

Crop Report for May 21, 2006

Saskatchewan farmers have seeded 64 per cent of the 2006 crop, ahead of the five-year average of 58 per cent, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report.

The southwest area of the province is furthest advanced at 84 per cent, and the northeast is least advanced at 43 per cent. Crop Districts in east-central and northeast Saskatchewan report less than 50 per cent seeded. Early-seeded crops are emerging in all areas of the province.

Topsoil moisture conditions improved in the central and northern grainbelt and deteriorated in the southern grainbelt. Two-thirds of reporters say that topsoil moisture conditions are adequate on crop land, similar to last week. Almost one-quarter of reporters rate topsoil moisture on cropland as short or very short. Sixty-three per cent of reporters rate topsoil moisture as adequate on hay and pasture land, lower than last week.

In the southern grainbelt, pastures and hay land are deteriorating, and fall crops are being stressed with the hot, dry weather. Meanwhile, drying conditions are helping central and northern farmers to finish the 2005 harvest and to get the 2006 crop seeded. However, some farmers in those areas are still getting stuck with seeding and harvesting equipment.

Seeding Progress by Crop District

CD	May 21/06	May 22/05
1a	70	48
1b	61	63
2a	80	76
2b	72	74
3an	69	76
3ase	80	77
3asw	81	74
3bn	83	75
3bs	87	89
4a	97	94
4b	95	96
5a	48	74
5b	31	69
6a	51	67
6b	64	70
7a	73	82
7b	75	73
8a	35	73
8b	50	70
9ae	39	69
9aw	61	64
9b	65	48
Prov.	64	71

Seeding Progress in SK per cent seeded

	All Crops
May 21/06	64
5-year Avg. (2001-05)	58
May 22/05	71
May 23/04	68
May 18/03	32
May 19/02	46
May 20/01	74

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1 Year Ago

71% of the 2005 crop had been seeded.

A welcome rain delayed seeding operations and fieldwork in most areas of the province and improved topsoil moisture conditions significantly.

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

The southeast had some hot, windy days during the past week. An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation was reported. The wind caused some soil erosion in Crop District (CD) 1a.

Seeding is reported as 72% complete, up from 30% last week. Crop Districts 2a and 3ase are furthest ahead at 80% complete, while CD 1b reports 61% complete. Crops are emerging across the region. Some farmers are waiting for more moisture to plant flax.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are rated as adequate by 63% of reporters, down from 89% last week. Thirty-five per cent of the reporters rate crop land as having short moisture conditions. On hay and pasture land, topsoil moisture conditions are rated as adequate by 56% of reporters, down from 79% last week. The balance rate topsoil moisture conditions as short or very short.

The hot, windy weather dried out the topsoil last week, and many farmers are looking for a rain to assist with even germination and for pastures and hay land. Crusting of topsoil is a concern in CD 1b.

Spraying is underway as weather conditions permit. Cattle continue to be moved to summer pastures. Gophers are a problem in the Moosomin area.

Fall-seeded crops are well advanced in CD 2b.

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

The southwest had a hot, windy week with the odd thunderstorm. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported. The Chaplin area received 10 mm of rain, the largest individual amount reported. A thunderstorm in the Val Marie area saw winds of 90 to 100 km per hour.

South western farmers have completed 84% of their seeding, up from 54% last week. Crop District 4a is furthest ahead at 97% complete, while CD 3an is 69% done. Some farmers are holding back on seeding until the moisture situation improves.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are rated as adequate by 36% of reporters, down significantly from 79% last week. Sixty-two per cent of reporters rate crop land topsoil moisture as short or very short. On hay and pasture land, topsoil moisture conditions are rated as adequate by 22% of reporters, down from 64% last week.

Hay and grass are suffering as soil moisture dissipates. Dugouts are low in the Ogema and Gull Lake areas. Fall-seeded crops are only about 5 or 6 inches high and are heading out in the Ponteix-Aneroid area. Rain is needed soon in many areas.

Some cutworms were seen in CD 3bn.

Farmers were summerfallowing, chemfallowing, cultivating, rolling pulse crops, and in-crop spraying.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region had warm, dry weather during the past week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported. Strong winds along with above-average temperatures dried the soil too much in CD 6a. A strong wind in the Leroy area caused some damage, even removing loose straw from fields.

East central farmers made good seeding progress with 44% complete across the region, up from 10% last week. Crop District 6a is furthest ahead at 51% complete, while CD 5b reports 31% complete. Crops are emerging rapidly with the warm temperatures.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are rated as surplus by 29% of reporters, down from 56% last week. Farmers are still getting stuck in some places, but find the land easier to work than the week before. On hay and pasture land, topsoil moisture conditions are rated as adequate by 75% of reporters, the same as last week.

Windy weather hampered spraying operations for parts of the week. Heavy weed pressure is evident, and there were some localized shortages of some herbicides in CD 5b. Parts of fields are not being seeded because of the wet conditions. There were shortages of some fertilizer types in CD 6a.

Flea beetles were seen in fields of volunteer canola in CD 6a.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

This past week, west central regions were warm and windy. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported.

West central farmers made good seeding progress with 70% complete across the region, up from 17% last week. Crop District 7b is furthest ahead at 75% complete, while CD 6b reports 64% complete.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are rated as adequate by 94% of reporters, up from 65% last week, as the surplus moisture was reduced in many areas. Some farmers were getting stuck throughout the region. On pasture and hay land, topsoil moisture conditions are reported as adequate by 90% of reporters, up from 80% last week.

Windy weather delayed spraying operations. Local suppliers were struggling with fertilizer shortages in CD 6b.

Some harvesting of the 2005 crop was done in the Herschel and Unity areas.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

Weather in the northeast was mostly sunny and warm this past week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported.

North eastern farmers made good seeding progress with 43% complete across the region, up from 6% last week. Crop District 8b is furthest ahead at 50% complete, while CD 8a reports 35% done. In CD 8a, many fields remain too wet to seed. Farmers are trying to burn stubble to dry out the fields. Ruts from the 2005 harvest are making field work difficult.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are rated as surplus by 14% of reporters, down from 52% last week. On hay and pasture land, topsoil moisture conditions are rated as adequate by all reporters, up from 65% last week.

Some harvesting of the 2005 crop was completed north of Tisdale and in the Codette area.

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

The northwest had some warm, windy weather during the past week. An average of 3 mm of precipitation was reported.

North western farmers have planted 63% on average across the region, up from 15% last week. Crop District 9b is furthest ahead at 65% complete. Crops are beginning to emerge.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are rated as surplus by 4% of reporters, down from 23% last week. The rest of the reporters rate moisture conditions as adequate. On hay and pasture land, topsoil moisture conditions are rated as adequate by 78% of reporters, down from 87% last week. Areas around North Battleford, St. Walburg, and north of Meadow Lake, rate topsoil moisture conditions as short on hay and pasture land.

Farmers were trying to combine the 2005 crop in the Debden area. Farmers were harrowing, picking rocks, and trying to work the ruts out of their fields made by last fall's harvest operations. Cattle were being moved to summer pastures. Some cattle were still being fed at home.

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending May 20, 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	1	Argyle	5	65	107	Lac Pelletier	3	20	285	Fertile Valley	NIL		61	
	2	Mount Pleasant	1	83	108	Bone Creek	5	45	286	Milden	8		47	
	3 B	Enniskillen	NIL	78	3BN	135	Lawtonia	7	61	344	Corman Park	NIL		29
	32	Reciprocity	NIL	42	136	Coulee	NIL	35	345	Vanscoy	NIL		31	
	33 A	Moose Creek	NIL	63	138	Webb	3	36	346	Perdue	NIL		65	
	35	Benson	NIL	92	165	Morse	NIL	36	376 A	Eagle Creek	NIL		43	
	63 B	Moose Mountain	NIL	69	166	Excelsior	4	30	376 B	Eagle Creek	NIL		39	
	64	Brock	NIL	92	167	Sask. Landing	NIL	43	404	Laird	NIL		58	
	65	Tecumseh	NIL	77	225	Canaan	6	26	7A	259	Snipe Lake	0		42
1B	91	Maryfield	NIL	72	226	Victory	NIL	47	288	Pleasant Valley	3		46	
	92	Walpole	NIL	65	228 A	Lacadena	2	48	292	Milton	NIL		59	
	93	Wawken	NIL	83	228 B	Lacadena	1	55	317 B	Marriott	5		63	
	93 B	Wawken	NIL	76	257	Monet	6	54	317 C	Marriott	NIL		42	
	95	Golden West	NIL	108	4A	19	Frontier	NIL	44	318 A	Mountain View	1		59
	122	Martin	TR	116	49 A	White Valley	NIL	16	318 B	Mountain View	1		62	
	123	Silverwood	NIL	96	51	Reno	6	26	320	Oakdale	NIL		61	
	124	Kingsley	NIL	79	79	Arlington	2	15	321	Prairiedale	NIL		65	
	125	Chester	NIL	94	109	Carmichael	TR	45	7B	347 A	Biggar	3		38
	151 A	Rocanville	NIL	139	110	Piapot	NIL	44	347 B	Biggar	NIL		36	
	151 B	Rocanville	TR	142	111 A	Maple Creek	TR	25	350 A	Mariposa	NIL		40	
	153	Willowdale	NIL	76	111 B	Maple Creek	1	39	350 B	Mariposa	TR		57	
	154	Elcapo	NIL	66	4B	139	Gull Lake	1	351	Progress	TR		44	
	155	Wolseley	TR	128	141	Big Stick	3	35	352	Heart's Hill	NIL		50	
2A	36	Cymri	NIL	89	142	Enterprise	NIL	39	377	Glenside	NIL		43	
	66	Griffin	TR	70	169	Pittville	3	22	378 A	Rosemount	NIL		40	
	67	Weyburn	NIL	85	231	Happyland	4	44	379	Reford	1		38	
	68	Brokenshell	NIL	72	232	Deer Forks	7	42	380 A	Tramping Lake	NIL		13	
	69	Norton	NIL	78	5A	152	Spy Hill	NIL	114	382	Eye Hill	NIL		47
	96	Fillmore	NIL	83	183	Fertile Belt	NIL	110	409	Buffalo	NIL		27	
	97	Wellington	NIL	67	185	Mcleod	TR	96	410	Round Valley	10		22	
	99	Caledonia	NIL	84	186	Abernethy	1	91	411	Senlac	2		48	
2B	126	Montmartre	NIL	69	187	North Qu'appelle	TR	76	8A	395	Porcupine	NIL		49
	127	Francis	TR	80	211	Churchbridge	5	77	398	Pleasantdale	4		61	
	128	Lajord	NIL	55	213	Saltcoats	2	69	428	Star City	TR		38	
	129	Bratt's Lake	NIL	62	216	Tullymet	NIL	89	456	Arborfield	TR		38	
	131	Baildon	NIL	65	217 B	Lipton	NIL	66	457 B	Connaught	1		24	
	156 A	Indian Head	1	94	243	Wallace	4	83	458	Willow Creek	TR		31	
	156 B	Indian Head	1	107	245 A	Garry	TR	98	486	Moose Range	TR		27	
	157	South Qu'appelle	NIL	92	245 B	Garry	NIL	95	487	Nipawin	NIL		26	
	158	Edenwold	1	74	246	Ituna Bon Accord	3	88	8B	370	Humboldt	NIL		67
	161	Moose Jaw	5	111	247	Kellross	NIL	97	371	Bayne	NIL		52	
	191	Marquis	NIL	74	248	Touchwood	NIL	57	372	Grant	NIL		45	
3ASE	8	Lake Alma	NIL	85	5B	271	Cote	2	77	373	Aberdeen	NIL		57
	9	Surprise Valley	4	82	273	Sliding Hills	1	51*	400	Three Lakes	NIL		38	
	38 A	Laurier	NIL	81	275 A	Insinger	0	146	402	Fish Creek	TR		62	
	38 B	Laurier	1	58	275 B	Insinger	NIL	83	429 A	Flett's Springs	NIL		49*	
	39 A	The Gap	NIL	74	276	Foam Lake	TR	89	429 B	Flett's Springs	6		41	
	39 B	The Gap	NIL	68	277	Emerald	TR	106	430	Invergordon	TR		32	
3ASW	10	Happy Valley	TR	54	304	Buchanan	1	81	431	St. Louis	3		34	
	12	Poplar Valley	3	49	307	Elfron	2	107	459	Kinistino	3		36	
	40	Bengough	NIL	56	335	Hazel Dell	1	117	9AE	461	Prince Albert	NIL		38
	42	Willow Bunch	3	75	336	Sasman	NIL	91	488	Torch River	NIL		26	
	43 A	Old Post	3	51	337	Lakeview	NIL	100	9AW	405	Great Bend	NIL		32
	43 B	Old Post	3	47	338	Lakeside	NIL	92	406	Mayfield	4		43	
	44	Waverley	2	82	366 A	Kelvington	2	42	435	Redberry	4		63	
	70	Key West	TR	67	366 B	Kelvington	1	66	436	Douglas	3		50	
	71 A	Excel	NIL	70	367	Ponass Lake	NIL	80	463	Duck Lake	NIL		48	
	71 B	Excel	1	57	6A	189	Lumsden	NIL	69	466	Meeting Lake	NIL		51
	73 A	Stonehenge	NIL	73	190 A	Dufferin	NIL	47	467	Round Hill	NIL		32	
	73 B	Stonehenge	NIL	83	190 B	Dufferin	1	71	493	Shellbrook	2		36	
3AN	101 B	Terrell	NIL	56	190 C	Dufferin	NIL	53	494	Canwood	3		43	
	102	Lake Johnston	2	69	220	Mckillop	NIL	64	496	Spiritwood	NIL		43	
	132	Hillsborough	NIL	73	221	Sarnia	NIL	63	497	Medstead	TR		11	
	164	Chaplin	10	50	222	Craik	4	71	555	Big River	NIL		25	
	193	Eyebrow	NIL	62	251	Big Arm	1	44	9B	438 A	Battle River	NIL		23
	194	Enfield	5	44	252	Arm River	NIL	47	438 B	Battle River	TR		31	
3BS	17 A	Val Marie	2	46	279 A	Mount Hope	NIL	44	440	Hillsdale	2		19	
	45	Mankota	NIL	64	279 B	Mount Hope	NIL	66	468	Meota	NIL		30	
	46	Glen Mcpherson	NIL	53	280	Wreford	NIL	57	472	Wilton	9		49	
	75 A	Pinto Creek	NIL	62	282	Mccraney	NIL	27	498 A	Parkdale	5		19	
	75 B	Pinto Creek	NIL	60	309	Prairie Rose	NIL	89	499	Mervin	6		21	
	76 A	Auvergne	NIL	28	312	Morris	NIL	44	501 A	Frenchman Butte	3		32	
	76 B	Auvergne	TR	44	313	Lost River	NIL	35	501 B	Frenchman Butte	NIL		21	
	77	Wise Creek	3	32	339 B	Leroy	0	100	501 C	Frenchman Butte	9		52	
	78 A	Grassy Creek	2	30	340 A	Wolverine	NIL	81	502	Britannia	3		49	
	78 B	Grassy Creek	2	30	340 B	Wolverine	NIL	84	561	Loon Lake	NIL		36	
	78 C	Grassy Creek	3	33	343	Blucher	NIL	83	588 B	Meadow Lake	12		49	
	105	Glenbain	1	76	6B	283	Rosedale	NIL	31	588 C	Meadow Lake	3		39
	106	Whiska Creek	NIL	32	284	Rudy	NIL	54	588 D	Meadow Lake	1		26	
									622	Beaver River	10		56	

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

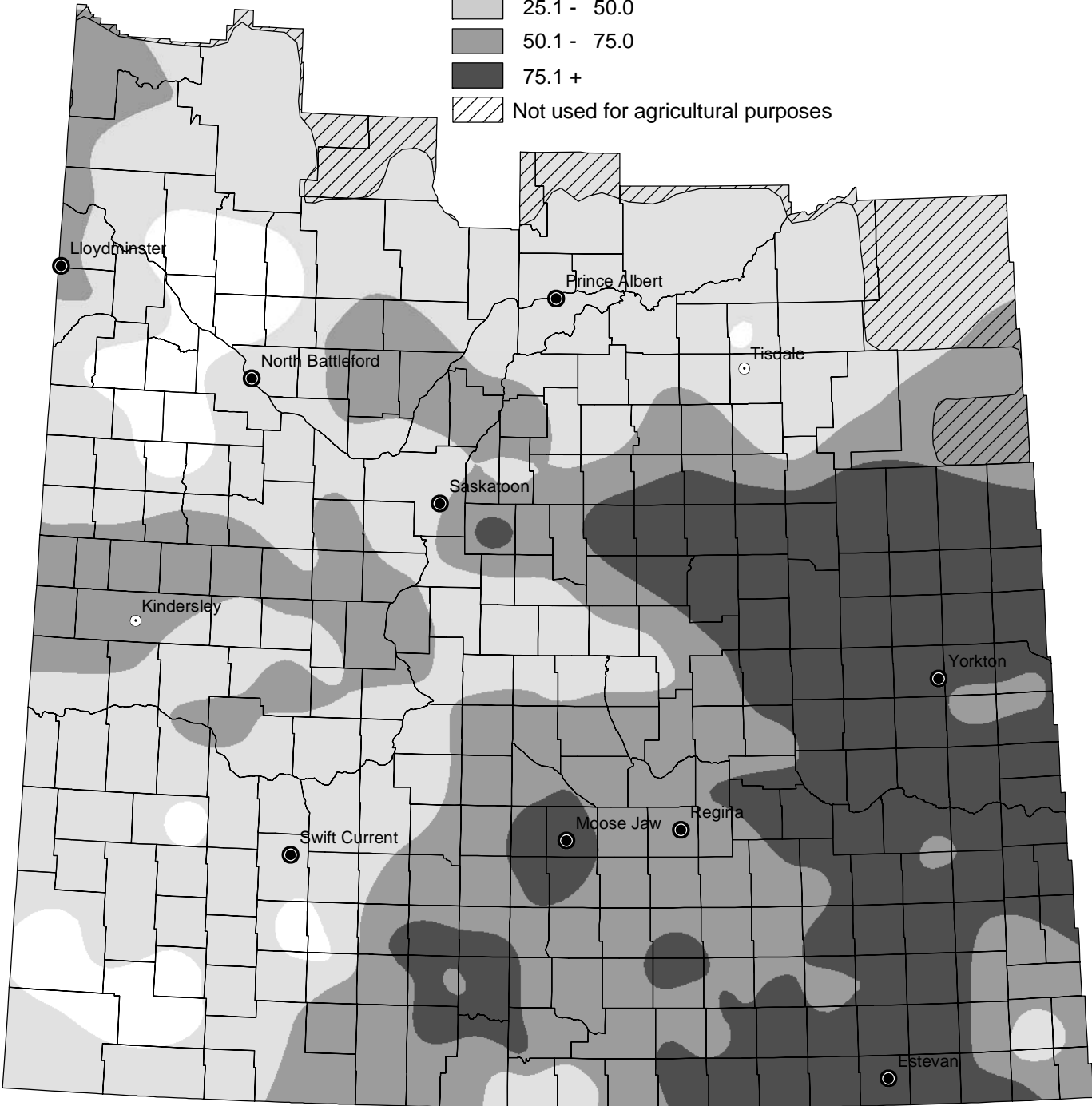
Cumulative Rainfall

From: April 1, 2006

To: May 20, 2006

Rainfall (mm)

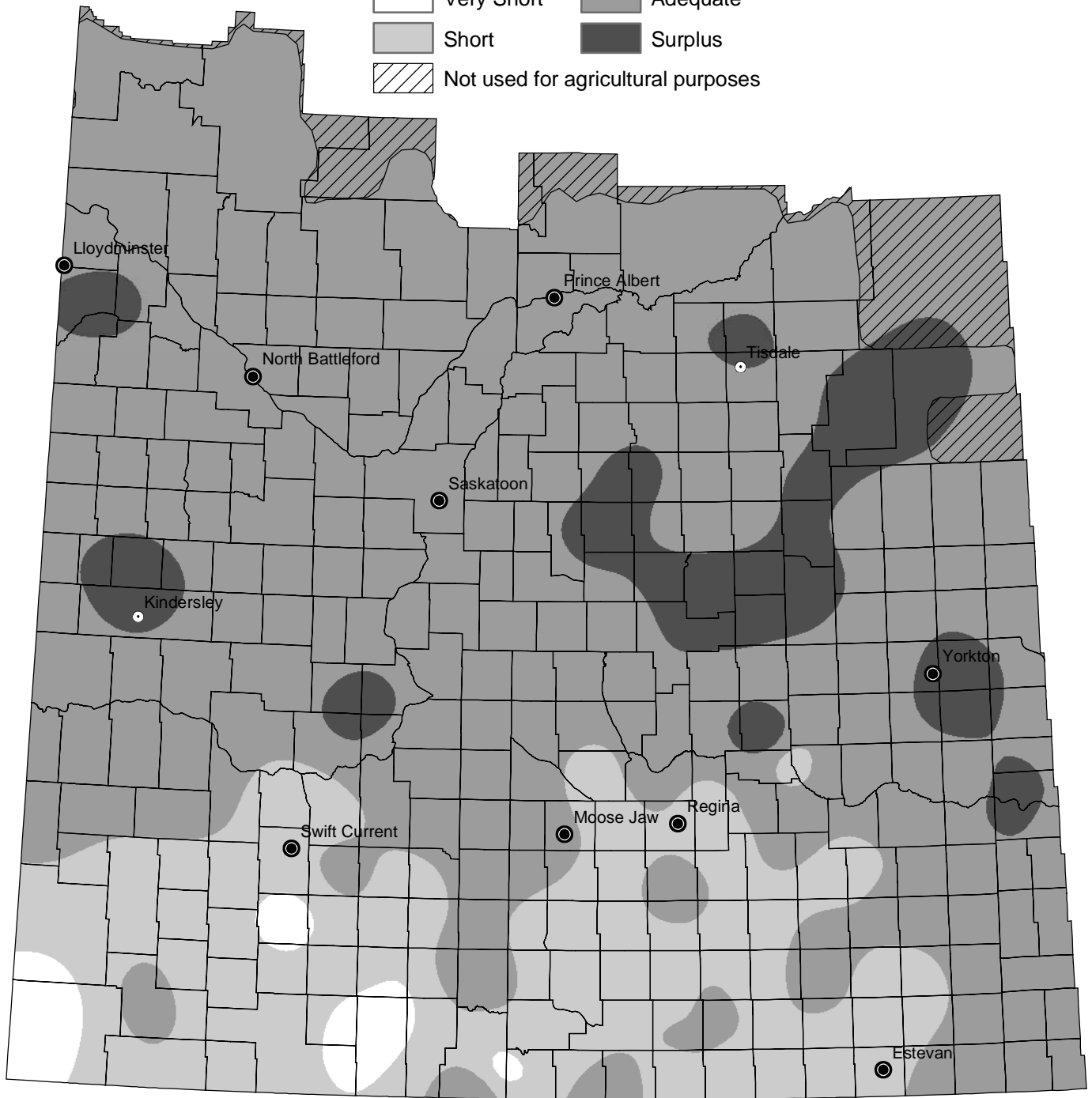
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-  25.1 - 50.0
-  50.1 - 75.0
-  75.1 +
-  Not used for agricultural purposes



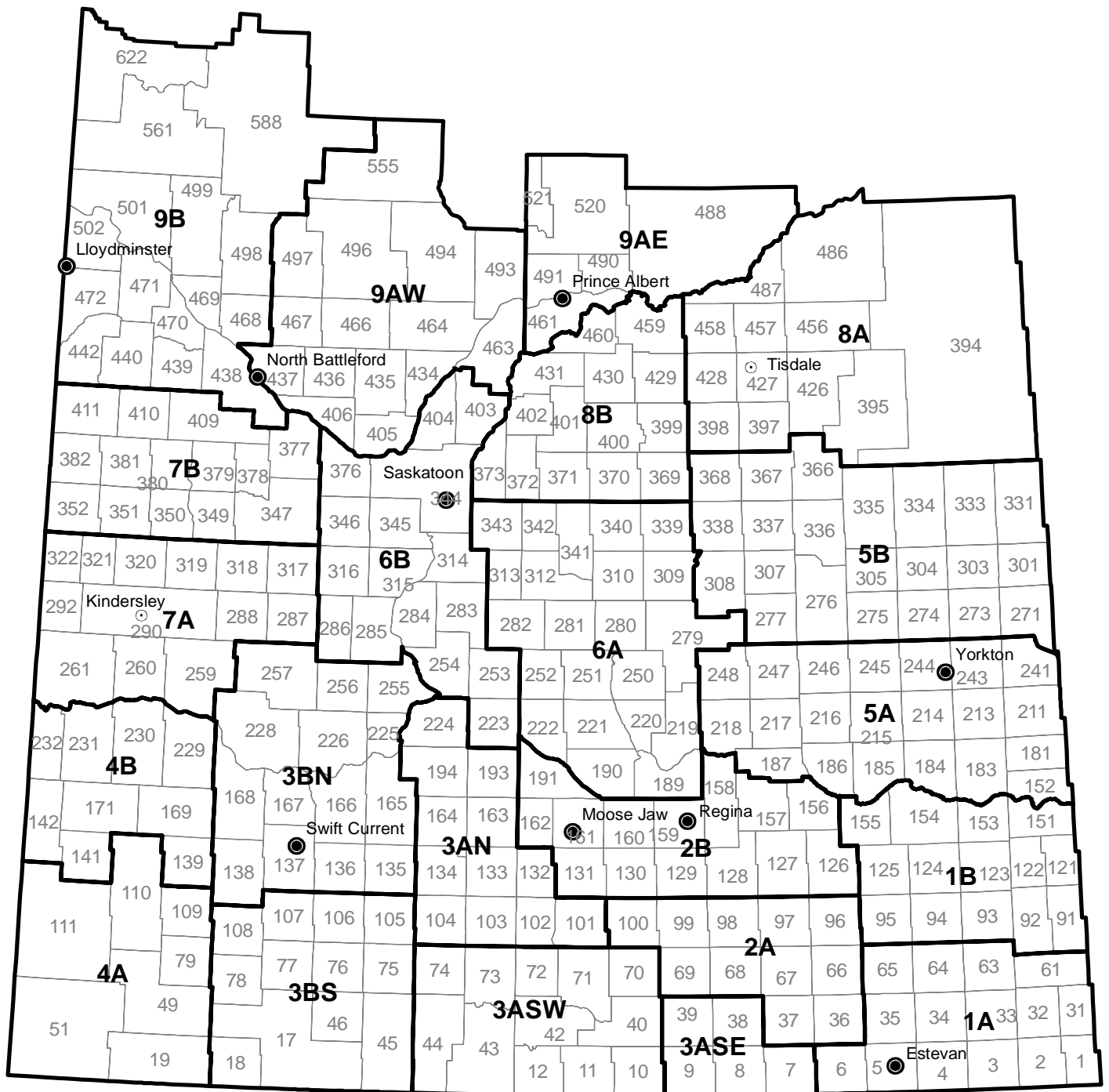
Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions

May 21, 2006

Moisture Conditions

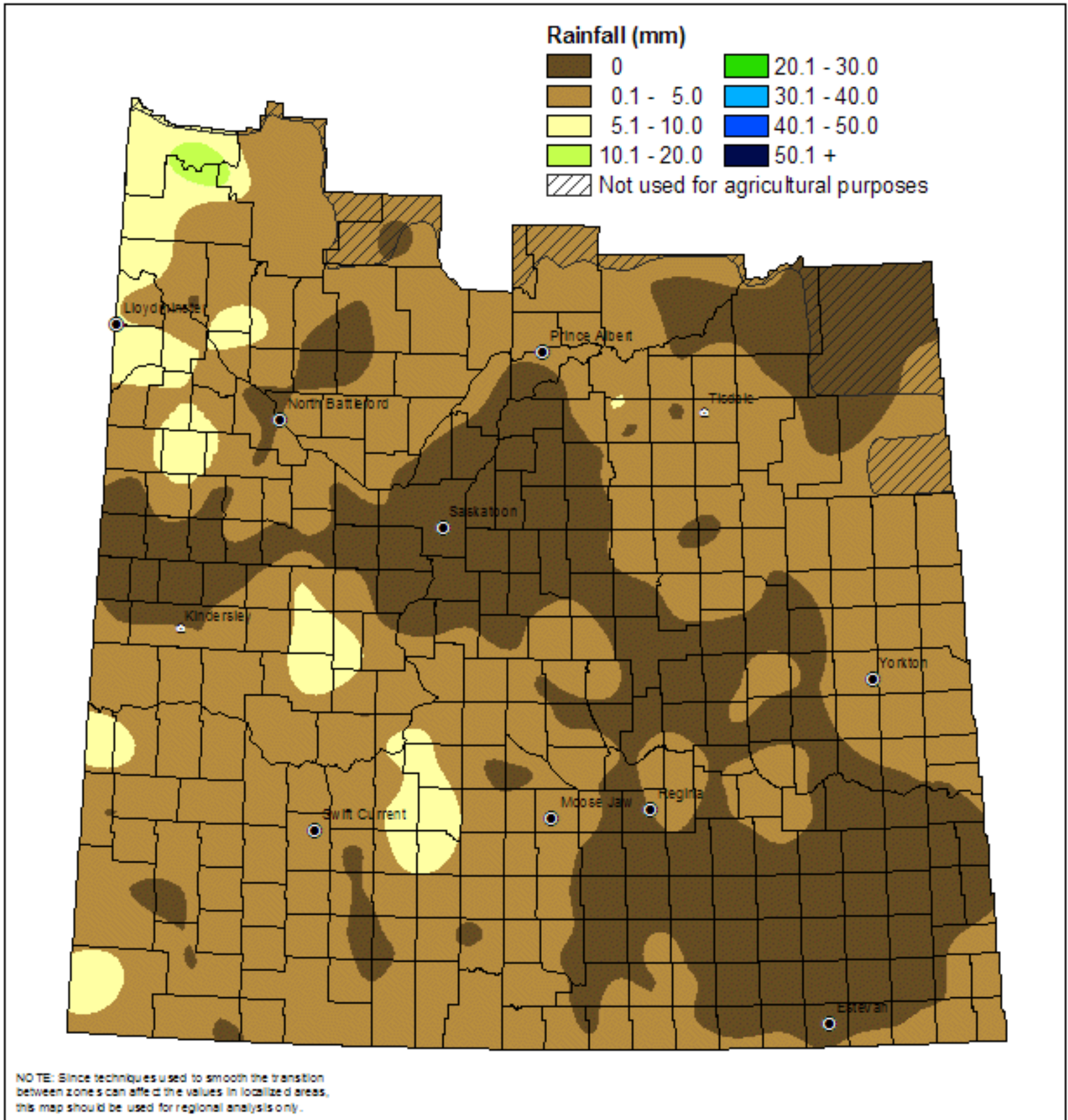


Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities



Weekly Rainfall

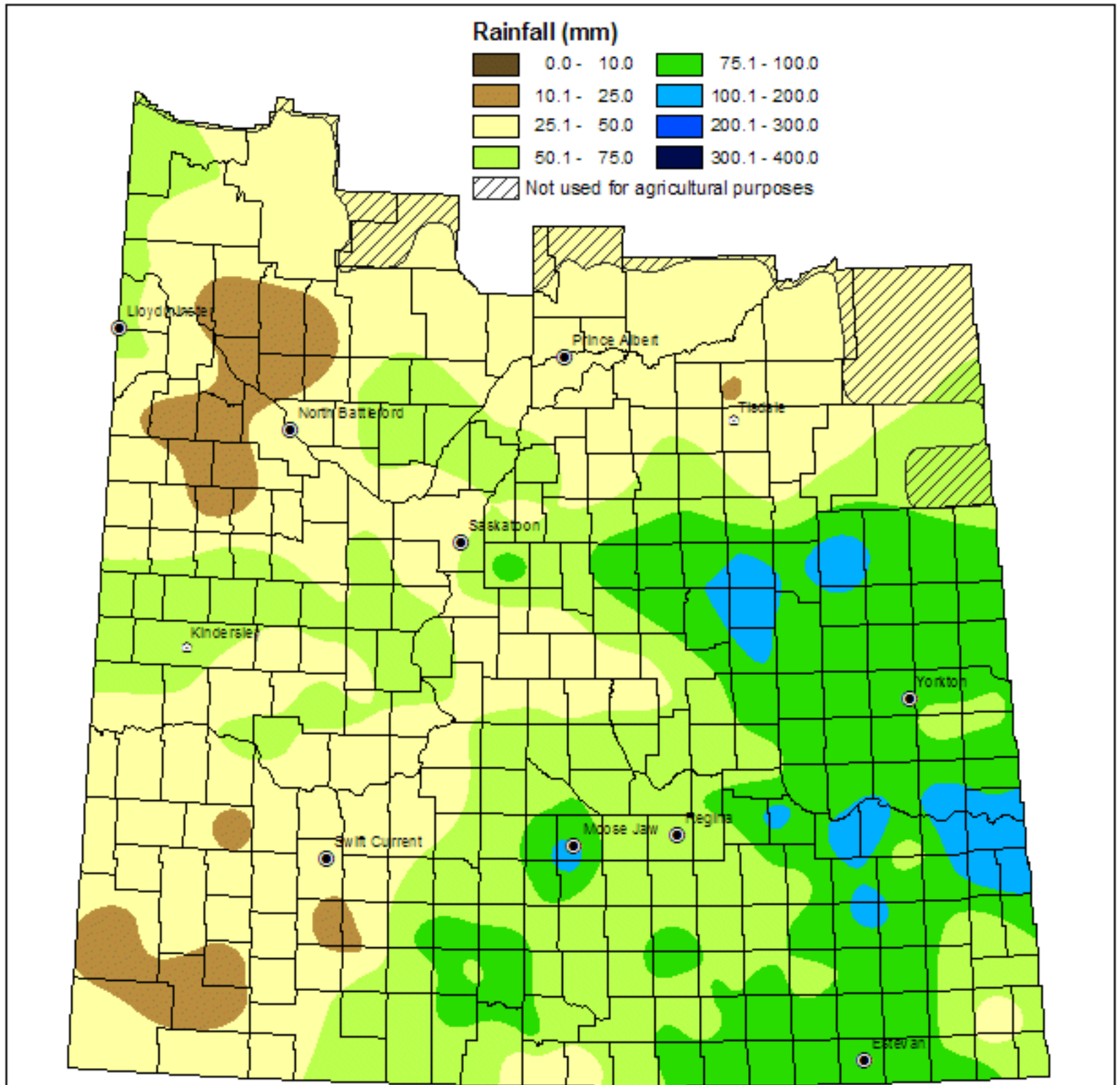
for the week ending May 20, 2006



Cumulative Rainfall

From: April 1, 2006

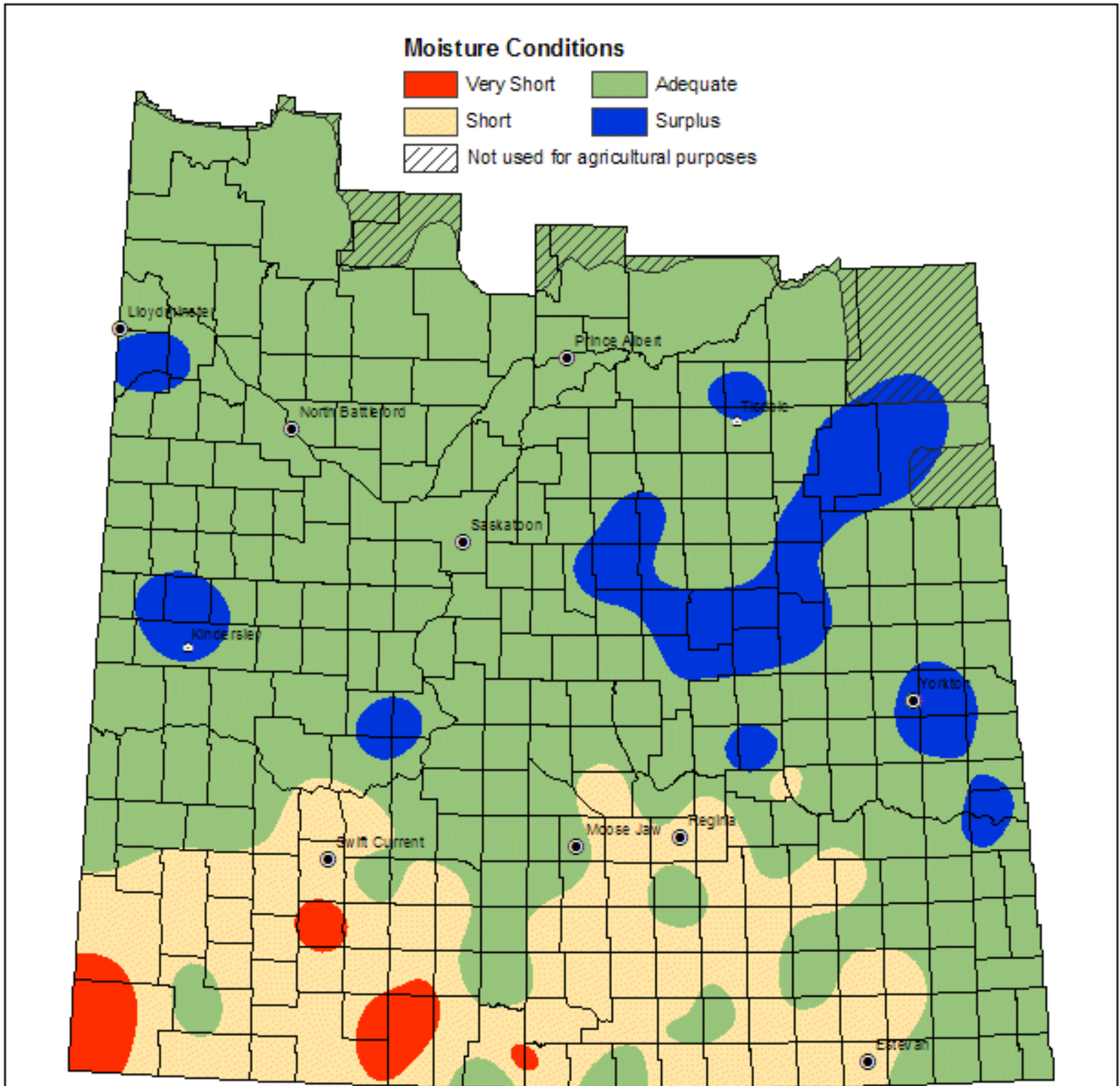
To: May 20, 2006



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.

Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions

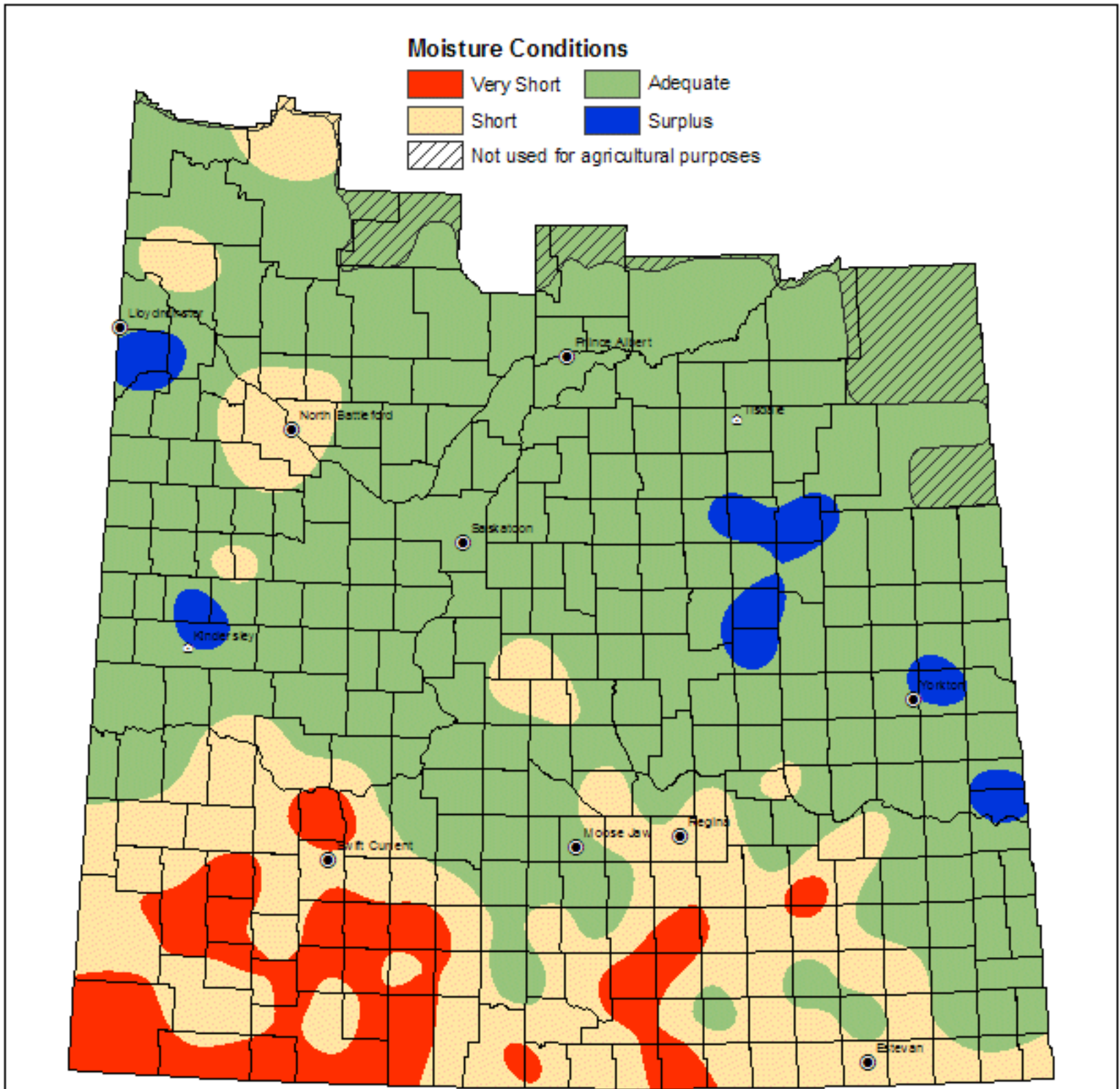
May 21, 2006



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.

Hay and Pasture Topsoil Moisture Conditions

May 21, 2006



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.