

Crop Report for August 28, 2005

Many areas of the grainbelt received additional rain last week, slowing harvest operations and impacting crop quality, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report.

The north and west-central areas of the grainbelt received the most rain, with amounts of over 160 mm reported.

Eight per cent of the 2005 crop has been combined and a further 21 per cent has been swathed or is ready to be straight combined. The five-year average for this time of year is 25 per cent combined and 21 per cent swathed or ready to straight combine.

Harvest operations are most advanced in the southwest, where 20 per cent of the crop has been combined. Provincially, winter wheat is 62 per cent combined, fall rye is at 56 per cent, peas are at 39 per cent and lentils are at 30 per cent.

Insects, rain and wind were the main sources of crop damage during the past week. The wind and rain lodged crops in many areas of the province. There were reports of staining, bleaching and sprouting.

Last week's rain improved topsoil moisture conditions on crop land with 63 per cent of reporters giving an adequate rating, compared with 58 per cent last week. Hay and pasture land are rated as adequate by 68 per cent of reporters, up from 46 per cent last week. Areas of surplus moisture increased.

Pasture conditions have deteriorated from the end of July, when 81 per cent of reporters rated pastures in good to excellent condition. The current level is 59 per cent. All reporters continue to rate livestock water supplies as adequate.

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1 Year Ago

Rain and cool weather hampered harvest activities.

Farmers had combined 2% and swathed 10% of the 2004 crop.

Excessive rainfall reduced crop quality in many areas.

South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3ase)

The south eastern region was cool with some showers during the past week. An average of 6 mm of precipitation was reported, ranging from an average low of 1 mm reported in Crop District (CD) 3ase, to an average high of 11 mm, reported in CD 1b. Wind damage, including lodging and scattering of swaths, was reported in CDs 1 and 2b. Damage from flooding was reported in CD 1b. Hail damage was reported in CDs 1b and 2b.

Fifteen per cent of the 2005 south eastern crop has been combined and 27% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Seventy-two per cent of the winter wheat, 74% of the fall rye, 34% of the lentils, 60% of the peas, 32% of the chickpeas, and 15% of the canola have been combined.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland remained the same as last week with 64% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate. Conditions improved on hay and pasture land with 59% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 48% last week.

Insects were the main source of crop damage this past week, with reporters citing damage from sawflies, grasshoppers, and aphids. Diseases reported included ergot, root rot, and powdery mildew. Waterfowl caused crop damage in CD 2b. Lodging, sprouting, bleaching, and light bushel weights

were also indicated as concerns by reporters.

Pasture conditions in the southeast are reported as good to excellent by 48% of reporters, down from 91% in late July. Livestock water availability is rated as adequate by all reporters.

Warm, sunny weather is needed for harvest to progress more rapidly.

South western Saskatchewan (CDs 3asw, 3an, 3b, & 4)

In the southwest, the past week was warm at the beginning of the week, but turned cooler and wetter as the week progressed. An average of 25 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, ranging from an average low of 13 mm reported in CD 3asw, to an average high of 40 mm reported in CD 4. Over 60 mm of rain was reported in the Val Marie and Maple Creek areas. Wind damage, including lodging and scattering of swaths, was reported in most areas. Damage from flooding was reported in CDs 3asw, 3b, and 4b. Hail damage was spotty but severe and was reported in CDs 3bs and 4. The heavy rains caused some soil erosion.

Twenty per cent of the 2005 south western crop has been combined and a further 18% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Fall crops are furthest ahead with 85% of the winter wheat crop and 64% of the fall rye crop combined. Other combining

progress includes 79% of the peas, 49% of the lentils, 24% of the barley, 17% of the canola, 16% of the mustard, and 13% of the oats.

Areas of short and very short topsoil moisture decreased while areas of surplus moisture increased. Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland were reported as adequate by 40% of reporters, compared with 21% last week. Conditions improved on hay and pasture land with 40% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared to 13% last week.

Insects were the main source of crop damage this past week, with reporters citing damage from sawflies, aphids, wheat midge, and grasshoppers. Gophers are damaging crops in CD 3bs. Bleaching, staining, sprouting, and lodging were also indicated as concerns by farmers.

Pasture conditions have deteriorated in the southwest. In late July, 57% of reporters rated pastures in good to excellent condition; this month, 25% give the same rating. All reporters indicate that livestock water supplies are adequate.

Rain and uneven maturing of crops have delayed harvest operations. The weather has also downgraded crop quality.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region was cool and wet during the latter part of last week. An average of 29 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, ranging from an average low of 15 mm reported in CD 5a to an average high of 40 mm reported in CD 5b. Over 90 mm was reported in the Wynyard area. Flooding damage, including lodging, was reported in CDs 5b and 6a. Wind and hail damage were reported across the region.

Four per cent of the 2005 east central crop has been combined and a further 32% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Fall crops are furthest ahead with 61% of the fall rye and 46% of the winter wheat crops combined. Twenty per cent of the peas and 11% of the lentils have been combined.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved, with 71% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared with 56% last week. Conditions also improved on hay and pasture land with 75% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 44% last week. Areas with surplus moisture increased.

Insects were the main source of crop damage this past week, coming from sawflies, wheat midge, flea beetles, and bertha armyworm larvae. Diseases in canola caused some damage in CD 5b. Smut was reported in some oat fields in CD 6a. Waterfowl damaged crops in CD 6a. Lodging, bleaching, staining, sprouting, mould, and light bushel weight concerns were reported. One reporter in CD 5a indicated the yield potential of canola in low areas was damaged by standing water in June more than people realized.

Pasture conditions have deteriorated in the last month. At the end of July, 83% of east central reporters rated pastures as good to excellent – at the end of August, 55% make that rating. All reporters rate livestock water supplies as adequate.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

The west central region was cool and wet this past week. An average of 44 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, ranging from an average low of 29 mm reported in CD 6b, to an average high of 61 mm reported in CD 7b. Over 100 mm was reported in the Major and Denzil areas. Flood damage, including lodging, was reported across the region. Wind damage, including lodging, was reported in CD 7.

One per cent of the 2005 west central crop has been combined, with a further 15% either swathed or ready to straight combine. Fall crops are furthest ahead with 32% of the fall rye and 13% of the winter wheat crops combined. Eight per cent of the lentils and 6% of the peas have been combined.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved in that fewer reporters rate conditions as short or very short, but more rate soil conditions as surplus. Seventy per cent of reporters rate topsoil moisture conditions on crop land as adequate. Conditions improved on hay and pasture land with 77% of reporters

Saskatchewan Harvest Progress at August 28, 2005

	% In Swath or Ready to Str.Cmb.			% Combined		
	2005	2004	Average 2000-04	2005	2004	Average 2000-04
Winter wheat	25	22	12	62	10	63
Spring wheat	13	6	19	2	0	23
Durum	12	4	13	3	0	23
Oats	11	2	19	3	0	12
Barley	19	7	20	7	1	28
Fall rye	19	30	13	56	32	70
Triticale	16	20	22	3	1	26
Flax	2	0	6	0	0	3
Canola	44	22	44	4	0	15
Mustard	34	16	20	10	3	29
Sunflowers	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lentils	30	22	15	30	6	45
Peas	27	18	11	39	10	55
Canary seed	3	2	9	0	0	5
Chickpeas	8	1	5	7	0	14
Total	21	10	21	8	2	25

rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 59% last week.

Insect damage came from sawflies and aphids. Leaf rust was reported in spring wheat in CD 6b. As well, water fowl damaged crops in CD 6b. Farmers also expressed concerns about bleaching, staining, sprouting, lodging, and light bushel weights.

At the end of July, 83% of west central crop reporters rated pastures in good to excellent condition. At the end of August, that rating comes from 85% of reporters.

Farmers were back in the fields in CD 7a by Saturday, swathing and desiccating. Combines were rolling by late Saturday. Weedy fields will make combining challenging.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

The north eastern region was cool and wet last week. An average of 41 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, ranging from an average low of 28 mm reported in CD 8b, to an average high of 55 mm reported in CD 8a. Over 100 mm was reported in the Porcupine Plain area. Damage from flooding, including lodging and moving swaths, was reported in CDs 8a and 9ae. Wind damage, including lodging, was reported across the region.

One per cent of the 2005 north eastern crop has been combined and

a further 16% is swathed or is ready to straight combine. Fall crops are furthest along with 15% of the fall rye crop and 16% of the winter wheat crop combined. Two per cent of the peas and 1% each of the barley and canola crops have been combined.

Ratings for topsoil moisture conditions on cropland moved out of the short category, and into the surplus category. Two-thirds of the reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate. Conditions improved on hay and pasture land with 96% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 72% last week.

Sawflies and mildew were cited as sources of crop damage this past week. Farmers also expressed concerns over sprouting and lodging.

Pasture conditions are rated as good to excellent by 87% of crop reporters. In late July, 92% gave that rating. All reporters rate livestock water supplies as adequate.

Hay was spoiling with the wet conditions and little drying. Desiccation is continuing.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9aw & 9b)

The north western region was cool and wet with heavy rains this past week. An average of 56 mm of precipitation was reported across the region, ranging from an average low of 32 mm reported in CD 9aw, to an average high of 76 mm reported in

CD 9b. Over 150 mm was reported in the Marsden and Lashburn areas. Flooding damage, including lodging, was reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 9b.

One per cent of the 2005 north western crop has been combined and a further 8% has been swathed or is ready to straight combine. Eighteen per cent of the fall rye, 4% of the peas, and 1% each of the barley and canola have been combined.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland deteriorated during the past week, with 31% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 4% last week. Conditions also improved slightly on hay and pasture land with 81% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 79% last week.

Insect damage came from grasshoppers, sawflies, diamondback moth larvae, and bertha armyworm larvae. Powdery mildew was the disease concern. Gophers caused crop damage in CD 9b. Other concerns were lodging and sprouting.

In late July, all crop reporters rated pasture conditions as good to excellent. In late August, 88% give that rating.

Flooding in hay fields will destroy hay bales that are not picked up. The ground is saturated in many areas and drying weather is desperately needed.

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending August 27, 2005

Crop Municipality	Past	Since	Crop Municipality	Past	Since	Crop Municipality	Past	Since
Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1
1A 1 Argyle	NIL	349	167 Sask. Landing	14	270	404 Laird	18	243
2 Mount Pleasant	NIL	325	226 Victory	21	318	7A 259 Snipe Lake	41	272
3 B Enniskillen	4	354	228 B Lacadena	21	276	260 Newcombe	35	219
31 Storthoaks	NIL	297	256 King George	20	297	288 Pleasant Valley	18	344
32 Reciprocity	NIL	292	4A 19 Frontier	16	350	290 Kindersley	39	260
33 A Moose Creek	NIL	351	79 Arlington	29	185	292 Milton	54	292
34 Browning	13	299	109 B Carmichael	55	324	317 B Marriott	21	369
35 Benson	12	336	110 Piapot	30	304	317 C Marriott	20	274
63 A Moose Mountain	6	244	111 A Maple Creek	63	329	318 A Mountain View	35	304
64 Brock	18	325	111 B Maple Creek	44	315	318 B Mountain View	42	351
65 Tecumseh	4	325	4B 141 Big Stick	52	291	319 Winslow	43	281
1B 91 Maryfield	NIL	248	171 Fox Valley	15	273	320 Oakdale	58	318
94 Hazelwood	15	324	229 Miry Creek	15	218	321 Prairiedale	59	312
95 Golden West	6	288	231 Happyland	76	351	322 Antelope Park	59	318
123 Silverwood	15	343	5A 152 Spy Hill	15	252	7B 347 A Biggar	25	298
124 Kingsley	14	314	181 Langenburg	12	286	347 B Biggar	20	264
125 Chester	10	218	183 Fertile Belt	5	309	350 A Mariposa	69	285
151 A Rocanville	NIL	381	184 C Grayson	16	286	350 B Mariposa	47	256
151 B Rocanville	23	350	185 Mcleod	19	370	351 Progress	91	354
153 Willowdale	5	241	186 Abernethy	15	313	352 Heart's Hill	110	470
154 Elcapo	15	233	187 North Qu'appelle	2	231	377 A Glenside	28	303
155 Wolseley	12	345	213 Saltcoats	8	304	378 A Rosemount	29	303
2A 36 Cymri	1	340	214 Cana	8	338	378 B Rosemount	23	308
66 Griffin	8	224	241 Calder	52	457	379 Reford	48	328
67 Weyburn	NIL	219	243 Wallace	4	379	380 A Tramping Lake	75	309
68 Brokenshell	NIL	249	245 A Garry	10	282	382 Eye Hill	114	508
96 Fillmore	6	294	245 B Garry	5	349	409 Buffalo	55	318
97 Wellington	TR	267	246 Ituna Bon Accord	12	400	410 Round Valley	94	375
99 Caledonia	1	331	247 Kellross	19	371	411 Senlac	93	356
2B 127 Francis	10	337	248 Touchwood	32	263	8A 395 Porcupine	102	347
128 Lajord	5	182	5B 271 Cote	25	365	398 Pleasantdale	51	401
129 Bratt's Lake	NIL	222	276 Foam Lake	28	337	428 Star City	58	435
131 Baildon	7	302	277 Emerald	22	282	456 Arborfield	85	341
156 A Indian Head	12	374	303 Keys	15	350	457 A Connaught	37	231
156 B Indian Head	8	337	304 Buchanan	17	205	457 B Connaught	40	199
157 South Qu'appelle	6	385	307 Elfros	41	283	458 Willow Creek	32	268
158 Edenwold	10	221	308 Big Quill	94	346	486 Moose Range	42	233
160 Pense	12	173	335 Hazel Dell	27	320	487 Nipawin	46	231
191 Marquis	15	247	336 Sasman	31	256	8B 369 St. Peter	35	266
3ASE 8 Lake Alma	1	265	337 Lakeview	48	278	370 Humboldt	17	291
38 A Laurier	NIL	305	338 Lakeside	43	224	371 Bayne	15	241
38 B Laurier	1	269	366 A Kelvington	61	273	372 Grant	28	277
39 A The Gap	NIL	197	366 B Kelvington	56	277	373 A Aberdeen	34	309
39 B The Gap	1	249	367 Ponass Lake	56	308	373 B Aberdeen	26	207*
3ASW 12 Poplar Valley	NIL	178	189 Lumsden	28	285	400 Three Lakes	24	262
40 Bengough	8	269	190 A Dufferin	54	269	402 Fish Creek	34	304
42 Willow Bunch	TR	243	190 B Dufferin	36	227	429 A Flett's Springs	32	366
43 A Old Post	NIL	208	190 C Dufferin	24	211	429 B Flett's Springs	34	330
43 B Old Post	0	199	219 B Longlaketon	7	193	430 Invergordon	25	248
44 Waverley	49	234	219 C Longlaketon	36	271	431 A St. Louis	38	263
70 Key West	NIL	250	220 Mckillop	45	262	459 Kinistino	27	275
71 A Excel	NIL	224	221 Sarnia	21	273	9AE 461 Prince Albert	81	317
71 B Excel	NIL	178	222 Craik	42	310	488 Torch River	46	360
73 A Stonehenge	38	223	251 Big Arm	23	385	520 B Paddockwood	34	228
73 B Stonehenge	45	255	252 Arm River	23	252	9AW 405 Great Bend	36	219
3AN 101 A Terrell	20	162	279 A Mount Hope	40	262	406 Mayfield	28	295
101 B Terrell	1	240	279 B Mount Hope	65	387	435 Redberry	28	278
102 Lake Johnston	27	240	280 Wreford	41	266	436 Douglas	9	239
103 Sutton	12	203	281 Wood Creek	20	251	463 Duck Lake	44	309
104 Gravelbourg	23	179	282 Mccraney	32	342	464 Leask	42	295
132 Hillsborough	8	179	309 Prairie Rose	30	230	466 Meeting Lake	9	348
134 Shamrock	26	278	310 Osborne	34	345	467 Round Hill	10	292
193 Eyebrow	24	264	312 Morris	34	232	493 Shellbrook	72	233
3BS 17 A Val Marie	67	180	313 Lost River	22	214	494 Canwood	24	242
17 B Val Marie	23	159	339 A Leroy	25	197	496 Spiritwood	55	315
45 Mankota	32	158	339 B Leroy	25	208	497 Medstead	27	288
46 A Glen Mcpherson	35	179	340 A Wolverine	20	251	9B 438 A Battle River	79	397
75 A Pinto Creek	12	143	340 B Wolverine	25	258	438 B Battle River	37	293
75 B Pinto Creek	13	151	341 Viscount	23	219	442 Manitou Lake	166	407
76 A Auvergne	22	131	343 Blucher	24	207	468 A Meota	44	365
76 B Auvergne	23	160	6B 254 Loreburn	20	312	472 Wilton	155	476
77 Wise Creek	21	178	283 Rosedale	26	391	498 A Parkdale	34	303
78 A Grassy Creek	29	228	284 Rudy	53	376	499 Mervin	71	402
78 B Grassy Creek	17	150	285 Fertile Valley	12	365	501 A Frenchman Butte	58	360
78 C Grassy Creek	36	224	286 Milden	31	298	501 B Frenchman Butte	60	311
105 Glenbain	34	300	314 Dundurn	15	307	501 C Frenchman Butte	53	339
106 Whiska Creek	32	182	344 Cornman Park	37	275	502 Britannia	104	414
108 Bone Creek	29	247	345 Vanscoy	61	340	561 Loon Lake	67	436
3BN 136 Coulee	23	268	346 Perdue	21	314	588 A Meadow Lake	60	338
137 Swift Current	22	168	376 A Eagle Creek	20	285	588 B Meadow Lake	65	425
138 Webb	36	242	376 B Eagle Creek	27	295	588 C Meadow Lake	110	472
165 Morse	25	285	403 Rosthern	29	272	588 D Meadow Lake	34	344
166 Excelsior	20	268						

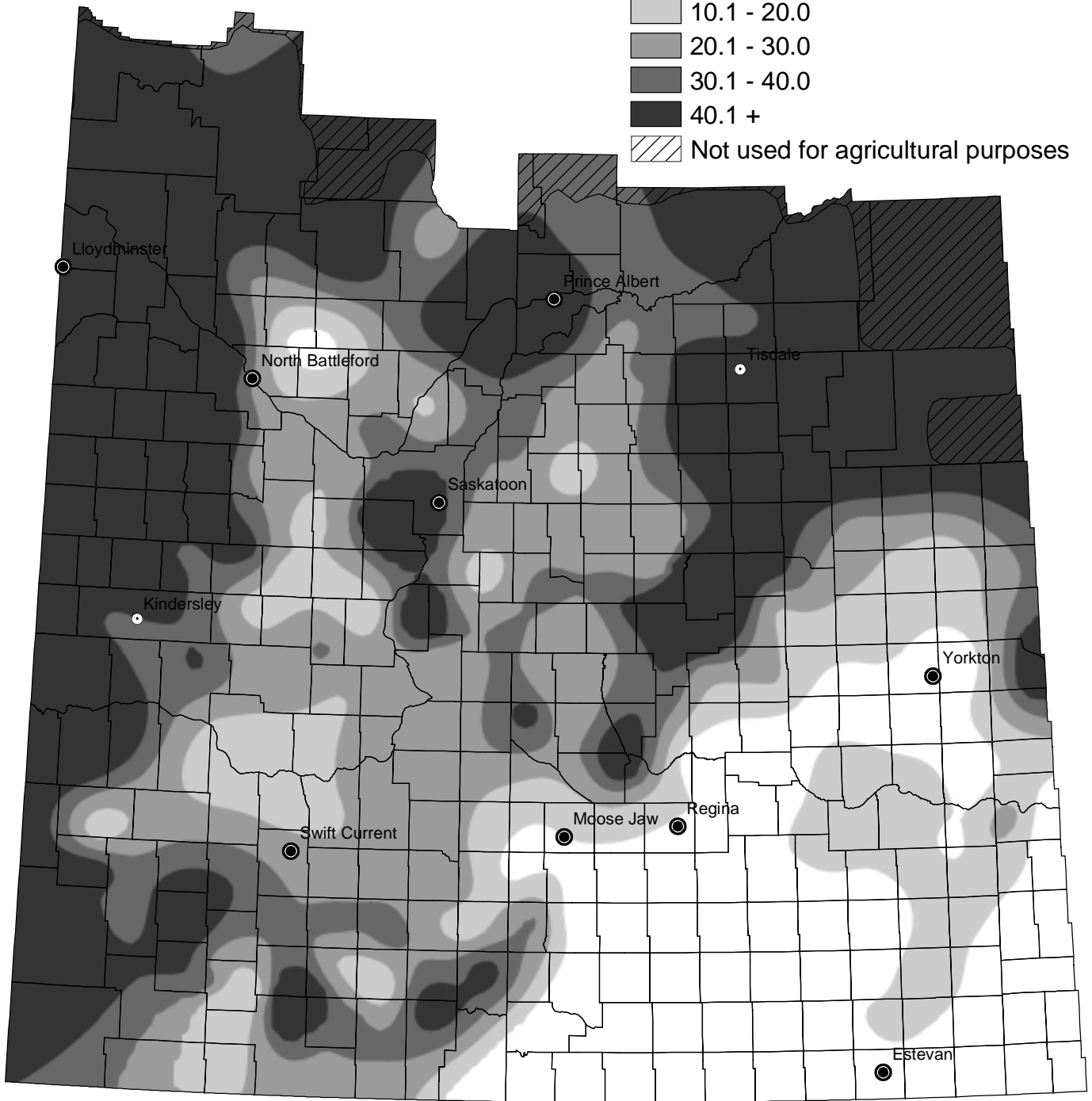
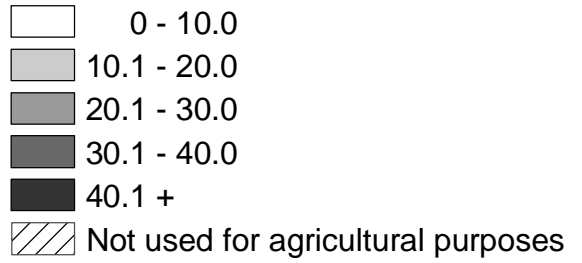
These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

* incomplete

Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

Weekly Rainfall for the week ending August 27, 2005

Rainfall (mm)



Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities

