

## Crop Report for April 9, 2006

Saskatchewan farmers are planning to seed 34.6-million acres, which is two per cent above the 10-year average of 33.9-million acres, and is two per cent below last year's 35.3-million acres, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's first weekly crop report for 2006.

Summerfallow area is estimated to increase approximately 600,000 acres from 2005 to 6.9-million acres, and it is 17 per cent below the 10-year average.

Crops that could show increases in acreage seeded from last year include spring wheat, oats, triticale, peas and chickpeas. Crop reporters indicate that there is still a lot of uncertainty about seeding plans and seeding intentions could still change. Statistics Canada will release the results of their seeding intentions survey on April 25.

According to Saskatchewan Watershed Authority's April 2006 report, in the grainbelt region, winter precipitation totals generally vary from below normal in southern areas to well above normal in central and

northern areas. Runoff is generally finished across the southern and western areas of the province. High flows are currently being experienced in central areas (Davidson – Outlook)

causing water to flow over some roads and flooding of some agricultural lands. North central and north eastern areas still remain snow covered, and these areas are expected to experience a significant runoff this spring.

### SCIC Crop Report submission, April 2006

If you received an extension of insurance on a crop in the fall of 2005, Saskatchewan Crop Insurance reminds you to notify your customer service office as soon as you complete harvest and/or before to putting your crop to any alternate use (abandoning, baling, grazing, etc.). In all cases, claims due to either yield or quality losses must be finalized by June 10, 2006, and any harvested production information is required to update your annual yield.

Keep track of upcoming Crop Insurance deadlines with your 2006 Reference, Forage or Organic Guide or with the online deadline reminder service from [www.saskcropinsurance.com](http://www.saskcropinsurance.com). Visit the link on the front page of our site and sign up today.

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### 1 Year Ago

Seeded area was projected at 35.3 million acres - above the 10-year average.

Spring runoff was varied, from well below normal in south western and south central areas, to slightly above normal in northern areas.

## South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3as-east)

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was below normal in the south eastern area of the grainbelt. The Moose Jaw area received 131% of normal winter precipitation with Indian Head receiving 97%, Broadview 91%, Regina 90%, and Estevan 79% of normal. The 2006 spring runoff is below normal to well below normal.

An average of just under 1 mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of just over 1 mm has fallen since April 1, 2006. Spring rains are needed in many areas to replenish soil moisture. The weather has been favourable for calving. Some livestock are being moved from the yards to the fields.

Crop reporters expressed uncertainty about what will be seeded, largely because of economics. Some spring work is underway including fencing, cleaning grain, fertilizing hay fields, and applying pre-emergent herbicides. Grass fires are already a problem in CD 2a due to extremely dry pastures. Winter wheat crops are emerging very well in CD 2b, and some weed growth is evident.

The risk of severe grasshopper infestations is very light to moderate in a line from Stoughton to Torquay. There is risk of very light to moderate infestations in the Pangman-Lang-Weyburn areas. The remainder of the southeast is expected to have none to very light infestations of

### Seeding Intentions and Summerfallow

	2006 Acres Intended	2005 Acres** Seeded	Per cent 06/05	1996-2005 Average Acres Seeded
winter wheat*	300 000	180 000	167	138 500
spring wheat	9 260 000	8 990 000	103	10 613 000
durum	4 250 000	4 900 000	87	4 745 000
oats	2 100 000	2 000 000	105	2 130 000
barley	4 700 000	4 800 000	98	4 710 000
fall rye*	200 000	195 000	103	162 500
triticale	67 500	65 000	104	67 500
flax	1 615 000	1 620 000	100	1 258 000
canola	6 300 000	6 600 000	95	5 580 000
<b>Total of 9 crops</b>	<b>28 792 500</b>	<b>29 350 000</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>29 404 500</b>
lentils	1 990 000	2 160 000	92	1 384 000
field peas	2 725 000	2 695 000	101	2 067 000
other specialty crops***	1 078 000	1 090 000	99	n/a
Total specialty crops	5 793 000	5 945 000	97	3 451 000
<b>Total Crops</b>	<b>34 585 500</b>	<b>35 295 000</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>32 855 500</b>
summerfallow	6 900 000	6 300 000	110	8 350 000
<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>41 485 500</b>	<b>41 595 000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>41 205 500</b>

\*Statistics Canada fall planting survey

\*\*Statistics Canada

\*\*\*includes mustard, sunflower seed, canary seed, chickpeas insufficient observations to allow for individual crop estimates

grasshoppers. Wheat midge populations are back at levels considered to be of significant risk for wheat producers. There is potential for moderate to high wheat stem sawfly damage south of Weyburn and in the Sedley area. Other areas indicate either no risk or light risk. Risk levels for bertha armyworms are expected to be low.

## South western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 3as-west, 3an, 3b, & 4)

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was around normal in south western areas of the grainbelt. Per cent of normal values are: Coronach – 551%, Cypress Hills – 225%, Val Marie – 127%, Swift Current – 108%, Leader – 93%, and Assiniboia – 89%. Spring runoff is

below normal for much of the area and well below normal on the eastern side of the district.

An average of just under 2 mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of just over 2 mm has fallen since April 1, 2006. Many areas are looking for rain to replenish the dry soil.

Crop reporters indicate that there is still lots of uncertainty about what will be seeded this spring. Several mentioned that there is talk about seeding more grass and greenfeed. Some spring work has started including chemical application and rock picking. Stinkweed and dandelions are starting to green up in CD 3asw. Fall crops and tame hay are turning green in CD 4a.

The risk of grasshopper infestations is generally very light in the southwest. Areas of moderate to severe risk are in the Glentworth/Woodrow areas. Areas of very light to light risk for grasshoppers include Val Marie to Cadillac to McCord and from Consul south. Wheat midge populations are showing increased levels in areas around Swift Current and Gravelbourg to Chaplin. Wheat stem sawfly risk is moderate to high from Mossbank south to the U.S. border and about three to four RMs wide; in the Nevile-Ponteix-Admiral areas; and north of Swift Current up to Elrose and again about three RMs wide. Most of the remainder of the southwest indicates damage risk of none to light. Risk levels for bertha armyworms are expected to be low. The cabbage seedpod weevil has extended its range into the southwest.

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

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was above normal in east central areas of the grainbelt. The Wynyard and Yorkton areas received 123% to 114% of normal winter precipitation. Spring runoff is expected to be near normal to above normal. Culverts are at full capacity with some flooding in fields and water running over roads in the Churchbridge area. In the Young area, some roads are also under water.

An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of 1 mm has

fallen since April 1, 2006. There is still a good amount of snow in some areas, though melting has started and the water is running.

Crop reporters indicate that many farmers are undecided about spring seeding plans. There is some expectation that more acres will be seeded to grass and forage. Winter wheat is starting to green up in CD 5a. There has been some loss of crop over the winter with spoilage due to heating and deer congregating around grain piles.

The risk of grasshopper infestation is none to very light in much of the east central region, with some economic risk to lentil fields possible in the line from Moose Jaw to Dysart and in the Kelvington and Wynyard areas. Wheat midge populations are back at levels considered to be of significant risk for wheat producers. Some isolated areas show pockets of light wheat midge infestation – mainly in CD 6a. Risk levels for bertha armyworms are expected to be moderate north of Regina and in the Lockwood area. Levels in other areas are expected to be low.

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

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was above normal in west central areas of the grainbelt. Per cent of normal values are: Elbow – 230%, Saskatoon – 163%, Outlook – 153%, Kindersley – 100%, and Scott – 91%. High flows of runoff are being experienced in the

Davidson – Outlook areas with water flowing over some roads and flooding some fields. Spring runoff is expected to range from below normal on the western edge of the district to well above normal on the eastern side. Fields are very wet and drying weather will be needed before farmers can get onto the fields.

An average of 4 mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of 7 mm has fallen since April 1, 2006.

Crop reporters indicate that with current commodity prices and slow grain movement, many farmers have not made final decisions on seeding plans. There is some spoilage in the grain piles.

The risk of grasshopper infestations is none to very light in much of the west central region. There is economic risk of damage to lentil fields in the Lancer, Leader, and Elrose areas. Wheat midge populations are generally low in the area, except around Kerrobert and Zealandia to Biggar where populations are somewhat more elevated. Wheat stem sawfly damage expectations are moderate to high from Macklin south to Alsask and as far east as Kerrobert. Levels of bertha armyworms are generally expected to be low, but are higher in the northern part of CD 7b.

### **North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9a-east)**

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was well above

normal in north eastern areas of the grainbelt. The Prince Albert area received 135% of normal winter precipitation while the Melfort area was 115% of normal. Spring runoff has barely begun but is expected to be well above normal and cause flooding in fields.

An average of ½ mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of less than ½ mm has fallen since April 1, 2006. Fields are very wet and much drying weather will be needed before field work can begin.

There is still some 2005 crop out in the northeast.

The risk of grasshopper infestations is none to very light for most of the northeast with the exception of a light to moderate risk area south of Prince Albert. Wheat midge populations are elevated in a few areas of the northeast, though are at much lower levels than the east central and south eastern areas. Wheat stem sawfly damage risk is moderate to high from Wakaw south to Dundurn and from Humboldt west to the edge of CD 8b. Bertha armyworm infestation levels are moderate north of Tisdale and in the Rosthern area. Other areas of the northeast are expected to have low levels.

### **North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9a-west & 9b)**

Winter precipitation (November 1 to March 31) was generally below normal in north western areas of the grainbelt. The Lloydminster area was 78% and North Battleford area was 67% of normal. Spring runoff is below normal in western areas to near normal in eastern areas.

An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation fell during the past week, and an average of less than ½ mm has fallen since April 1, 2006.

Crop reporters indicate that farmers are unsure of what to grow. There is still some 2005 crop left in the fields. Farmers are working on equipment and getting prepared for seeding.

The risk of grasshopper infestation is generally none to very light in the northwest. The one area of very light to moderate risk is the northwest corner from Choiceland down through St. Walburg and to Spiritwood and back up through Meadow Lake. Wheat midge populations are generally low, though are somewhat elevated south of Lloydminster and north of Radisson. Wheat stem sawfly risk is generally light, except in a diagonal from Shellbrook south to Radisson where damage risk is moderate to high. The Lloydminster area is expected to be at high risk for infestation from bertha armyworms and the North Battleford area is at a slightly higher risk than the rest of the northwest.

# Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending April 8, 2006

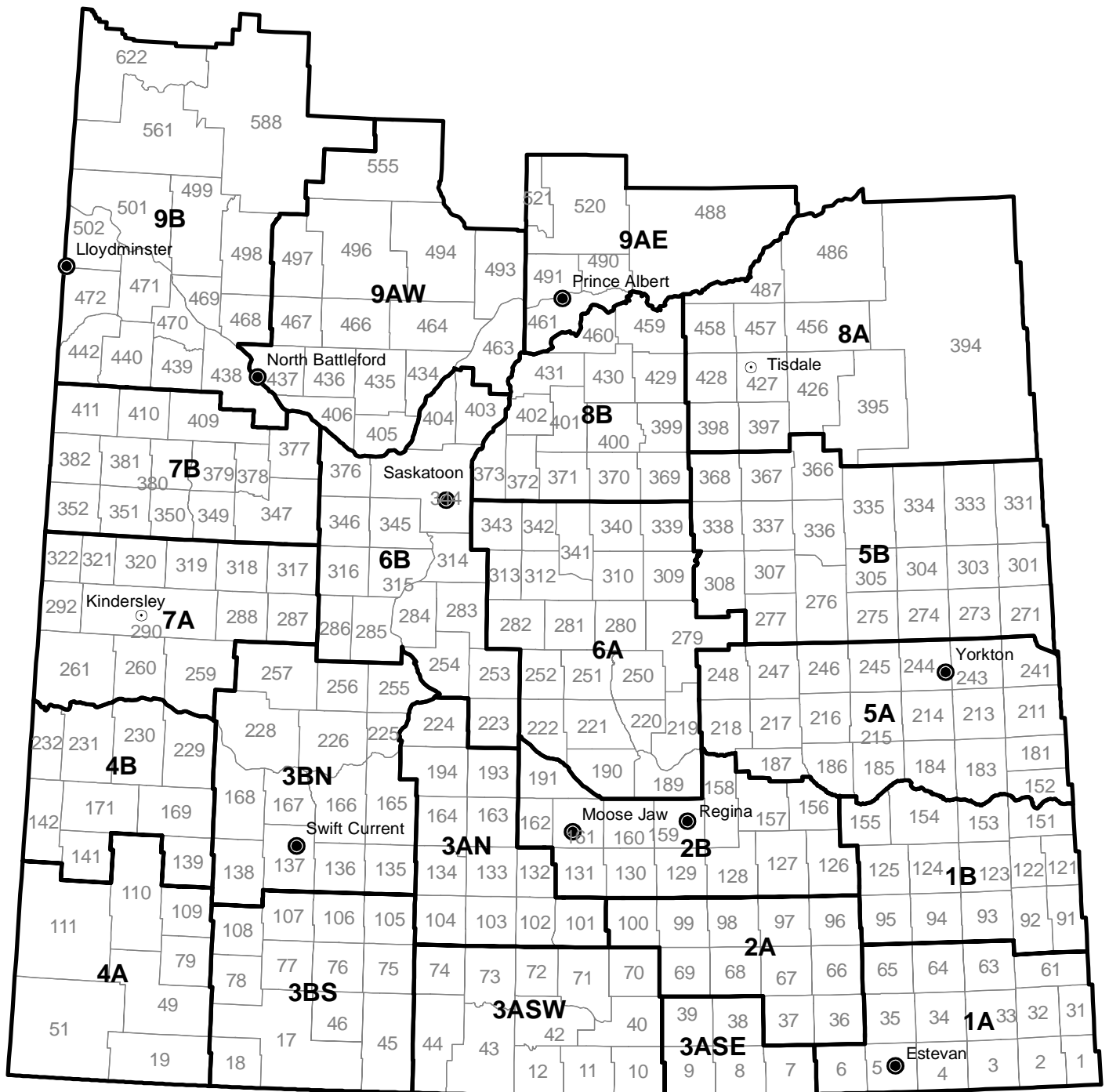
Crop Municipality	Past	Since	Crop Municipality	Past	Since	Crop Municipality	Past	Since
Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No. Name	Week	April 1
1A 2 Mount Pleasant	NIL	8	107 Lac Pelletier	NIL	NIL	341 Viscount	NIL	TR
3 B Enniskillen	NIL	1	3BN 135 Lawtonia	TR	TR	343 Blucher	2	19
34 Browning	2	4	136 Coulee	1	1	6B 254 Loreburn	4	4
35 Benson	11	11	138 Webb	NIL	NIL	283 Rosedale	3	4
64 Brock	NIL	2	165 Morse	2	2	284 Rudy	4	6
65 Tecumseh	NIL	NIL	166 Excelsior	2	2	285 Fertile Valley	7	13
1B 92 Walpole	NIL	NIL	226 Victory	NIL	NIL	286 Milden	7	7
92 B Walpole	NIL	NIL	228 A Lacadena	5	5	345 Vanscoy	2	14
93 Wawken	NIL	NIL	228 B Lacadena	5	5	346 Perdue	7	23
93 B Wawken	NIL	NIL	257 Monet	4	6	376 A Eagle Creek	TR	2
95 Golden West	NIL	NIL	4A 49 B White Valley	NIL	NIL	7A 292 Milton	6	10
121 Moosomin	NIL	NIL	51 Reno	4	4	317 C Marriott	5	13
122 Martin	NIL	NIL	110 Piapot	2	2	318 A Mountain View	8	16
123 Silverwood	NIL	NIL	111 A Maple Creek	3	3	318 B Mountain View	8	8
124 Kingsley	NIL	2	4B 139 Gull Lake	6	6	320 Oakdale	13	18
125 Chester	NIL	TR	141 Big Stick	4	4	321 Prairiedale	7	15
151 B Rocanville	NIL	TR	142 Enterprise	10	10	7B 347 A Biggar	TR	TR
153 Willowdale	NIL	NIL	231 Happyland	8	8	350 B Mariposa	NIL	3
154 Elcapo	NIL	NIL	232 Deer Forks	9	9	377 Glenside	TR	TR
155 Wolseley	NIL	TR	5A 152 Spy Hill	NIL	NIL	378 A Rosemount	2	2
2A 36 Cymri	1	4	183 Fertile Belt	NIL	NIL	378 B Rosemount	NIL	NIL
67 Weyburn	TR	TR	185 Mcleod	TR	TR	379 Reford	TR	TR
68 Brokenshell	NIL	NIL	186 Abernethy	NIL	NIL	382 Eye Hill	TR	TR
96 Fillmore	NIL	NIL	187 North Qu'appelle	NIL	NIL	409 Buffalo	NIL	NIL
97 Wellington	TR	1	211 Churchbridge	NIL	NIL	8A 397 Barrier Valley	NIL	NIL
99 Caledonia	2	2	213 Saltcoats	TR	TR	398 Pleasantdale	NIL	NIL
2B 127 Francis	TR	TR	216 Tullymet	NIL	NIL	456 Arborfield	NIL	NIL
129 Bratt's Lake	1	4	217 A Lipton	NIL	NIL	458 Willow Creek	NIL	NIL
131 Baildon	3	7	217 B Lipton	NIL	NIL	8B 369 St. Peter	NIL	NIL
156 A Indian Head	NIL	NIL	243 Wallace	NIL	NIL	370 Humboldt	NIL	NIL
156 B Indian Head	1	1	245 A Garry	NIL	NIL	371 Bayne	NIL	2
157 South Qu'appelle	NIL	NIL	245 B Garry	NIL	NIL	401 Hoodoo	NIL	NIL
158 Edenwold	1	1	246 Ituna Bon Accord	NIL	NIL	402 Fish Creek	NIL	NIL
161 Moose Jaw	NIL	NIL	247 Kellross	NIL	NIL	429 B Flett's Springs	NIL	NIL
3ASE 38 A Laurier	2	2	5B 271 Cote	NIL	NIL	430 Invergordon	NIL	NIL
38 B Laurier	1	1	273 Sliding Hills	NIL	NIL	9AE 461 Prince Albert	NIL	3
3ASW 10 Happy Valley	NIL	NIL	275 B Insinger	NIL	NIL	520 Paddockwood	6	6
12 Poplar Valley	NIL	NIL	277 Emerald	NIL	NIL	9AW 406 Mayfield	NIL	NIL
42 Willow Bunch	NIL	NIL	304 Buchanan	NIL	NIL	435 Redberry	NIL	NIL
43 A Old Post	NIL	NIL	307 Elfros	NIL	NIL	436 Douglas	NIL	NIL
43 B Old Post	NIL	NIL	333 Clayton	NIL	NIL	463 Duck Lake	NIL	NIL
44 Waverley	NIL	NIL	335 Hazel Dell	NIL	NIL	464 Leask	TR	TR
71 A Excel	NIL	NIL	336 Sasman	NIL	NIL	467 Round Hill	NIL	NIL
71 B Excel	NIL	NIL	337 Lakeview	1	1	494 Canwood	NIL	NIL
71 C Excel	NIL	NIL	338 Lakeside	NIL	NIL	496 Spiritwood	NIL	NIL
73 B Stonehenge	NIL	NIL	366 A Kelvington	NIL	NIL	9B 438 A Battle River	NIL	NIL
3AN 101 B Terrell	2	7	366 B Kelvington	NIL	NIL	438 B Battle River	NIL	NIL
102 Lake Johnston	1	6	6A 189 Lumsden	TR	TR	440 Hillsdale	NIL	NIL
132 Hillsborough	1	2	190 B Dufferin	TR	TR	472 Wilton	2	2
193 Eyebrow	1	1	190 C Dufferin	TR	TR	498 A Parkdale	NIL	NIL
3BS 75 A Pinto Creek	NIL	NIL	219 C Longlaketon	TR	TR	498 B Parkdale	NIL	NIL
75 B Pinto Creek	NIL	NIL	220 Mckillop	NIL	NIL	499 Mervin	1	1
76 A Auvergne	1	1	221 Sarnia	2	2	501 B Frenchman Butte	TR	TR
78 A Grassy Creek	2	2	251 Big Arm	1	1	502 Britannia	3	3
78 B Grassy Creek	3	3	312 Morris	3	3	561 Loon Lake	NIL	NIL
78 C Grassy Creek	NIL	NIL	339 B Leroy	NIL	3	588 C Meadow Lake	NIL	NIL
106 Whiska Creek	NIL	NIL	340 A Wolverine	NIL	6	588 D Meadow Lake	1	1
						622 Beaver River	TR	T

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

# Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities



# Weekly Rainfall

for the week ending April 15, 2006

