

Crop Report for September 25, 2005

Saskatchewan farmers have combined 53 per cent of the 2005 crop, up from 37 per cent last week, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report. Last year, combining progress stood at 30 per cent; the five-year average is 68 per cent combined.

The southwest continues to be furthest advanced with 81 per cent combined, followed closely by the southeast with 80 per cent combined. The northwest continues to be least advanced with 20 per cent combined. Provincially, winter wheat, fall rye, pea, and lentil crops are all more than 85 per cent combined.

Crop reporters continue to report harvest delays, in the form of rain, dews, frosts, and high humidity. These conditions are causing further downgrading of many crops. Reporters also expressed concern about lodging, sprouting, bleaching, staining, second growth, and soft fields.

During the past week, crop damage was mainly caused by frost, wind, migratory birds, and weathering.

Close to 70 per cent of the province's pastures are in good to excellent condition, improved from the end of August. Availability of

livestock water is rated as adequate by 98 per cent of reporters, compared to 100 per cent at the end of August. Some reporters in the southern part of the province indicated that sloughs and dugouts are low or empty.

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Saskatchewan Harvest Progress at September 25, 2005

	% In Swath or Ready to Str.Cmb.			% Combined		
	2005	2004	Average 2000-04	2005	2004	Average 2000-04
Winter wheat	4	13	3	96	81	95
Spring wheat	39	47	18	39	21	68
Durum	23	30	12	67	27	71
Oats	35	39	23	36	12	57
Barley	33	41	16	52	33	71
Fall rye	1	13	3	90	77	90
Triticale	18	19	n/a	53	36	n/a
Flax	28	11	17	22	2	36
Canola	44	73	31	52	20	63
Mustard	23	32	11	70	45	77
Sunflowers	0	0	0	1	0	2
Lentils	9	18	6	86	72	85
Peas	8	14	4	87	78	91
Canary seed	30	25	13	28	9	46
Chickpeas	20	8	n.a.	43	6	n.a.
Total	32	41	20	53	30	68

1 Year Ago

Farmers had combined 30% of the 2004 crop, ranging from 47% in the southwest to 13% in the northeast.

Crop quality continued to be an issue, with damage caused by frost, insects, migratory birds and weathering.

Ongoing harvest concerns included slow ripening, lodging, second growth and the need to dry down crops for storage.

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

South eastern combining progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	100	99
Spring wheat	79	55
Durum	84	60
Oats	74	48
Barley	91	74
Fall rye	100	99
Triticale	70	48
Flax	34	13
Canola	87	64
Mustard	94	72
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	96	79
Peas	99	93
Canary seed	55	22
Chickpeas	85	61
Total	80	59

The south eastern region had sunny days and cool nights with some frost. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported, with an average high of 4 mm reported in CD 1a. Wind damage, including scattering swaths, was reported in CDs 1b, 2, and 3ase. Frost damage was reported in CDs 1 and 2b, and may have damaged late-seeded oat crops.

Eighty per cent of the 2005 south eastern crop has been combined and a further 14% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 90% of the winter wheat, fall rye, barley, mustard, lentil, and pea crops have been combined. One week of good weather should see harvest very close to completion. Weathering continued to show up including mildew, sprouting, mould, and staining.

Topsoil moisture on crop land has dried from last week with 3% of reporters rating moisture conditions as surplus compared to 7% last week. On hay and pasture land, 68% of reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 74% last week.

Pasture conditions in the southeast have improved since late August, with 55% of the reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 47% at the end of August. Eight per cent of reporters rate pastures as poor. Ninety-seven per cent of reporters rate water supplies as adequate, compared to 100% in late August. Ratings of inadequate water supplies came from CD 3ase, where it is reported that slough and dugouts are low.

Aphids, migratory birds, and mice damaged crops in CD 2b.

Farmers were applying fall herbicide, baling straw, and burning flax straw. Some winter wheat was seeded in CD 3ase. Winter wheat and fall rye were emerging in CD 2b.

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

South western combining progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	99	98
Spring wheat	82	66
Durum	76	57
Oats	70	55
Barley	83	76
Fall rye	85	85
Triticale	59	51
Flax	36	8
Canola	90	76
Mustard	87	78
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	97	88
Peas	99	97
Canary seed	36	25
Chickpeas	30	22
Total	81	67

Combining weather was variable in the southwest, with some areas being able to work longer days than others. An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation was reported. Damage from frost was reported across much of the region. Wind damage was reported in CDs 3asw, 3b, and 4a.

Eighty-one per cent of the 2005 south western crop has been combined and a further 13% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 80% of the winter wheat, spring wheat, barley, fall rye, canola, mustard, lentil, and pea crops are combined. Reporters expect that another week of good weather will see harvest very close to completion. In CD 3bs, the flax is starting to turn green from earlier rains, and in CD 3bn, the chickpeas are greening up and flowering. Quality and yields are variable in the region, with reports ranging from very good yields and quality to below average crops.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land dried from last week, with 2% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 7% last week. Conditions also dried on hay and pasture land with 62% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared to 64% last week.

Pasture conditions in the southwest are better than they were in late August, with 45% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 28% at the end of August. Livestock water availability has deteriorated from late August. Ninety-four per cent of reporters rate water supplies as adequate, compared to 100% in late August. Concerns about water supplies came from CDs 3asw, 3an, and 3bn where sloughs and dugouts are low or empty.

Insect damage came from saw flies and wheat midge. Grasshoppers were reported on the tame hay in CD 3asw. Disease pressures came from mildew and ascochyta blight. The majority of the crop damage came from weathering, including bleaching, mould, lodging, and sprouting. Geese are damaging crops that are still out.

Farmers were applying fall herbicide, summerfallowing, hauling bales, baling straw, fencing, and picking rocks. There was some more seeding of winter wheat and fall rye.

**East central Saskatchewan
(Crop Districts 5 & 6a)**

The east central region was cool

East central combining progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	91	90
Spring wheat	35	15
Durum	31	14
Oats	28	10
Barley	58	38
Fall rye	99	97
Triticale	31	18
Flax	6	1
Canola	59	32
Mustard	53	26
Sunflowers	3	3
Lentils	81	62
Peas	91	77
Canary seed	7	3
Chickpeas	57	31
Total	49	28

and dry, with showers in the western part of the region. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with an average high of 4 mm reported in CD 5b. Frost and wind damage were reported across the region. Later seeded crops are expected to be damaged by the frost. Flooding and hail damage were reported in CDs 5b and 6a.

Forty-nine per cent of the 2005 east central crop has been combined and a further 40% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 50% of the winter wheat, barley, fall rye, canola, mustard, lentil, pea, and chickpea crops are combined. Reporters indicate that about three weeks of good weather is needed to take off most of the harvest.

Topsoil moisture conditions on

cropland dried this past week, with 18% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 41% last week. Conditions also improved on hay and pasture land with 82% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 72% last week.

Pasture conditions in the east central region are better than late August, with 69% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 52% at the end of August. Livestock water availability continues to be adequate for all reporters.

Crop damage came from saw flies and migratory birds. Other concerns include mould, sprouting, bleaching, staining, lodging, and second growth. Drying down tough grains was also a concern.

More winter wheat was being seeded as canola and mustard was being harvested. Earlier-seeded winter wheat was emerging.

Farmers applied some fall herbicide.

**West central Saskatchewan
(Crop Districts 6b & 7)**

The west central region received rains showers and frost

West central combining progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	86	68
Spring wheat	17	10
Durum	14	10
Oats	13	4
Barley	35	24
Fall rye	96	93
Triticale	9	8
Flax	3	0
Canola	36	13
Mustard	25	11
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	64	56
Peas	77	73
Canary seed	8	1
Chickpeas	41	11
Total	31	21

during the past week. An average of 11 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, ranging from an average low of 7 mm reported in CD 7a, to an average high of 19 mm reported in CD 7b. Damage from frost and flooding was reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 7b. The rain was expected to delay combining for at least a week in some areas.

Thirty-one per cent of the 2005 west central crop has been combined and a further 43% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight-combined. Over 50% of the winter wheat, fall rye, lentil, and pea crops have been combined. Canola was generally taken off dry, while cereal grains were taken off tough.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved during the past week. Fifty-six per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 77% last week. Farmers were still challenged with machinery getting stuck on wet fields. Conditions were wetter on hay and pasture land with 26% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus compared to 20% last week.

Insect damage came from wheat midge and saw flies. Ergot showed up in durum in CD 6b. Geese were damaging crops across the region. Other concerns include staining, bleaching, sprouting, and lodging. Downgrading of pulse and cereal crops continues.

Pasture conditions in the west central region have improved since late August, with 94% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 83% at the end of August. Livestock water availability continues to be adequate for all reporters.

**North eastern Saskatchewan
(Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)**

North eastern combining progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	82	70
Spring wheat	13	6
Durum	12	1
Oats	17	7
Barley	26	16
Fall rye	64	56
Triticale	n/a	n/a
Flax	0	0
Canola	30	10
Mustard	24	9
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	46	28
Peas	64	50
Canary seed	12	5
Chickpeas	n/a	n/a
Total	24	12

The north eastern region started off sunny and warm, but got cooler and wetter as the week progressed. An average of 8 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with an average high of 18 mm reported in CD 9ae. Flooding damage was reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 8a. Damage from frost and hail was reported in CD 8.

Twenty-four per cent of the 2005 north eastern crop has been combined and a further 51% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 50% of the winter wheat, fall rye, and pea crops have been combined. Some areas need at least two weeks of dry weather before they can resume harvest operations.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland were the same as last week, with 96% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus. Farmers are struggling with soft fields and stuck machinery. Conditions were also the same on hay and pasture land with 70% of reporters rating topsoil

moisture as surplus.

Pasture conditions in the northeast region are better than late August, with 95% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent, compared to 87% at the end of August. Livestock water availability is the same as late August, with all reporters rating water supplies as adequate.

Crop damage came from saw flies, moulds mildew, and migrating birds. Other concerns include sprouting, shattering, bleaching, over-ripening, second growth, and lodging. Crop quality continues to deteriorate with the moisture.

Farmers did some harrowing last week.

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

North western combining progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	n/a	n/a
Spring wheat	10	6
Durum	0	0
Oats	5	1
Barley	17	12
Fall rye	99	90
Triticale	0	0
Flax	0	0
Canola	28	11
Mustard	20	0
Sunflowers	0	0
Lentils	40	40
Peas	62	49
Canary seed	0	0
Chickpeas	n/a	n/a
Total	20	11

The north western region was cool and windy with more showers during the past week. An average of 13 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with an average high of 19 mm reported in CD 9aw. Frost, flood, and wind damage were reported across the region. Frost is expected to damage the late canola, oats, and barley. Hail damage was reported in CD 9aw.

Twenty per cent of the 2005 north western crop has been combined and a further 45% is lying in the swath or is ready to be straight combined. Over 50% of the fall rye and pea crops have been combined. Many farmers have yet to start a combine.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland dried slightly during the past week, with 48% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus, compared with 56% last week. Wet fields are causing some problems for combines, and trucks cannot drive on the fields. Conditions also dried slightly on hay and pasture land with 12% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as surplus compared to 22% last week.

Pasture conditions in the northwest region are similar to late August, with 88% of reporters rating pastures as good to excellent. Livestock water availability is also similar to late August, with 100% of reporters rate water supplies as adequate.

Grasshoppers, bertha armyworm larvae, sawflies, gophers, and migrating birds damaged crops in the northwest. Other concerns include sprouting, bleaching, second growth, and lodging.

Sask. combining progress		
	% this week	% last week
Winter wheat	96	93
Spring wheat	39	25
Durum	67	49
Oats	36	20
Barley	52	38
Fall rye	90	89
Triticale	53	39
Flax	22	7
Canola	52	29
Mustard	70	53
Sunflowers	1	1
Lentils	86	73
Peas	87	80
Canary seed	28	12
Chickpeas	43	29
Total	53	37

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending September 24, 2005

Crop Municipality			Past	Since	Crop Municipality			Past	Since	Crop Municipality			Past	Since
Dist. No.	Municipality Name		Week	April 1	Dist. No.	Municipality Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No.	Municipality Name		Week	April 1	
1A	1 Argyle		2	354		225 Canaan	NIL	351		376 B Eagle Creek		22	436	
	2 Mount Pleasant		6	351		226 Victory	TR	376		403 Rosthern		9	389	
	3 B Enniskillen		4	378		228 A Lacadena	2	307		404 Laird		20	337	
	32 Reciprocity		7	299		228 B Lacadena	TR	340	7A	259 Snipe Lake		TR	362	
	33 A Moose Creek		8	381		256 King George	NIL	357		260 Newcombe		1	308	
	34 Browning		2	340	4A	49 A White Valley	NIL	211		287 St. Andrews		4	422	
	63 A Moose Mountain		4	271		49 B White Valley	NIL	344		290 Kindersley		5	344	
	63 B Moose Mountain		2	260		51 Reno	1	195		292 Milton		8	405	
	64 Brock		3	370		109 B Carmichael	NIL	367		317 B Marriott		8	460	
	65 Tecumseh		NIL	389		110 Piapot	NIL	342		317 C Marriott		8	367	
1B	95 Golden West		TR	360		111 A Maple Creek	TR	364		318 A Mountain View		6	396	
	123 Silverwood		NIL	407		111 B Maple Creek	NIL	352		318 B Mountain View		7	471	
	124 Kingsley		NIL	382	4B	139 Gull Lake	NIL	273		319 Winslow		13	387	
	125 Chester		TR	293		141 Big Stick	TR	334		321 Prairiedale		12	442	
	151 B Rocanville		NIL	414		142 Enterprise	NIL	357		322 Antelope Park		8	419	
	153 Willowdale		NIL	323		169 Pittville	NIL	247	7B	347 A Biggar		25	416	
	154 Elcapo		NIL	310		171 Fox Valley	NIL	319		347 B Biggar		15	374	
	155 Wolseley		TR	416		229 Miry Creek	3	263		350 A Mariposa		15	303	
2A	36 Cymri		1	400		232 Deer Forks	NIL	371		350 B Mariposa		15	343	
	66 Griffin		TR	272	5A	152 Spy Hill	NIL	304		352 Heart's Hill		10	615	
	67 Weyburn		NIL	282		181 Langenburg	NIL	320		377 A Glenside		30	444	
	68 Brokenshell		NIL	282		183 Fertile Belt	NIL	416		377 B Glenside		25	441	
	96 Fillmore		NIL	371		184 A Grayson	NIL	333		378 A Rosemount		26	428	
	97 Wellington		NIL	339		184 C Grayson	TR	383		378 B Rosemount		20	397	
	99 Caledonia		NIL	358		185 Mcleod	NIL	461		379 Reford		13	398	
2B	126 Montmartre		NIL	334		186 Abernethy	NIL	363		382 Eye Hill		17	616	
	127 Francis		1	426		211 Churchbridge	TR	386		409 Buffalo		13	398	
	129 Bratt's Lake		NIL	253		213 Salcoats	2	365	8A	395 Porcupine		5	544	
	131 Baildon		1	360		214 Cana	NIL	390		397 Barrier Valley		12	537	
	156 A Indian Head		NIL	481		241 Calder	NIL	553		398 Pleasantdale		5	588	
	156 B Indian Head		1	416		243 Wallace	NIL	431		428 Star City		5	591	
	157 South Qu'appelle		NIL	457		245 A Garry	TR	370		456 Arborfield		3	571	
	158 Edenwold		0	301		245 B Garry	2	411		457 A Connaught		12	430	
	160 Pense		NIL	223		246 Ituna Bon Accord	1	468		457 B Connaught		5	355	
	161 Moose Jaw		NIL	305		247 Kellross	NIL	468		458 Willow Creek		10	403	
3ASE	8 Lake Alma		2	290		248 Touchwood	NIL	328		487 Nipawin		10	379	
	9 Surprise Valley		NIL	278	5B	271 Cote	1	426	8B	369 St. Peter		9	477	
	38 A Laurier		NIL	342		276 Foam Lake	NIL	421		370 Humboldt		2	477	
	39 A The Gap		NIL	214		277 Emerald	NIL	375		371 Bayne		3	376	
	39 B The Gap		NIL	264		303 Keys	2	414		372 Grant		5	383	
3ASW	10 Happy Valley		NIL	260		304 Buchanan	2	264		373 B Aberdeen		4	309	
	12 Poplar Valley		NIL	188		307 Elfros	4	398		399 Lake Lenore		4	510	
	40 Bengough		NIL	275		308 Big Quill	TR	444		402 Fish Creek		8	421	
	42 Willow Bunch		NIL	267		335 Hazel Dell	3	433		429 A Flett's Springs		6	459	
	43 A Old Post		NIL	253		336 Sasman	6	358		429 B Flett's Springs		7	470	
	44 Waverley		NIL	293		337 Lakeview	8	379		430 Invergordon		6	356	
	70 Key West		NIL	263		338 Lakeside	5	367		431 A St. Louis		7	396	
	71 A Excel		NIL	240		366 A Kelvington	7	404		459 Kinistino		9	395	
	71 B Excel		NIL	188		366 B Kelvington	6	408	9AE	461 Prince Albert		24	450	
	73 B Stonehenge		NIL	276		367 Ponass Lake	5	449		488 Torch River		12	506	
3AN	101 A Terrrell		NIL	188	6A	189 Lumsden	NIL	371		520 B Paddockwood		19	358	
	102 Lake Johnston		NIL	276		190 A Dufferin	NIL	331	9AW	406 Mayfield		24	400	
	103 Sutton		NIL	227		190 B Dufferin	NIL	289		435 Redberry		19	376	
	132 Hillsborough		NIL	208		190 C Dufferin	NIL	296		436 Douglas		12	317	
	134 Shamrock		NIL	322		219 C Longlaketon	1	362		463 Duck Lake		14	440	
	164 Chaplin		NIL	260		220 Mckillop	NIL	343		466 Meeting Lake		17	430	
	193 Eyebrow		NIL	312		221 Sarnia	1	354		467 Round Hill		18	400	
	194 Enfield		NIL	309		251 Big Arm	1	472		493 Shellbrook		25	359	
3BS	17 A Val Marie		NIL	190		252 Arm River	TR	334		494 Canwood		22	358	
	17 B Val Marie		NIL	184		279 B Mount Hope	NIL	467		496 Spiritwood		17	397	
	45 Mankota		NIL	198		280 Wreford	TR	373		497 Medstead		22	367	
	46 A Glen Mcpherson		NIL	204		281 A Wood Creek	3	346		555 Big River		19	531	
	75 A Pinto Creek		NIL	163		309 Prairie Rose	3	345	9B	438 A Battle River		24	494	
	75 B Pinto Creek		NIL	198		310 Usborne	TR	461		438 B Battle River		13	381	
	76 A Auvergne		NIL	153		312 Morris	1	359		468 A Meota		25	463	
	76 B Auvergne		NIL	186		339 B Leroy	5	352		472 Wilton		12	529	
	77 Wise Creek		NIL	208		340 A Wolverine	3	405		498 A Parkdale		12	362	
	78 A Grassy Creek		NIL	253		341 Viscount	2	347		498 B Parkdale		8	364	
	78 B Grassy Creek		NIL	175		343 Blucher	2	341		499 Mervin		8	471	
	78 C Grassy Creek		NIL	253	6B	254 Loreburn	TR	395		501 A Frenchman Butte		3	410	
	105 Glenbain		TR	335		283 Rosedale	1	466		501 B Frenchman Butte		4	370	
	106 Whiska Creek		NIL	205		284 Rudy	2	479		501 C Frenchman Butte		4	407	
	108 Bone Creek		TR	282		285 Fertile Valley	4	469		502 Britannia		5	464	
3BN	135 Lawtonia		NIL	322		314 Dundurn	3	450		561 Loon Lake		NIL	474	
	136 Coulee		NIL	310		344 Corman Park	10	363		588 A Meadow Lake		NIL	376	
	138 Webb		TR	266		345 Vanscoy	6	463		588 B Meadow Lake		2	475	
	166 Excelsior		NIL	306		346 Perdue	11	431		588 D Meadow Lake		4		
	167 Sask. Landing		NIL	308		376 A Eagle Creek	19	432						

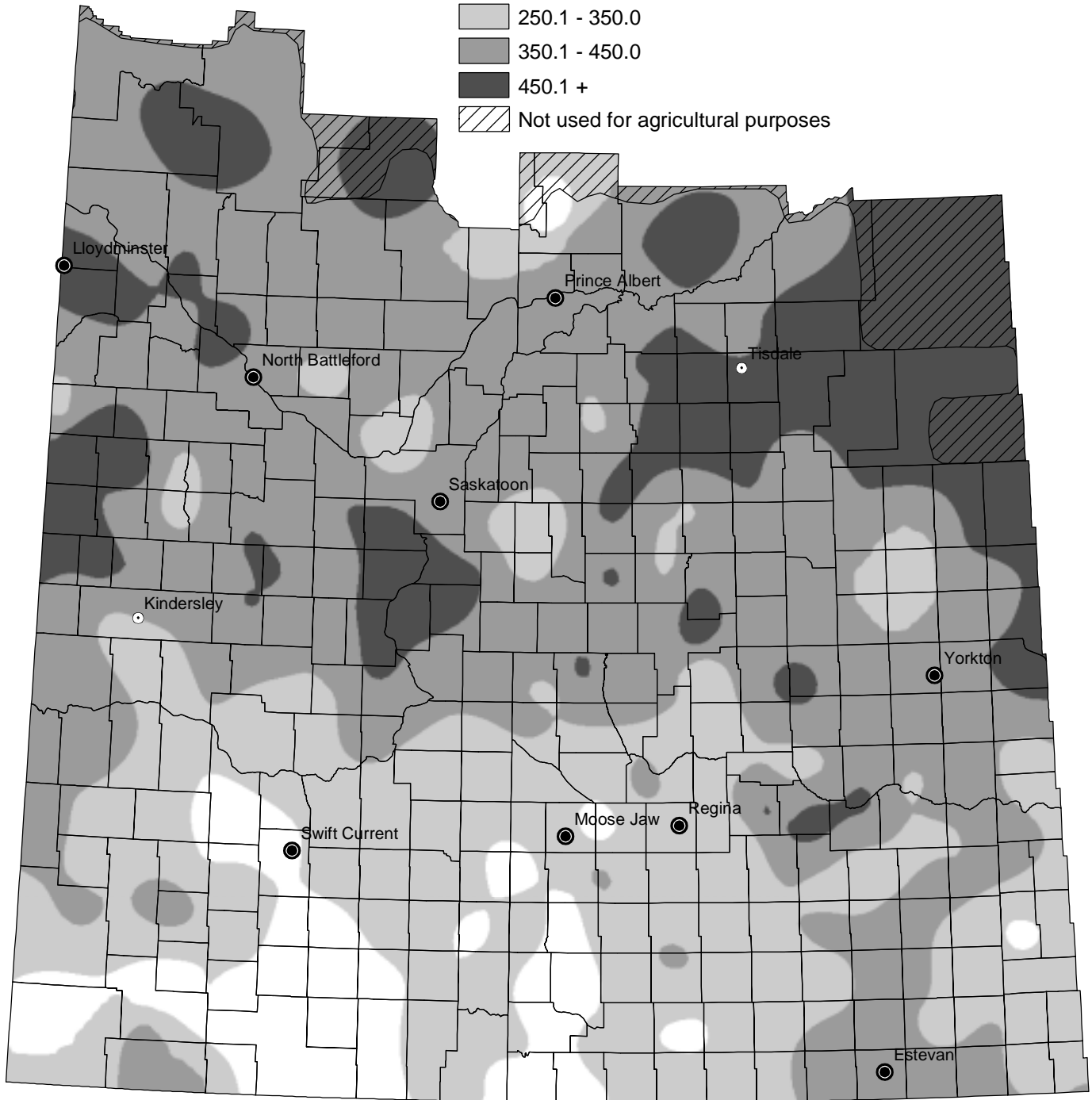
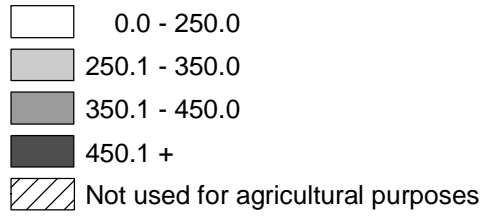
These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

* incomplete

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

Weekly Rainfall for the week ending September 24, 2005

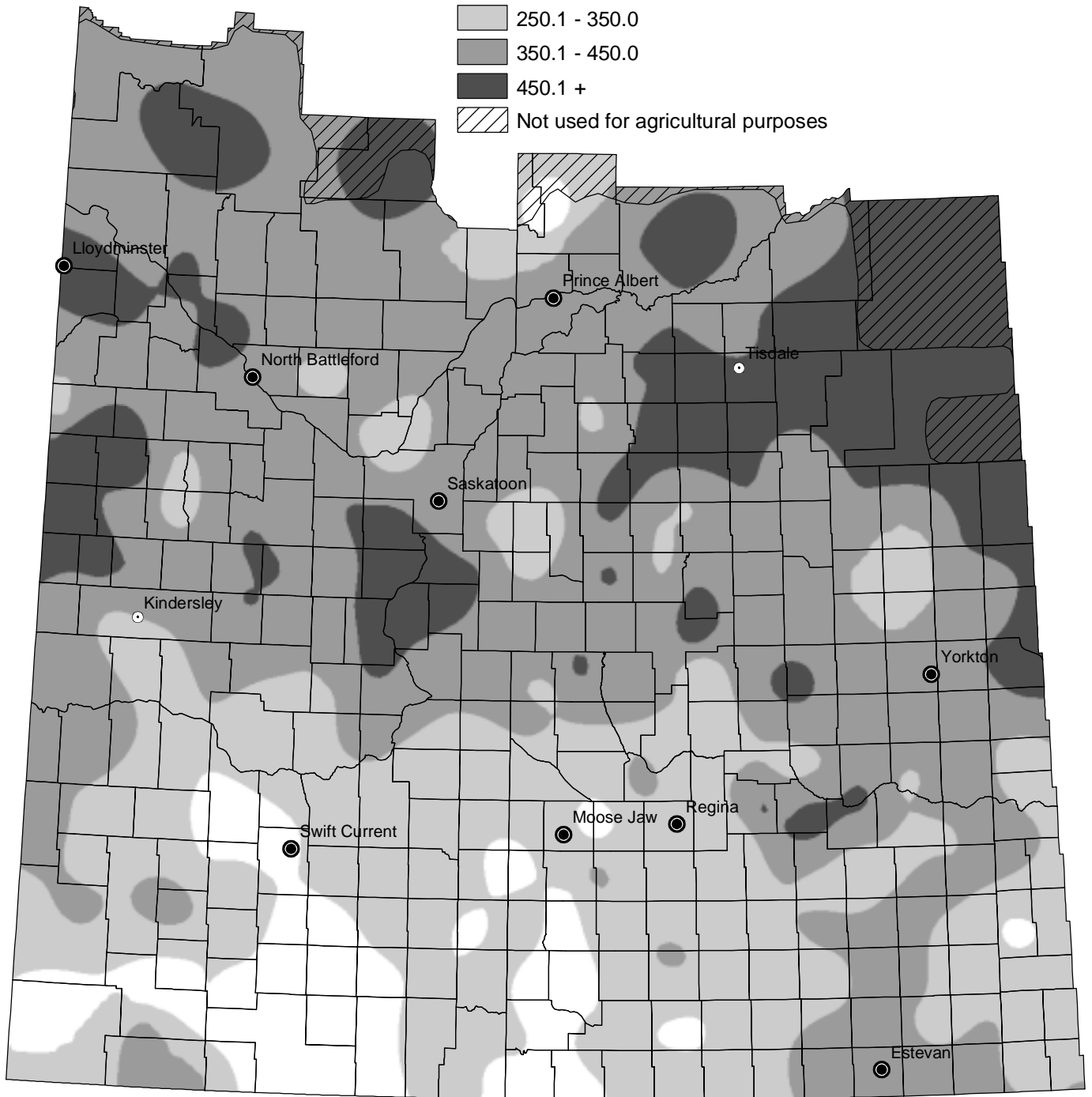
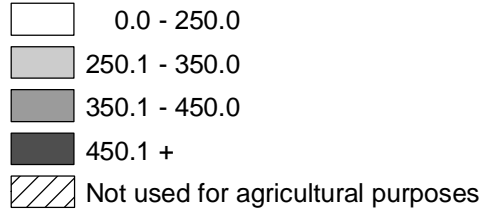
Rainfall (mm)



Cumulative Rainfall

From: April 1, 2005
To: September 24, 2005

Rainfall (mm)



Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities

