1	0
2019	75	15	10	0
2020	89	10	1	0
2021	64	13	23	0
10 yr avg	77	17	6	0
2022	79	21	0	0

	1CW	2CW	3CW	CW feed
		Spring Wheat		
2012	35	42	16	7
2013	57	32	9	2
2014	9	42	29	20
2015	26	41	23	10
2016	10	42	28	20
2017	77	20	3	0
2018	46	28	19	7
2019	13	35	28	24
2020	67	26	5	2
2021	49	37	11	2
10 yr avg	39	35	17	9
2022	74	22	3	1

	1CW	2 CW	3CW	sample
		Rye		
2012	54	38	7	1
2013	53	42	4	1
2014	10	72	12	6
2015	40	53	6	1
2016	65	27	5	3
2017	88	9	3	0
2018	9	91	1	0
2019	48	23	20	9
2020	60	36	3	1
2021	39	40	21	0
10 yr avg	47	43	8	2
2022	56	39	4	2

	1 CAN	2CAN	3CAN	4&5CAN
		Soybeans		
2014	33	41	19	7
2015	39	49	10	2
2016	50	41	8	1
2017	38	59	2	1
2018	41	34	17	8
2019	39	48	13	0
2020	46	39	9	6
2021	28	59	13	0
2022	72	27	1	0

*2014 is the first year the Crop Report included soybeans

	1CW	2 CW	3CW	other (4&5)
		Durum		
2012	44	32	18	6
2013	21	34	34	11
2014	2	13	37	48
2015	20	40	25	15
2016	4	14	34	48
2017	72	23	4	1
2018	51	23	16	10
2019	12	26	33	29
2020	58	28	8	6
2021	39	36	21	4
10 yr avg	32	27	23	18
2022	52	36	10	2

	1CW	2 CW	3CW	sample
		Flax		
2012	87	12	1	0
2013	91	8	1	0
2014	71	21	7	1
2015	73	23	3	1
2016	64	27	7	2
2017	89	10	1	0
2018	78	20	2	0
2019	50	28	19	3
2020	86	12	2	0
2021	71	24	4	1
10 yr avg	76	19	5	1
2022	87	10	1	2

	1CAN	2CAN	extra 3 &/or 3 CAN	sample
		Lentils		
2012	24	54	21	1
2013	35	54	11	0
2014	5	32	53	10
2015	21	54	24	1
2016	4	38	45	13
2017	52	44	4	0
2018	37	51	11	1
2019	18	49	27	6
2020	37	58	5	0
2021	32	54	13	1
10 yr avg	27	49	21	3
2022	36	56	8	0

	Malt	1CW	2CW & sample
		Barley	
2012	24	51	25
2013	36	53	11
2014	19	51	30
2015	22	56	22
2016	26	42	32
2017	51	42	7
2018	36	46	18
2019	18	48	34
2020	40	56	4
2021	19	56	25
10 yr avg	29	50	21
2022	40	51	9

	1CAN	2CAN	3CAN	sample
		Canola		
2012	79	16	4	1
2013	92	7	1	0
2014	74	20	5	1
2015	80	14	4	2
2016	79	14	5	2
2017	91	8	1	0
2018	79	14	4	3
2019	70	19	8	3
2020	84	14	2	0
2021	79	17	4	0
10 yr avg	81	14	4	1
2022	89	9	2	0

	1CAN	2CAN	extra 3 &/or 3 CAN	sample
		Field Peas		
2012	29	60	10	1
2013	36	61	3	0
2014	13	68	17	2
2015	36	55	8	1
2016	27	60	11	2
2017	61	36	3	0
2018	46	51	3	0
2019	30	58	10	2
2020	48	50	2	0
2021	34	57	9	0
10 yr avg	36	56	8	1
2022	48	46	6	0

	1CW	2 CW	3CW	sample
		Chickpea		
2012	44	44	11	1
2013	46	44	10	0
2014	13	47	37	3
2015	72	19	8	1
2016	10	36	41	13
2017	78	22	0	0
2018	58	37	4	1
2019	27	38	12	23
2020	63	33	4	0
2021	38	49	11	2
10 yr avg	45	37	14	4
2022	51	43	6	0

Southeastern Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 1 – Carnduff, Estevan, Redvers, Moosomin and Kipling areas
- Crop District 2 – Weyburn, Milestone, Moose Jaw, Regina and Qu'Appelle areas
- Crop District 3ASE – Radville, Minton and Lake Alma areas

It was an overall good year for the southeast. With good precipitation and no long periods of extreme heat, the crop in the region was able to thrive and yield above average for most producers. Early season rains delayed seeding for much of the region and producers were worried that this would lead to a late harvest. While the start of harvest was slightly delayed, dry conditions in the fall allowed producers to get the crop in the bin quickly. Producers would like to see it rain as the soils are drying out quickly and it has been almost two months since the region saw a significant rain event.

The region saw a large improvement in crop yields due to early spring rains as well as timely rains during the crucial seed filling stage. Most crops are estimated to be yielding above their 10-year averages. Some producers, however, state that their crop looked far better than it yielded. Yield was slightly impacted by pressure from gophers, grasshoppers, wind and disease. Overall producers are happy with their yields and would like to see similar results at the end of the 2023 season.

Crop quality in the region was good overall, with the majority of crops falling within the top two grades. Some cereal crops were downgraded due to a higher occurrence of ergot which is likely a result of precipitation the region saw during the flowering stage of the crop.

The southeast still holds the highest ratings for topsoil moisture but it is quickly drying out and producers would like to see even a small rain shower before the ground freezes. Along with rain the region will need heavy snowfall over the winter to ensure dugouts and sloughs fill with spring runoff to allow cattle access to good water once they are turned out to pasture. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as one per cent surplus, 41 per cent adequate, 49 per cent short and nine per cent very short. Hay and pasture land topsoil moisture is rated as one per cent surplus, 30 per cent adequate, 52 per cent short and 17 per cent very short.

Hay yields greatly improved in the region as the hay crop was able to get an early start to growth due to spring rains and almost weekly rains in June. Regionally, average hay yields on dry land are reported (in tons per acre) as: alfalfa 2; alfalfa/brome 2.1; other tame hay 1.75; wild hay 1.5 and greenfeed 3. An increased hay yield has allowed many producers replenish their depleted feed inventories which is huge relief on them and their livestock.

A large majority of livestock producers indicate they either have a surplus or adequate level of hay, straw, greenfeed and feed grain as winter approaches. This is very good news for livestock producers since they had to use up most of their feed supplies last winter after a poor hay crop in 2021. Hay and straw bales are now being moved home along with the last of the cattle still out on pasture.

Due to almost no rainfall since early August, many producers did not seed winter cereals this fall as they were worried about poor germination and emergence. As a result, winter wheat acres are estimated to fall 23 per cent while fall rye is slated to fall 12 per cent.

Farmers are busy cleaning up fields, hauling grain and bales, harrowing fields with heavy crop residues, picking rocks and bringing the last of their cattle home for the winter.

Southwestern Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 3ASW – Coronach, Assiniboia and Ogema areas
- Crop District 3AN – Gravelbourg, Mossbank, Mortlach and Central Butte areas
- Crop District 3B – Kyle, Swift Current, Shaunavon and Ponteix areas
- Crop District 4 – Consul, Maple Creek and Leader areas

Producers in the southwest once again struggled through an extremely dry and difficult year, as rainfall was infrequent and insufficient. Farmland in the region was plagued with drought, gophers and grasshoppers which resulted in very poor crops and pastures in most areas of the region. Some producers received small timely rains which allowed their crops and grasslands to be slightly better than what they were last year, but overall, the 2022 growing season was a disappointment. Soils were too dry for any fall fertilizer applications and some producers didn't need to spray for weeds this fall as even they wouldn't grow. This region is in desperate need of moisture and without any this fall they will need large early spring rains to ensure their soils can support crop germination.

Crop yields for the region are well below average with most crops yielding half of the 10-year average. Producers are very upset with the crop yields they have seen in the past 4 years and are hoping they see a break in the current dry spell to allow their soil moisture to replenish. While yields are poor, crop quality remains high for most crops in the region. Cereal, pulses and oilseed crops in the region are all rated to be mostly in the top two grade categories. The limited in season rain meant there was little downgrading to disease.

Crop, hay, and pastureland have all been depleted of their soil moisture, and many producers are worried about next year. It has also resulted in unsafe water quality and alarmingly low water levels in dugouts and sloughs. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as two per cent adequate, 25 per cent short and 73 per cent very short. Hay and pasture land topsoil moisture is rated as 22 per cent short and 78 per cent very short.

For livestock producers, it was another season of frustrating hay yields, resulting in a further reduction of winter feed supplies and herd size. Producers who need to buy feed are hard pressed to find it locally and must truck in feed from other parts of Saskatchewan and western Canada at great cost. Average hay yields on dry land are reported (in tons per acre) as: alfalfa 0.70; alfalfa/brome 0.60; other tame hay 0.7; wild hay 0.7 and greenfeed 1.3.

Most producers in the region have just enough feed to get them through the winter with almost no excess feed to use in case of long winter. Producers were able to take advantage of poor crops in the region and cut them for greenfeed or bale them for hay for the cold months ahead. Producers who do not have hay, straw or greenfeed in adequate quantities are looking at reducing their herds or getting out of cattle altogether.

Producers have noted concerns for livestock water supplies all season long as their dugouts and sloughs started drying up early in the summer; some producers have been hauling water all season long to ensure their cattle had access to safe and sufficient water.

Due to the extremely dry soil conditions in the region very few producers took the risk of seeding winter cereals, winter wheat seeded acres are estimated to decrease by 38 per cent while fall rye seeded acreage is estimated to fall 38 per cent. This is the largest estimated decrease in winter cereals in the province.

Farmers are busy hauling grain and bales, fixing fences and bringing cattle home.

East-Central Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 5 – Melville, Yorkton, Cupar, Kamsack, Foam Lake, Preeceville and Kelvington areas
- Crop District 6A – Lumsden, Craik, Watrous and Clavet areas

Harvest is wrapped up in the region and for the large majority of producers, it was a very good year. A very late, wet spring did delay seeding well into June. Some producers were working at seeding right up until the seeding date cutoff set by SCIC. The late start had many producers thinking they would have a difficult harvest season. However, dry, warm weather in the fall allowed for rapid maturity and a relatively quick harvest. Fall field work has been restricted due to a slightly later harvest as well as increasingly dry soils especially in the Crop District 6A.

Crop yields are variable in the region. Most producers, however, are reporting either average or above average yields. Producers have indicated that some of their crop did not yield as well as they had expected but even these fields were still above the regional average. Early season rains as well as timely rains during the seed filling stage were the two largest contributors to increased yields this season. Some of the lower yields reported are from the Crop District 6A portion of the region where rainfall was slightly lower. Crop quality is good within the region. The majority of crops have been ranked in the top two quality categories, the largest factor that led to downgrading was the presence of disease.

Even with the large amounts of precipitation received in the region since April 1st, soil moisture levels have dropped significantly due to almost no rain since the end of August. Farmers would like to see a nice steady soaker rain in the region to ensure they have the moisture recharge they need before winter arrives. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 26 per cent adequate, 39 per cent short and 35 per cent very short. Hay and pasture land topsoil moisture is rated as 23 per cent adequate, 41 per cent short and 36 per cent very short.

Hay yields saw improvement this year due to a much larger amount of precipitation being received, especially in the early spring. This moisture allowed for hayland that struggled last year to finally recover and perform at a normal level. Average hay yields on dry land are reported (in tons per acre) as: alfalfa 1.5; alfalfa/brome 1.7; other tame hay 1.3; wild hay 1.1 and greenfeed 2.1.

With an improved hay crop, livestock producers have indicated that they will have adequate to surplus hay, straw, greenfeed and feed grain heading into winter. Very few producers in this region are concerned about feed shortages, particularly of hay and greenfeed. Many producers do not have to consider reducing their herd size to match their feed inventories. Those with excess feed are selling it or storing it for future years.

Winter cereal acreage is expected to rise slightly for winter wheat and decrease for fall rye. Winter wheat acreage is expected to be up two per cent while fall rye acreage has fallen ten percent. Some producers who seeded fall rye have reported it did not germinate and it is too late for any moisture to allow it to emerge before the ground freezes.

Farmers are busy drying grain, hauling bales, working low spots and sloughs and bringing livestock home.

West-Central Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 6B – Hanley, Outlook, Loreburn, Saskatoon and Arelee areas
- Crop District 7A – Rosetown, Kindersley, Eston and Major areas
- Crop District 7B – Kerrobert, Macklin, Wilkie and Biggar areas

Harvest has been over for most producers in the west-central for almost two weeks and producers are happy to put the 2022 growing season behind them. It was a stressful year for most producers in the region as they suffered through another extremely dry and grasshopper plagued season. The season started poorly with insufficient spring moisture for proper germination and emergence which resulted in uneven crop stands and bald patches across many fields. Rain is desperately needed throughout the region.

Crop yields vary within the region, but overall, yield estimates are well below average with many producers saying it was a similar year to the 2021 growing season. Luckily some producers in the region received small timely rains which allowed their crop to yield closer to average. Producers are hoping that the dry cycle does not continue in 2023 and that they can see their crop achieve above average yields to help them recover from two very poor seasons in a row. The quality estimates for cereal, pulse and oilseed crops in the region are very good with most crops landing in the top two grade ratings. Surprisingly, one of the larger causes of downgrading was the presence of ergot in cereal crops, likely due to small rains around the time of flowering.

Producers are praying for rain this fall to allow their soil moisture to recharge before the winter arrives and the ground freezes. Due to the extreme lack of moisture, a large volume of rain is needed. Producers are hoping it comes in the form of a gentle multi-day soaker that will allow proper infiltration into the soil. The dry conditions in the region resulted in higher fire risk during harvest and a large reduction of water availability for livestock. Moisture is also desperately needed to allow for regrowth of pastures next

spring. Without sufficient moisture, many producers fear they will not be able to graze cattle on a large majority of their land. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as seven per cent adequate, 32 per cent short and 61 per cent very short. Hay and pasture land topsoil moisture is rated as nine per cent adequate, 34 per cent short and 57 per cent very short.

For livestock producers it was another very disappointing year for hay yields. Much of the hay land in the region did not receive the rain needed to recover from the 2021 drought. Average hay yields on dry land are reported (in tons per acre) as: alfalfa 0.80; alfalfa/brome 0.90; other tame hay 0.70; wild hay 0.70 and greenfeed 1.3. The hay crop in the region was not enough to replenish winter feed supplies for many producers and finding local feed to purchase is difficult. Some producers are traveling two hours or longer to acquire hay and straw for their cattle.

At this time, most livestock producers have indicated that they will have adequate to hay, straw, greenfeed and feed grain for a normal winter. But many are unsure how they will stretch their feed supplies if winter is longer than expected, since additional feed may not be available to purchase, or it will be too expensive to make economic sense.

Seeded winter wheat acres are estimated to have fallen 27 per cent compared to last fall while fall rye acres were estimated to have dropped by 17 per cent. Producers would not risk spending the time and money seeding winter cereals into their extremely dry soils.

Farmers are busy hauling bales, picking rocks, harrowing and conducting other miscellaneous farm chores.

Northeastern Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 8 – Hudson Bay, Tisdale, Melfort, Carrot River, Humboldt, Kinistino, Cudworth and Aberdeen areas
- Crop District 9AE – Prince Albert, Choiceland and Paddockwood areas

Harvest is wrapped up in the region, and overall, the harvest season was very good as the weather was favourable and there were no major delays. Early season moisture paired with timely rains allowed for good crop yields and strong quality. Producers are busy applying fall fertilizer as they have adequate soil moisture, unlike the central and southern regions.

Crop yields were very good in the region with all crops being estimated to yield above average, some producers are saying it was the perfect year on their farm, which is a real positive after such a terrible season in 2021. Crop quality in the region remains strong as well, with all crops being graded largely in the top two grade levels, there was some minor downgrading due to ergot and other diseases in cereals.

The soil moisture conditions in the region have not reached desperate levels like much of the province, but producers would still appreciate some rain before the winter. Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 59 per cent adequate, 32 per cent short and nine per cent very short. Hay and pasture land topsoil moisture is rated as 43 per cent adequate, 43 per cent short and 15 per cent very short.

Due to increased precipitation, hay yields largely improved this season and producers did not have to worry about sourcing off farm feed. Average hay yields on dry land are reported (in tons per acre) as: alfalfa 2; alfalfa/brome 1.8; other tame hay 1.5; wild hay 1.3 and greenfeed 3.5. At this time, most livestock producers have indicated that they will have adequate to surplus hay, straw, greenfeed and feed grain heading into winter, with only a few producers who expect a slight shortage in feed supplies.

Although soil moisture is not completely depleted, winter cereal acreage is still expected to drop in the region. Winter wheat acreage is estimated to have decreased by 19 per cent while fall rye has fallen 25 per cent.

Farmers are busy harrowing, working fields, hauling grain, applying fertilizer and cleaning up fields.

Northwestern Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 9AW – Shellbrook, North Battleford, Big River and Hafford areas
- Crop District 9B – Meadow Lake, Turtleford, Pierceland, Maidstone and Lloydminster areas

Producers have finished their harvest operations, and overall, they report it was a very good year. Early season moisture allowed crops a good start to growth, and timely rains allowed them to properly fill their pods and heads with seed resulting in an increased yield potential. The harvest season was very dry, with producers able to make quick work of their crop as they are now focusing on other field work until the ground freezes.

Crop yields have greatly improved this year compared to 2021 with all crops estimated to yield above average. Of course, yields do vary within the region, and those who did not get the moisture needed throughout the growing season saw more disappointing yields but still much better than 2021. Crop quality also improved this year with crops generally landing in the top two grades, there were slight downgrading issues due to ergot in cereals or bleached kernels.

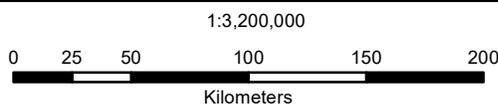
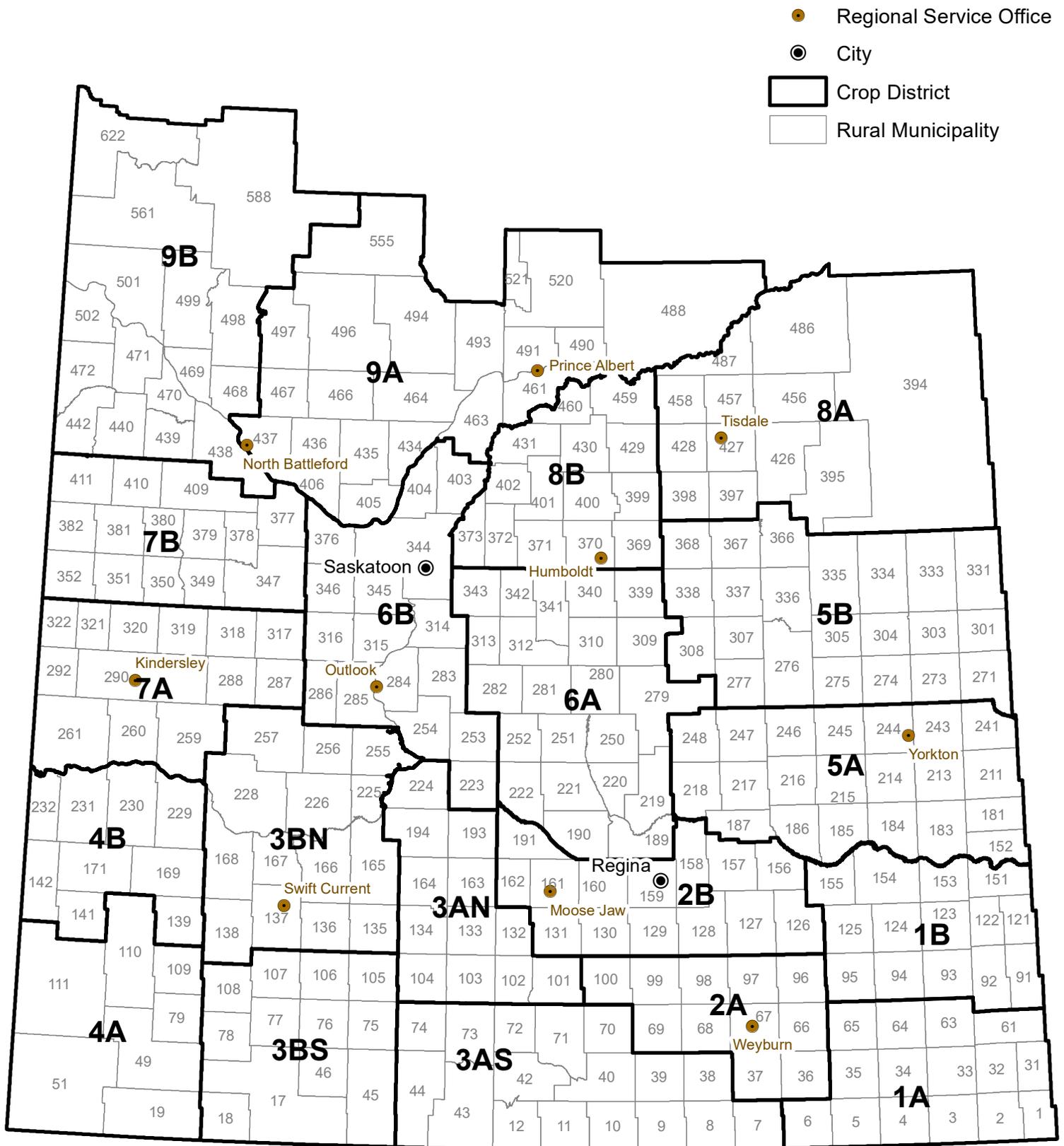
The northwest region saw more average rainfall this year, but many parts of the region have become very dry. Heading into winter, cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 13 per cent adequate, 32 per cent short and 55 per cent very short. Hay and pasture land topsoil moisture is rated as ten per cent adequate, 37 per cent short and 53 per cent very short.

Higher amounts of precipitation allowed for an improved hay crop for many producers in the region, the increased rainfall also allowed for longer grazing periods on pastures and less pressure to supplement feed. Average hay yields on dry land are reported (in tons per acre) as: alfalfa 1.4; alfalfa/brome 1.5; other tame hay 1; wild hay 1.2 and greenfeed 2. At this time, most livestock producers have indicated that they will have adequate to surplus supplies of hay, straw, greenfeed and feed grain heading into winter.

Crop reporters have indicated that the number of acres seeded to winter wheat and fall rye is estimated to have declined by 20 per cent and 32 per cent respectively due to the increasingly dry soil conditions.

Farmers are busy harrowing, applying fertilizer, hauling bales, fixing fences and moving cattle home.

Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities in Saskatchewan



Data Source:
Crop Districts - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

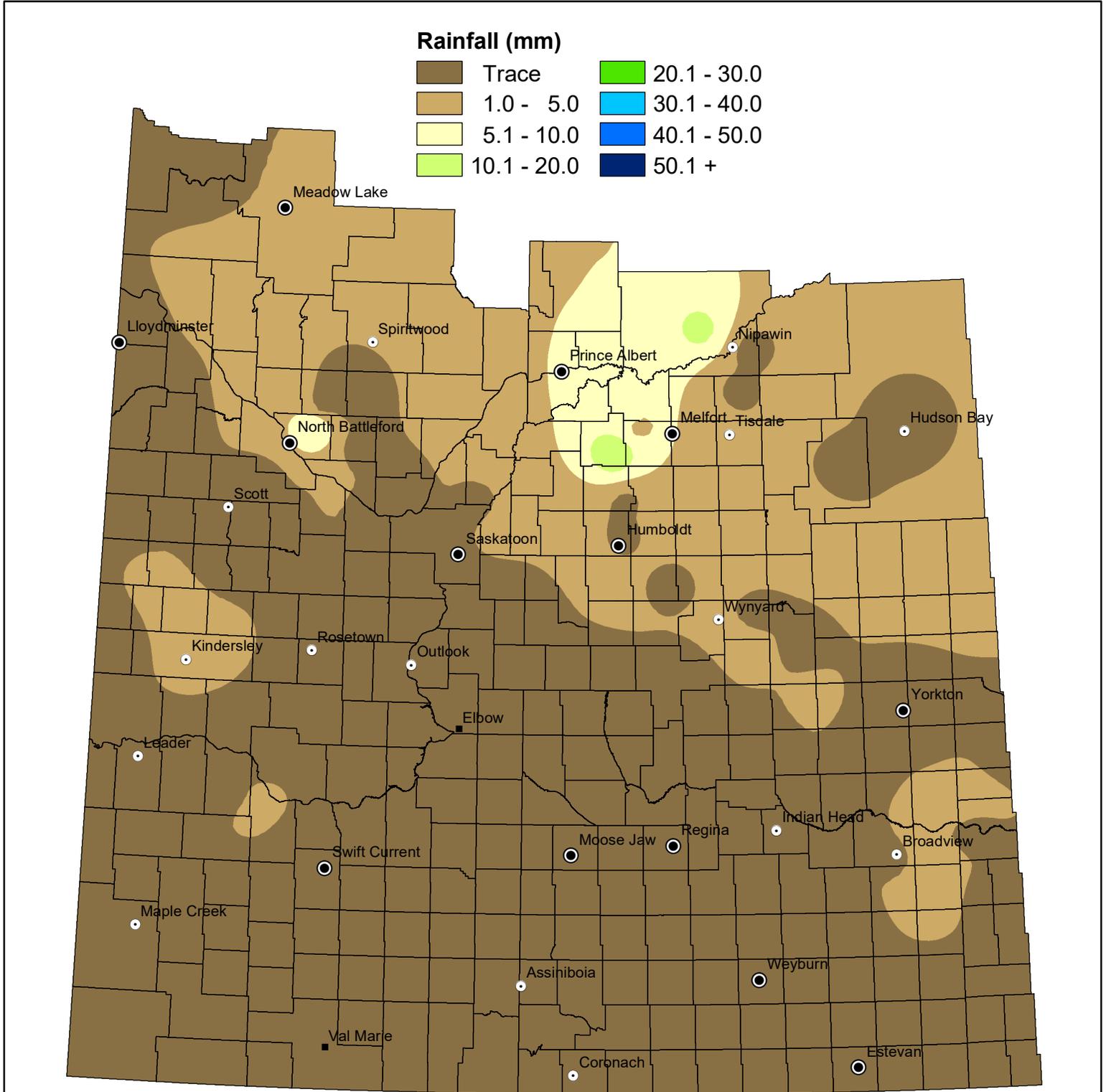
Projection: UTM Zone 13 Datum: NAD83

Geomatics Services, Ministry of Agriculture

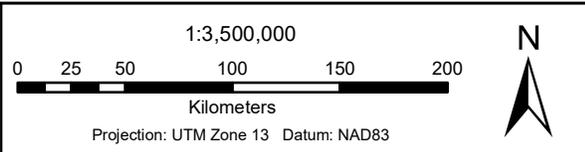
October 30, 2020

Weekly Rainfall

from October 11 to October 17, 2022



NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.

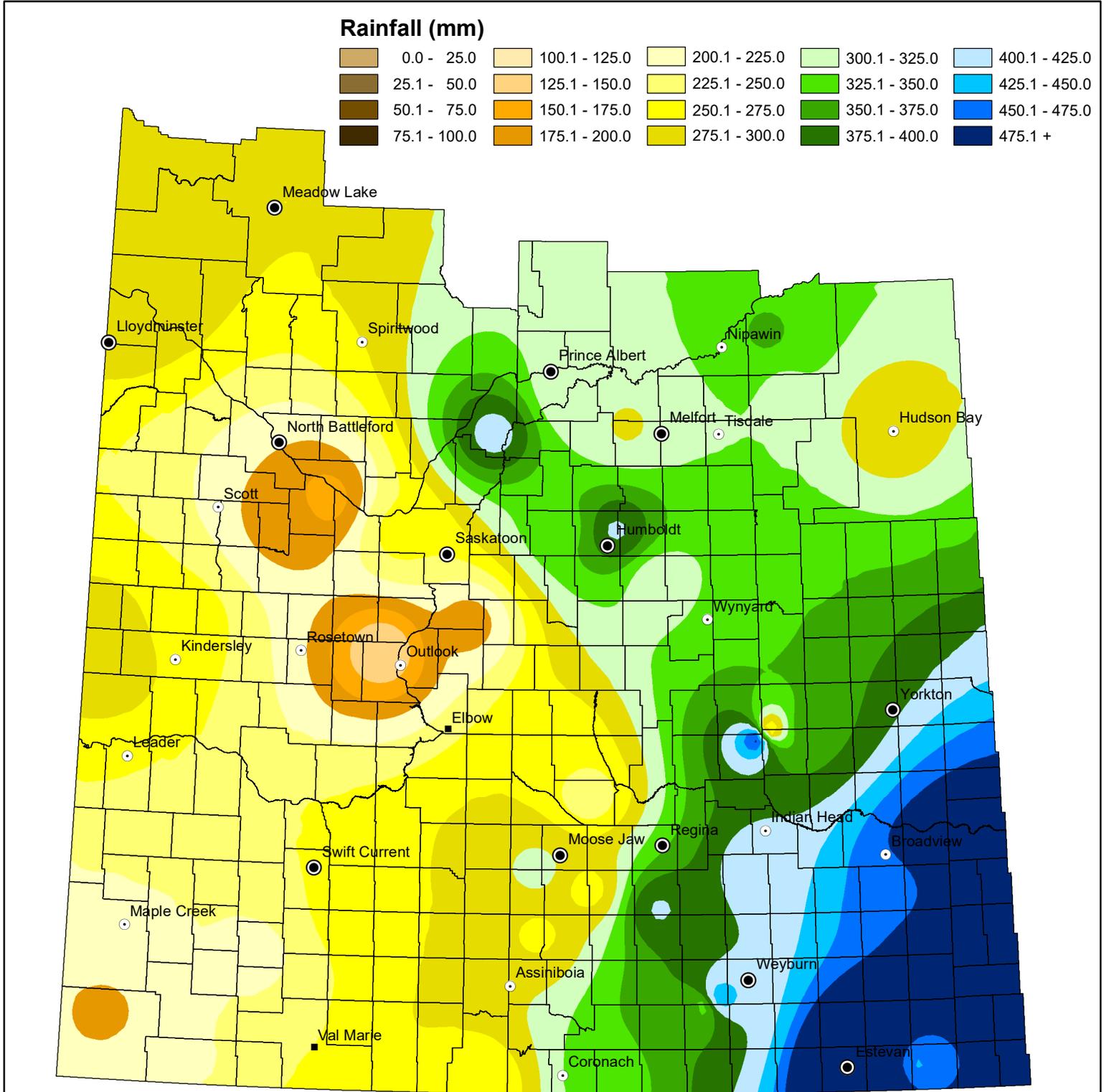


Data Source:
 Rainfall - Ministry of Agriculture, Crop Report Database
 IDW interpolation (power 2.5, fixed radius 300 km)

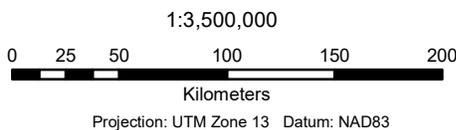
Geomatics Services, Ministry of Agriculture October 19, 2022

Cumulative Rainfall

from April 1 to October 17, 2022



NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.

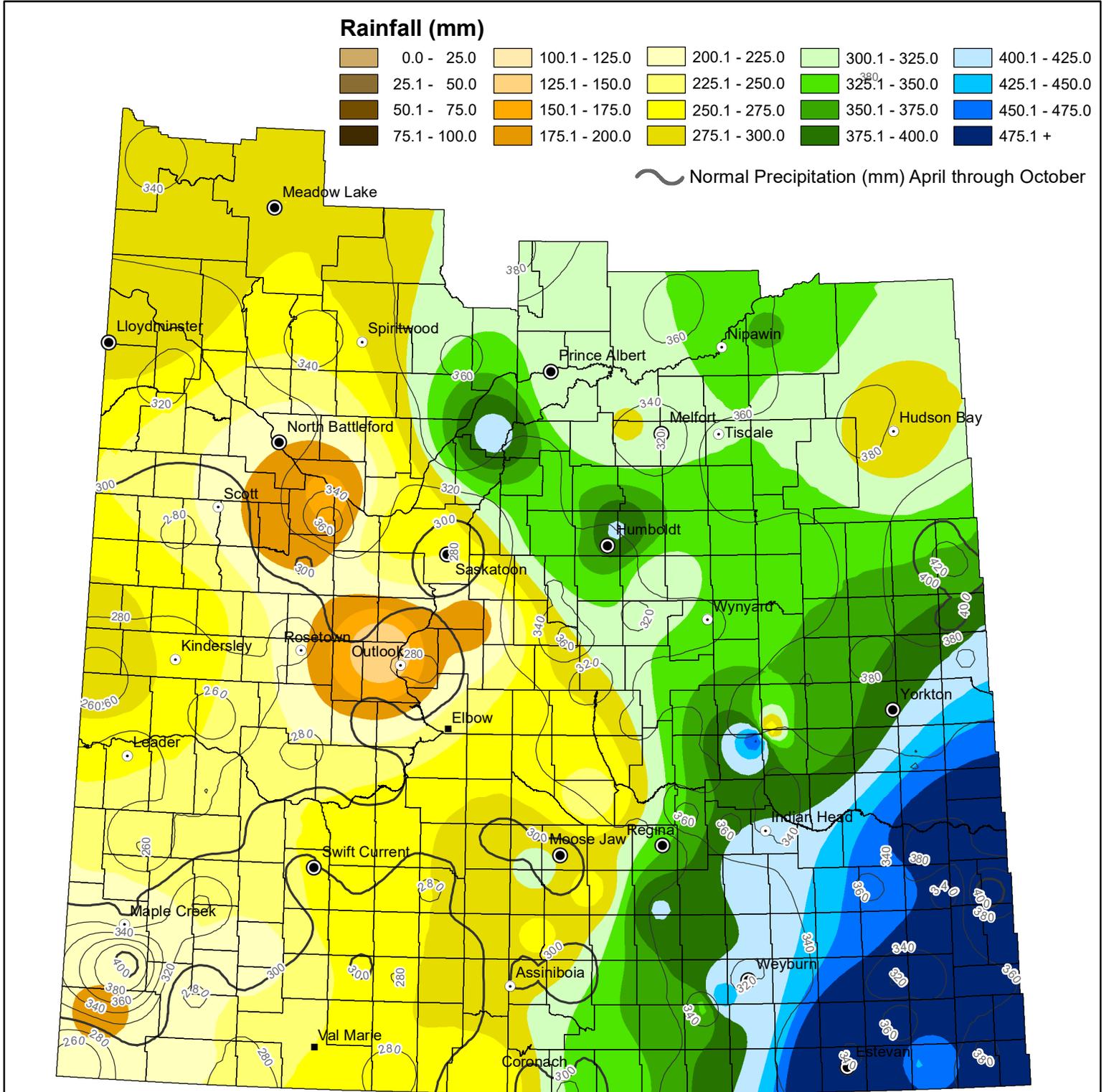


Data Source:
Rainfall - Ministry of Agriculture, Crop Report Database
IDW interpolation (power 2.5, fixed radius 300 km)

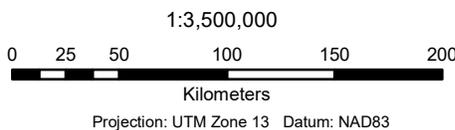
Geomatics Services, Ministry of Agriculture October 19, 2022

Cumulative Rainfall

from April 1 to October 17, 2022



NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.



Data Source:
Rainfall - Ministry of Agriculture, Crop Report Database
IDW interpolation (power 2.5, fixed radius 300 km)

Geomatics Services, Ministry of Agriculture October 19, 2022

2022 Final Rainfall Summary

in mm

CD	RM		April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct 1-17	Total Yr Precip
1A	2		109	119	30	111	35	20	0	424
	3		118	135	29	121	29	16	1	449
	4		87	178	113	228	44	38	0	688
	6		39	202	0	56	0	0	0	297
	32		74	89	79	14	17	17	0	290
	61		121	115	68	165	26	45	0	540
	64		49	68	159	69	17	12	0	374
	65		15	129	103	85	41	10	0	383
1B	122		130	235	64	66	83	47	0	625
	123		55	150	130	125	46	1	3	510
	124		36	109	136	91	63	14	3	452
	125	A	61	117	54	87	61	29	0	409
	125	B	21	108	74	74	36	11	0	324
	151		59	159	116	84	64	12	0	494
	154	A	37	138	61	49	66	10	0	361
	155		26	98	72	105	92	10	0	403
2A	67		21	110	71	112	58	0	0	372
	68		26	143	87	115	65	5	0	441
	97		14.5	80.5	107.5	57	37.5	4	0	301
	100		67	66	109	88	160	10	25	525
2B	127	A	42	117	88	127	39	11	0	424
	127	B	0	68	63	29	13	13	0	186
	129		15	102	81	143	54	8	0	403
	131		12	64	34	110	42	5	0	267
	156	A	22	46.8	111.5	27.3	108.9	14.5	0	331
	156	B	0	113	98	149	72	0	0	432
	159	A	10	70	26	155	40	trace	0	301
	159	B	10	55	0	202	0	0	0	267
	160		4	46	26	42	28	5	0	151
	161	A	10	74	33	92	31	7	0	247
	162	A	14	64	39	101	12	6	0	236
	162	B	30	66	27	154	13	10		300
3ASE	38	A	36	94.2	40.2	124.4	39.2	5.4	0	339
	38	B	34	80	45	140	30	5	0	334
3ASW	10		34	105	57	114	5	16	trace	331
	43		25	56	48	99	13	14	0	255
	73	A	25	58	38	84	5	trace	0	210
	73	B	28	62	43	18	0	0	0	151
	74		23	56	20	78	8	2	0	187
3AN	102		23	88	43.5	67.5	42	7	0	271
	103		15	8	36	13	14	0	0	86
	132	B	40	90	35	112	26	1	0	304
	193		22	69	24	77	7	2	0	201
3BS	75		19	57	49	49	13	7	1	195
	77		19	24	77	32	14	0	0	166

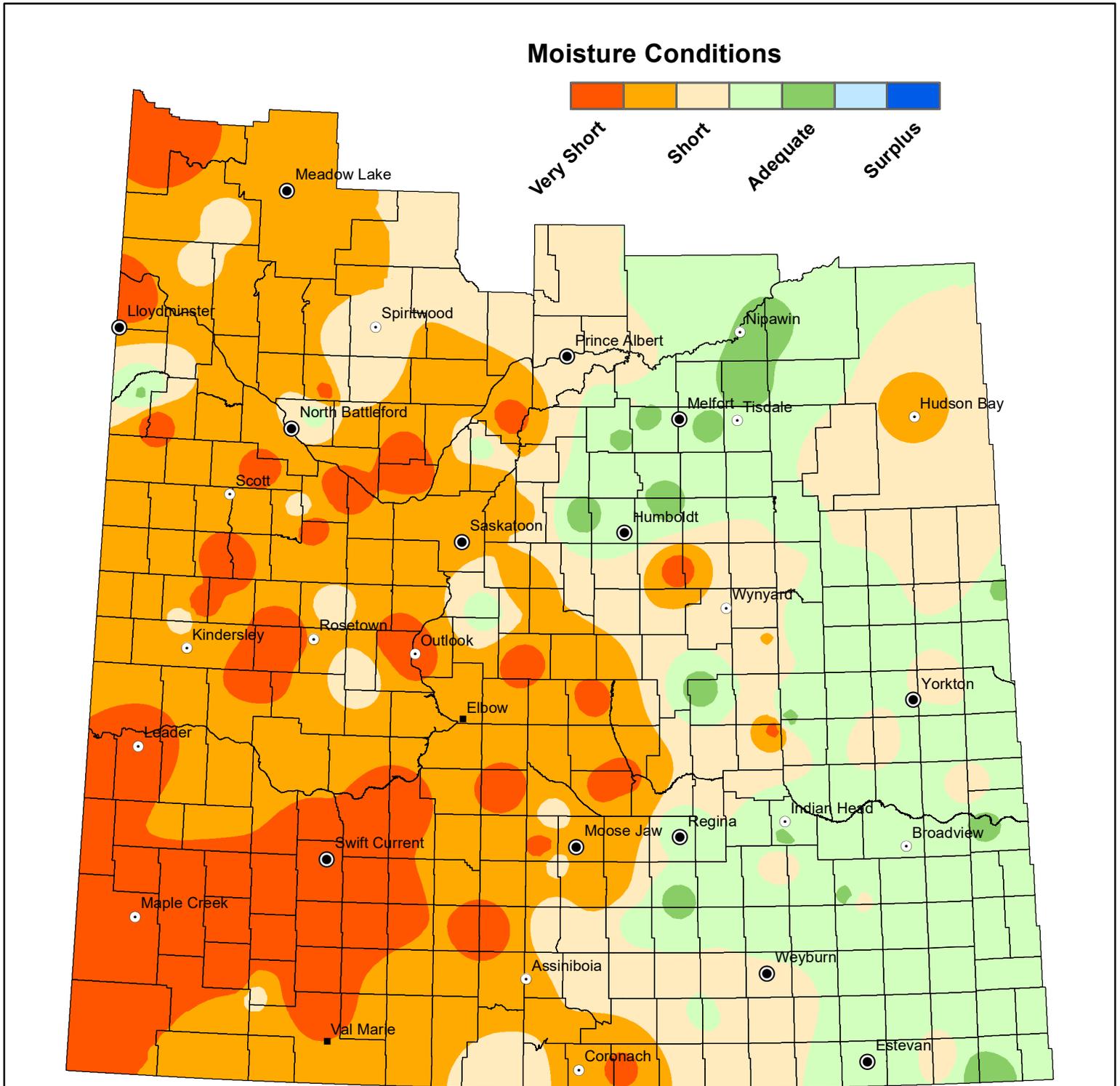
	78		9	34	56	56	10	9	0	174
	106	A	8	41	46	69	31	10	0	205
	106	B	23	49	40	117	21	8	0	258
	108		22	41	138	4	14	2	0	221
3BN	138		41	53	58	82	6	4	0	244
	165		21	59	54	79	12	3	2	230
	168	A	30	35	25	62	4	4	0	160
	168	B	25	5	90	17	0	0	3	140
	228		12	26.5	63.5	33.5	14.5	4	0	154
	257		3	8	0	54	5	0	0	70
4A	51		21	22	94	42	14	6	0	199
	79	A	36	29	52	47	0	6	0	170
	79	B	79	33	56	69	9	6	0	252
	110		17	20	90	75	0	0	0	202
	111		25	124	83	32	15	0	0	279
4B	139		15	50	33	55	22	0	0	175
	229		26	40	58	56	7	2	0	189
	231		17	18	54	27	10	1	0	127
5A	181		30	134	124	92	61	14	0	455
	183	A	57	183	219	90	66	14	0	629
	211		27	133	54	70	25	13	0	322
	213		24	113	103	46	74	7	0	367
	215		40	154	111	74	29	2	0	410
	216		18.8	118.1	67.1	87.4	56.6	8	0.3	356
	217		25	175	91	88	83	19	trace	481
	241		15	132	91	63	49	16	0	366
	243		30	83	96	31	38	14	0	292
	245	A	34	163	67	74	1	0	0	339
	245	B	24	151	90	45	46	13	0	369
	246	A	23	107	49	42	10	22	2	255
	246	B	16.1	173.2	67.09	38.2	63.5	16.2	2.8	377
	247		10	117	65	58	28	0	0	278
	248		7	95	25	56	38	16	0	237
5B	273		0	128	72	50	52	0	0	302
	275		26	209	50	46	103	0	0	434
	277	A	37	171	88	25	60	20	0	401
	277	B	24.5	187.5	59	16	60	13	3	363
	301		12	160	88	29	20	52	3	364
	305		19.5	192.5	50	20	65	25	0	372
	307		19	141	59	19	85	22	0	345
	308	A	17	115	41	30	41	11	0	255
	331		18	120	91	36	66	5	2	338
	334		0	18	0	trace	0	0	0	18
	337		14	147	45	62	62	0	0	330
	366		7	110	69	27	93	21	0	327
	367		5	25	44	28	40	0	0	142
6A	189		0	70	0	0	0	0	0	70
	190	A	8	106	50	86	31	8	0	289
	190	B	20	70	27	91	18	9	0	235

	190	C	20	55	6	90	16	2	0	189
	190	D	19	31	10	35	8	10	0	113
	219	A	2	117	29	189	22	25	0	384
	219	B	18	77	16	78	62	10	0	261
	220		0	82	56	85	40	0	0	263
	221		23	82	22	84	45	12	0	268
	222		33	101	47	88	45	12	0	326
	251		5	65	15	81	35	0	0	201
	252		4	12	2	126	31	6	0	181
	279		3	0	80	1	17	18	0	119
	282		7	53	55	53	18	3	0	189
	339		24	98	58	39	77	12	1	309
	343		15	43	63	136	50	9	0	316
6B	223	A	1	49	30	67	45	0	0	192
	223	B	trace	59	62	81	10	trace	0	212
	284	A	2	35	49	40	0	0	0	126
	285		11	21	25.5	46	16	10	0.5	130
	286		5	22	127	55	23	12	0	244
	314		5	51	61	45	7	5	0	174
	344		12	27	76	37	15	11	2	180
	376		9	16	52	29	18	10	0	134
	403	A	13	39	74	35	87	24	4	276
	403	B	14	46	18	13	40	3	0	134
7A	287		5	6	50	71	6	4	0	142
	288		9	3	64	50	15	9	1	151
	290		2	11	91	63	9	10	0	186
	292		30	14	154	75	20	6	0	299
	317	A	9	13	57	64	12	12	0	167
	317	B	4	5	172	29	4	0	0	214
	320	A	11.6	22.7	102	91.4	33	6	0	267
	320	B	6	14	136	79	5	7	0	247
	321		18	20	169	90	7	12	8	324
7B	347		4	16	115	37	18	11	0	201
	350		10	6	57	65	14	6	0	158
	351		4	9	64	61	25	20	0	183
	377		9	12	68	40	26	8	2	165
	378		9	26	34	62	12	10	0	153
	382		10	15	102	20	83	3	0	233
	409	A	0	25	90	55	15	9	0	194
	409	B	6	trace	43	55	21	12	0	137
	410		0	5	41	75	15	12	0	148
8A	394		12	90	58	31	65	25	0	281
	395		17	124	126	35	83	38	0	423
	397	A	18	135	72	46	112	5	4	392
	397	B	0	94	34	5	75	0	0	208
	428		10	119	80	26	60	26	5	326
	456		12	89	65	40	54	59	3	322
	457		3	63	53	0	24	25	0	168
	486		4	75	80	43	93	55	0	350

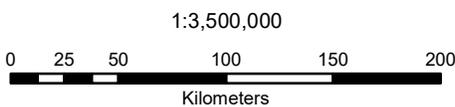
	487		n/a	61	119	70	67	51	0	368
8B	369		20	75	56	27	102	25	4	309
	370	A	11	77	45	82	171	18	0	404
	371		21	60	63	62	111	26	2	345
	372		12.2	49.6	83.2	40.4	56.2	19	1.4	262
	400		12	106	88	36	56	19	1	318
	429		8	80	80	74	26	32	4	304
	430		6	68	88	61	48	40	0	311
	459		0	83	132	83	47	41	7	393
	460		5	34	83	74	79	27	0	302
9AE	461		n/a	46.25	127.5	27.5	80	35	10	326
	488		0	77	112	33	50	20	11	303
	491		1	31	178	51	107	41	0	409
	520		6	29	69	39	78	5	0	226
	521		6	29	69	39	78	5	0	226
9AW	405		40	40	15	trace	20	15	0	130
	435		24	45	66	24	56	9	0	224
	436		5	22	42	49	24	7	0	149
	437		2	77	73	22	5	0	5	184
	463		16.5	38	93	192.5	42	42	5	429
	466		24	1	96	110	59	13	0	303
	467	A	20	52	51	58	72	10	0	263
	467	B	25	1	87	73	54	12	0	252
	493		9	14	68	54	trace	14	0	159
	496		trace	93	204	13	0	0	0	310
	497		9	80	134	67	28	10	0	328
9B	440		23	18	113	78	48	1	0	281
	442		12.7	29.1	95.3	82	103.7	1.3	0	324
	498		5	84	143	119	17	4	0	372
	499	A	20	73	162	86	64	4	0	409
	499	B	n/a	69.5	143	78	51	1	0	343
	501	A	8	56	118	35	65	7	2	291
	501	B	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	60
	501	C	5	55	157	21	51	9	0	298
	502		2	9	73	15	20	trace	0	119
	561		10	29	153	26	17	4	0	239
	588		0	38	204	13	25	18	0	298
	622		18	23	133	42	46	31	0	293

Cropland Topsoil Moisture Conditions

October 17, 2022



NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.



Projection: UTM Zone 13 Datum: NAD83

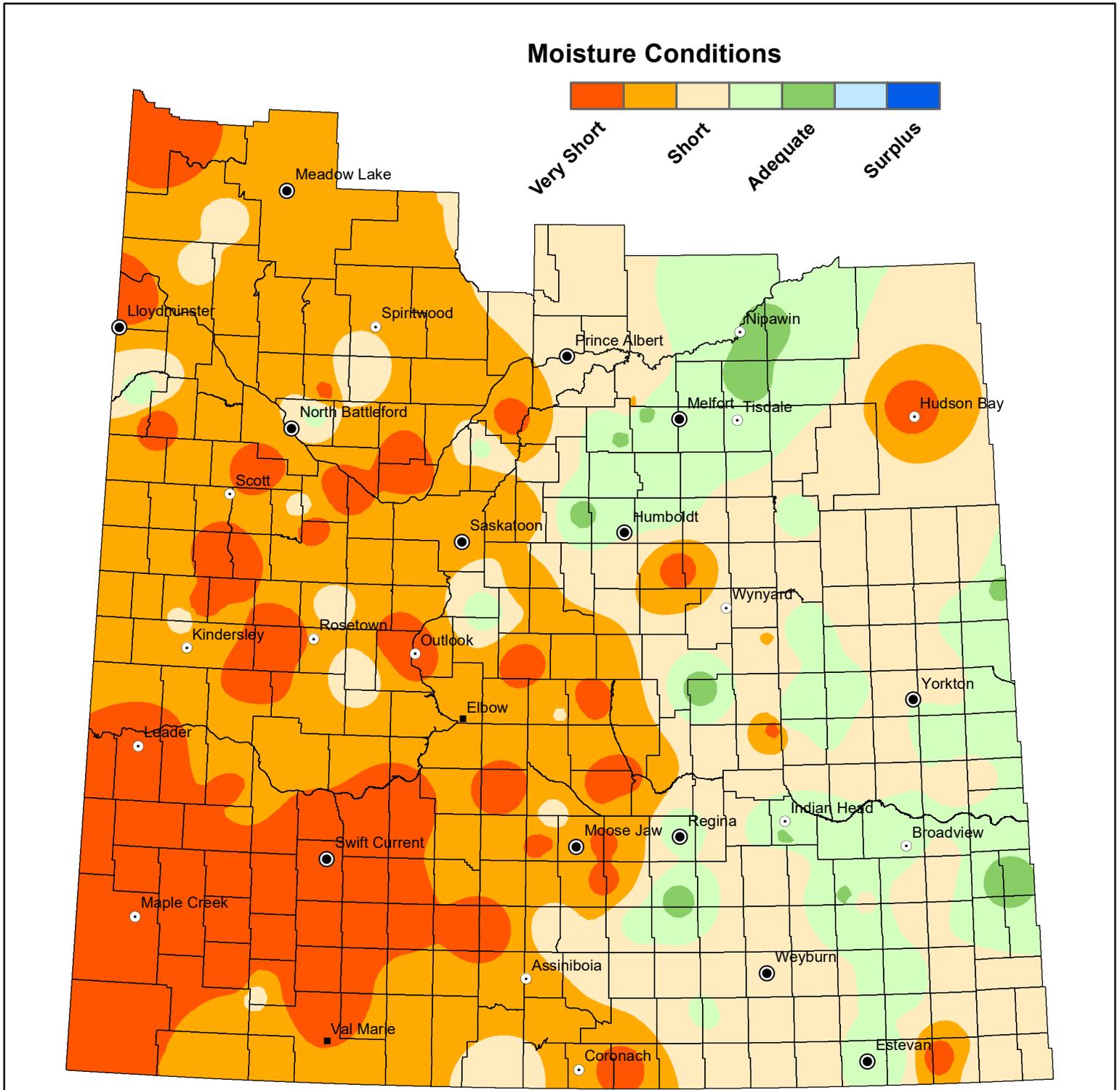


Data Source:
Moisture - Ministry of Agriculture, Crop Report Database
IDW interpolation (power 2.5, fixed radius 300 km)

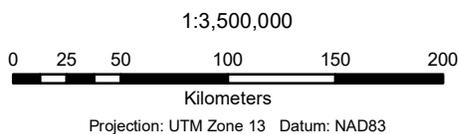
Geomatics Services, Ministry of Agriculture October 19, 2022

Hay and Pasture Topsoil Moisture Conditions

October 17, 2022



NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.

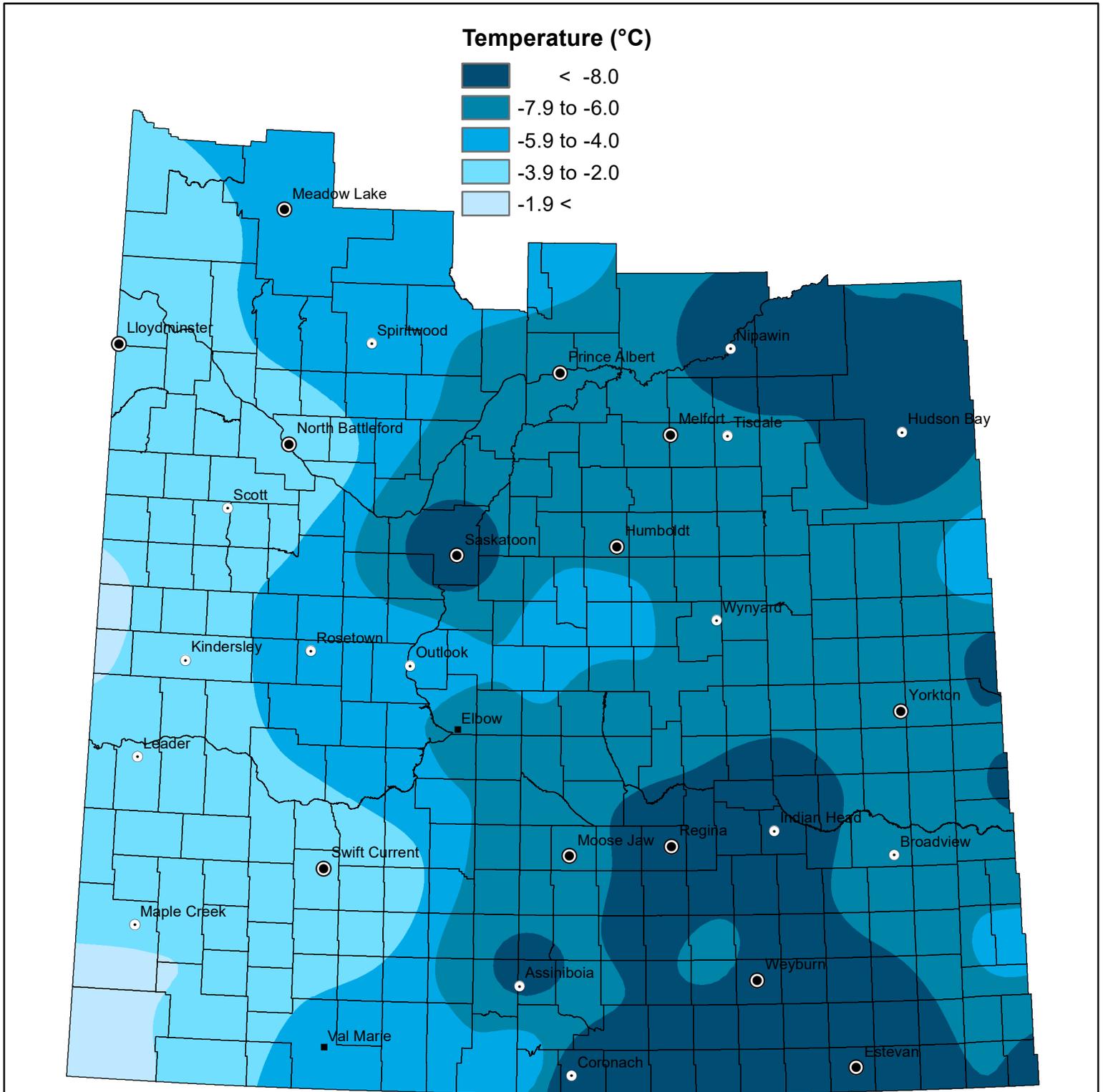


Data Source:
Moisture - Ministry of Agriculture, Crop Report Database
IDW interpolation (power 2.5, fixed radius 300 km)

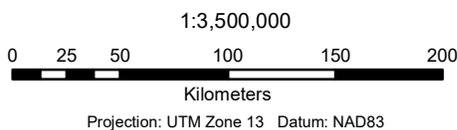
Geomatics Services, Ministry of Agriculture October 19, 2022

Minimum Temperature

from October 11 to October 17, 2022



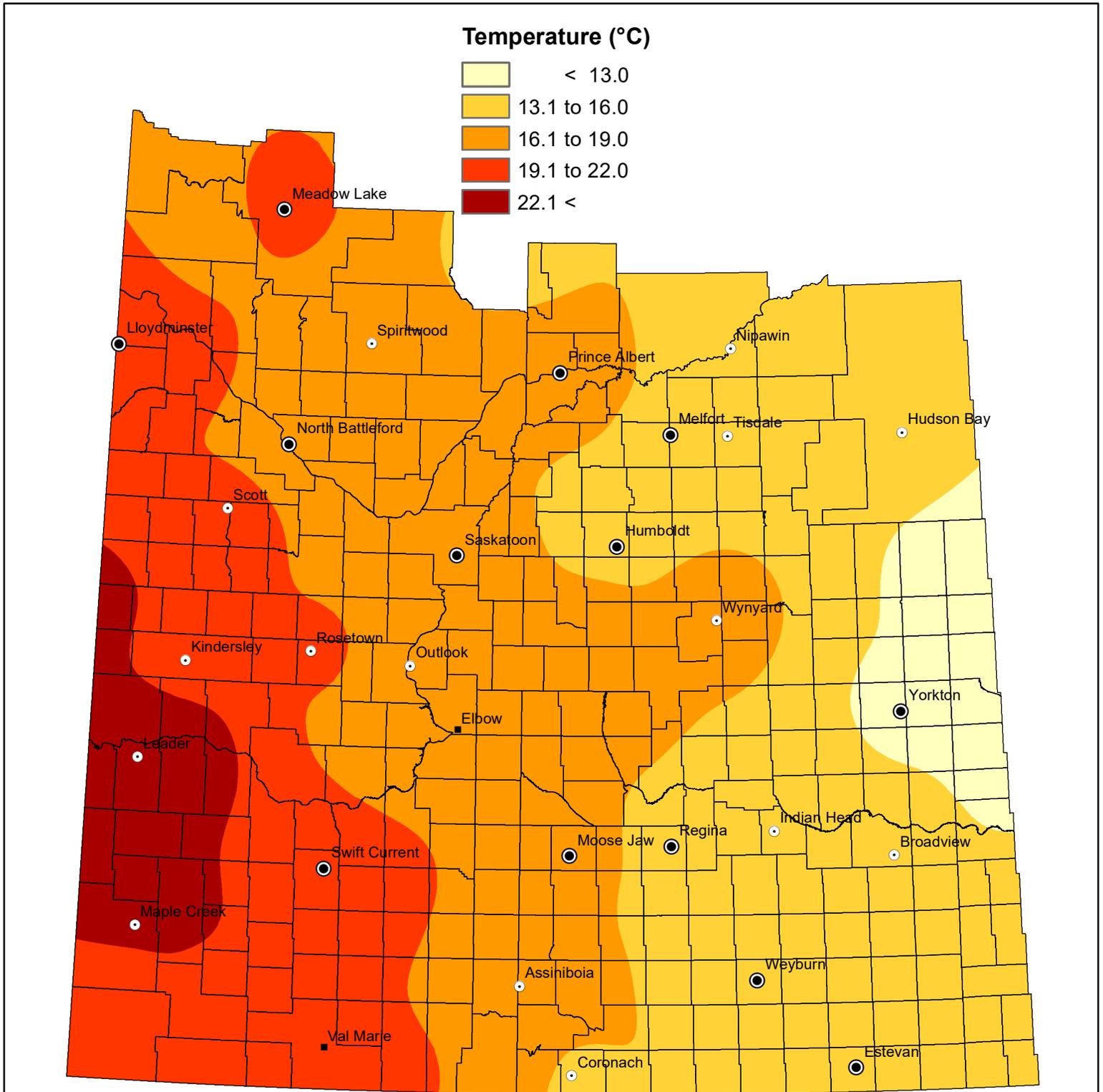
NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.



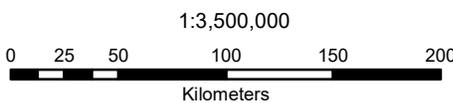
Data Sources:
 Temperature data - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (Wildfire Management Branch) and Environment Canada.
 Temperature data compiled and quality controlled by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
 IDW interpolation (power 3.5, fixed radius 300 km)
 Geomatics Services, Ministry of Agriculture October 19, 2022

Maximum Temperature

from October 11 to October 17, 2022



NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.



Projection: UTM Zone 13 Datum: NAD83

Data Sources:
 Temperature data - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment (Wildfire Management Branch) and Environment Canada.
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