

Crop Report for July 30, 2006

Pre-harvest crop production estimates indicate that Saskatchewan farmers are expected to harvest 24.5 million tonnes of grains, oilseeds, and specialty crops, according to the crop reporters who provide the information for Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report.

This figure is slightly less than the 10-year average production. Crop reporters will continue to monitor yield projections throughout the harvest period, and new figures will be provided if there is significant change in the production estimates. Statistics Canada's July production estimate will be released on August 25, 2006.

Crop reporters had forecasted better yields earlier in the season, but the recent heat and the lack of precipitation have lowered expectations. Provincial crop yield estimates range from 80 to 115 per cent of the 10-year average. There is variability at both the local and regional levels. Many crop reporters indicated they will have a better read on yields once combining begins in earnest.

Harvest operations are just getting underway, with one per cent of the 2006 crop combined, and two per cent lying in swath or ready to straight combine. Crops combined to date include winter wheat, spring

wheat, oats, barley, fall rye, triticale, canola, mustard, lentils, peas, and chickpeas.

The weather conditions allowed for continued haying progress in many areas. Ninety-two per cent of the first-cut, and three per cent of the second-cut hay crop has been baled, or put into silage. Over half of the crop reporters do not expect to harvest a second cut.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop, hay, and pasture land were similar to last week. Fewer than 20 per cent of the reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate. Reporters in the southern areas of the province reported the highest percentage of very short topsoil moisture ratings.

Heat and drought stress were

1 Year Ago

Pre-harvest estimates indicated a production of 30.0 million tonnes of grains, oilseeds, and specialty crops.

More than half of reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate on crop land.

76% of the first-cut and 8% of the second-cut hay crop had been baled or put into silage.

Wind, heat and drought stress caused the most crop damage.

responsible for most of the crop damage during the past week. Other sources of damage included hail, wind, insects, disease, and gophers.

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance customers who wish to put their insured crop to an alternate use (any use other than combining) must contact their customer service office before baling, grazing or working it under, and request a pre-harvest appraisal.

For producers who plan to take their crop to harvest, you must submit your net harvested production before you can register any post-harvest claims. Production declarations will soon be in the mail for forage, grains, SMP and organic customers.

Crop Insurance Deadline
Reminder:

Producers seeding fall rye and winter wheat have until August 25 to select winterkill coverage on their crops to be seeded by September 15.

For further information contact:

*Terry Bedard, P.Ag.
Agricultural Economist
Policy Branch
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
306-787-5956
e-mail: policybranch@agr.gov.sk.ca*

*Available on the SAF Internet site at:
www.agr.gov.sk.ca*

Please let us know if you no longer need to receive a printed copy.

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

The south eastern region was hot and dry last week, but turned cooler at the end of the week. An average of 5 mm of precipitation was reported, with the highest average, 11 mm, reported in Crop District (CD) 2b. Over 40 mm was reported in the Moose Jaw area, along with flooding and hail damage. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CDs 1a and 2b.

One per cent of the south eastern 2006 crop has been combined, with 3% lying in the swath or ready to be straight combined. Crops being combined include winter wheat, barley, fall rye, canola, lentils, and field peas.

Reporters indicated that crops were maturing and turning under heat stress. Some grain appeared to be shriveled.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land improved very slightly this past week. Four per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate compared with 2% last week. Conditions also improved slightly on hay and pasture land with 4% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 0% last week.

In the Gainsborough area, farmers are feeding cattle because the pastures have dried up.

Rust and Ascochyta blight were reported in CD 2b. Insect damage came from painted wheat midge

(CDs 1, 2b), bertha army worms (CD 1,) aphids (CDs 1b, 2b), sawflies (CDs 1b, 2b), wheat stem maggot (CD 1b), and grasshoppers (CD 2b). Some spraying for bertha armyworms was done. Gopher damage was reported in the Whitewood and Zehner areas. Kochia weeds are growing rapidly in the Weyburn area and will be a problem in many special crops.

First-cut haying operations continue in the southeast with 91% baled or silaged, and 6% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. Many reporters do not expect a second cut in their area. Those that are cutting a second time report that 12% of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Pulse crops were desiccated and hay bales were hauled.

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

The past week was hot and dry in the southwest, with some thunderstorms. An average of 9 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average, 12 mm, reported in CD 3bn. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CDs 3asw, 3b, and 4a. Hail damage was reported in the Abbey, Webb, and Eastend areas.

Three per cent of the 2006 south western crop has been combined, and a further 4% is lying in the swath or ready to be straight combined. Crops being combined include winter wheat, spring wheat,

oats, barley, fall rye, triticale, mustard, lentils, peas, and chickpeas.

Reporters indicate that crops are suffering from heat stress and that yield potential has been reduced, substantially in some cases.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved somewhat this past week, with 54% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as very short, compared with 59% last week. Conditions deteriorated on hay and pasture land with only 2% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared to 5% last week.

Lightning strikes started pasture fires in the Webb, Richmond, and Cadillac areas. Southwest of Mankota, 6,000 acres burned. Dugouts are low in the Maple Creek area.

Insect damage came from sawflies (CD 3bs) and grasshoppers (CD 4a). Disease pressures came from ascochyta blight (CDs 3b, 4a) and mildew (CD3bn). Some farmers have sprayed their chickpeas two and three times and are still struggling with disease. Gophers caused crop damage in many areas in CD 3bs, as well as some damage in CDs 3asw and 4b.

Weeds are becoming a real problem in chickpeas in the Viceroy area. Pea and lentil crops are very weedy in the Limerick area.

Haying operations are continuing in the southwest with 96% of the first-cut hay either baled or put into silage, and a further 3% lying in

the swath. Quality is expected to be good. Many do not expect a second cut because of the hot, dry conditions.

Pulse crops were being desiccated.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region was generally hot and dry during the past week, with some cooling by the weekend. An average of 8 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with CD 6a reporting the highest average at 131mm. Heat and drought stress as well as some wind damage were reported across the region. Hail damage was reported in the Semans and Meachem areas. Some crops were lodged.

Some harvesting has started in the east central region, but mostly in the fall crops. Some spring wheat, barley, canola, lentils, and peas have been swathed or are ready to be straight combined. Some field peas have been worked down in the Leroy area because they are not worth combining.

Reporters indicate that late crops are looking poor and that good stands of crops are rapidly deteriorating.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland deteriorated, with 12% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as very short, compared with 2% last week. Conditions also deteriorated on hay and pasture land with 28% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 41% last week.

Damage from bertha armyworms was reported across the region and insecticide application was underway. Other insect damage came from sawflies, aphids, wheat midge, diamondback moth larvae, and cabbage butterflies. Disease pressures came from rust.

First-cut haying operations are progressing, with 91% baled or silaged, and a further 5% lying in the swath. Quality is expected to be generally good. Many reporters do not expect to see a second cut in their areas. One per cent of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Pulse crops are being desiccated. Some farmers in the region are also dealing with the anthrax outbreak.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

The west central region was also hot and dry this past week, with some showers. An average of 13 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with CD 7a reporting the highest average at 18 mm. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 6b. Hail damage was reported in the Grandora area.

One-half of one per cent of the west central 2006 crop has been swathed or is ready to be straight combined. While most of the activity is in the fall crops, some barley, canola, lentils, and peas are also being harvested.

Reporters say that crops are advancing rapidly in the heat and that yields are dropping.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved somewhat, with 13% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared with 8% last week. Conditions deteriorated slightly on hay and pasture land with 10% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 14% last week.

Damage from bertha armyworms was reported in CD 6b, and some spraying is underway.

Cutting and baling the 2006 hay crop is nearing completion with 95% baled or silaged, and a further 4% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. A number of reporters do not expect to harvest a second cut. Three per cent of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Pulse crops are being desiccated.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

The north eastern region had a hot, dry week. An average of 10 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average of 11 mm reported in CD 8a. Heat and drought damage were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 8b.

One-half of one per cent of the 2006 north eastern crop has been swathed or is ready to be straight combined. Crops seeing activity are

winter wheat, spring wheat, durum, fall rye, and canola.

Reporters feel that the heat and lack of rainfall has decreased yields. There is a variation in crops with some looking average and others looking very poor.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved somewhat this past week, with 58% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared with 52% last week. Conditions also improved somewhat on hay and pasture land with 61% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 52% last week.

Bertha armyworms, diamondback moth larvae, Lygus bugs, wheat midge, and sawflies caused crop damage during the past week. Some insecticide was applied.

Haying operations are progressing and 94% of the 2006 crop is baled or silaged, with a further 4% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. Many reporters do not expect a second cut in their area. Three per cent of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Some land that was not seeded this spring is being cultivated and/or sprayed. Some farmers are dealing with the anthrax outbreak.

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

The north western region had a hot, dry week. An average of 12 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average of 14 mm reported in CD 9b. Wind, heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Hail damage was reported in the Debden, Spiritwood, and Turtleford areas. In the Spiritwood area, the hail was a mile and a half wide and 15 to 20 miles long with damage of 25% to 100%.

Harvesting is just getting underway in the northwest. Some fall rye, canola, and peas have been swathed or are ready to be straight combined.

Reporters say that crops are showing stress from drought and heat and that they are advancing rapidly. Yield reduction is expected. Those

that received rain say it will help fill the heads and pods.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland deteriorated this past week, 26% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared with 32% last week. Conditions also deteriorated on hay and pasture land with 22% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 29% last week.

Insect damage came from diamondback moth larvae, bertha armyworms, and wheat midge.

Haying operations are progressing with 88% of the crop baled or silaged, and a further 8% lying in the swath. Quality is expected to be good. Many reporters do not expect to see a second cut in their area.

Pulse desiccation is underway.

Saskatchewan Crop Production Estimate July 30, 2006

	2006			1996-2005 average		
	acres* '000	bu/ac	prod'n '000 t	acres '000	bu/ac	prod'n '000 t
winter wheat	265	38.8	280.0	133.5	35.5	129.4
spring wheat	10 455	29.7	8 450.0	10 222.0	30.1	8 435.5
durum	3 568	25.7	2 500.0	4 626.0	29.9	3 759.2
oats	1 837	60.7	1 720.0	1 565.5	58.9	1 427.3
barley	3 602	49.6	3 890.0	4 241.0	48.8	4 523.0
fall rye	133	35.7	120.0	148.5	30.9	119.8
triticale	30	26.6	20.0	28.5	33.4	25.9
flax	1 553	18.0	710.0	1 184.0	18.4	555.3
canola	6 389	25.0	3 620.0	5 435.0	23.7	2 957.6
field peas	2 663	29.1	2 110.0	1 991.0	29.6	1 590.9
subtotal	30 495		23 420	29 575.0		23 523.9
		lb/ac		lb/ac		
mustard	271	894	110.0	520.0	778	183.8
sunflowers	37	1 187	20.0	35.3	1 074	16.8
lentils	1 362	1 085	670.0	1 300.0	1 078	642.8
canary seed	280	1 022	130.0	441.0	893	178.1
chick peas	258	983	115.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	32 704		24 465.0	31 871.3		24 545.4

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending July 30, 2006

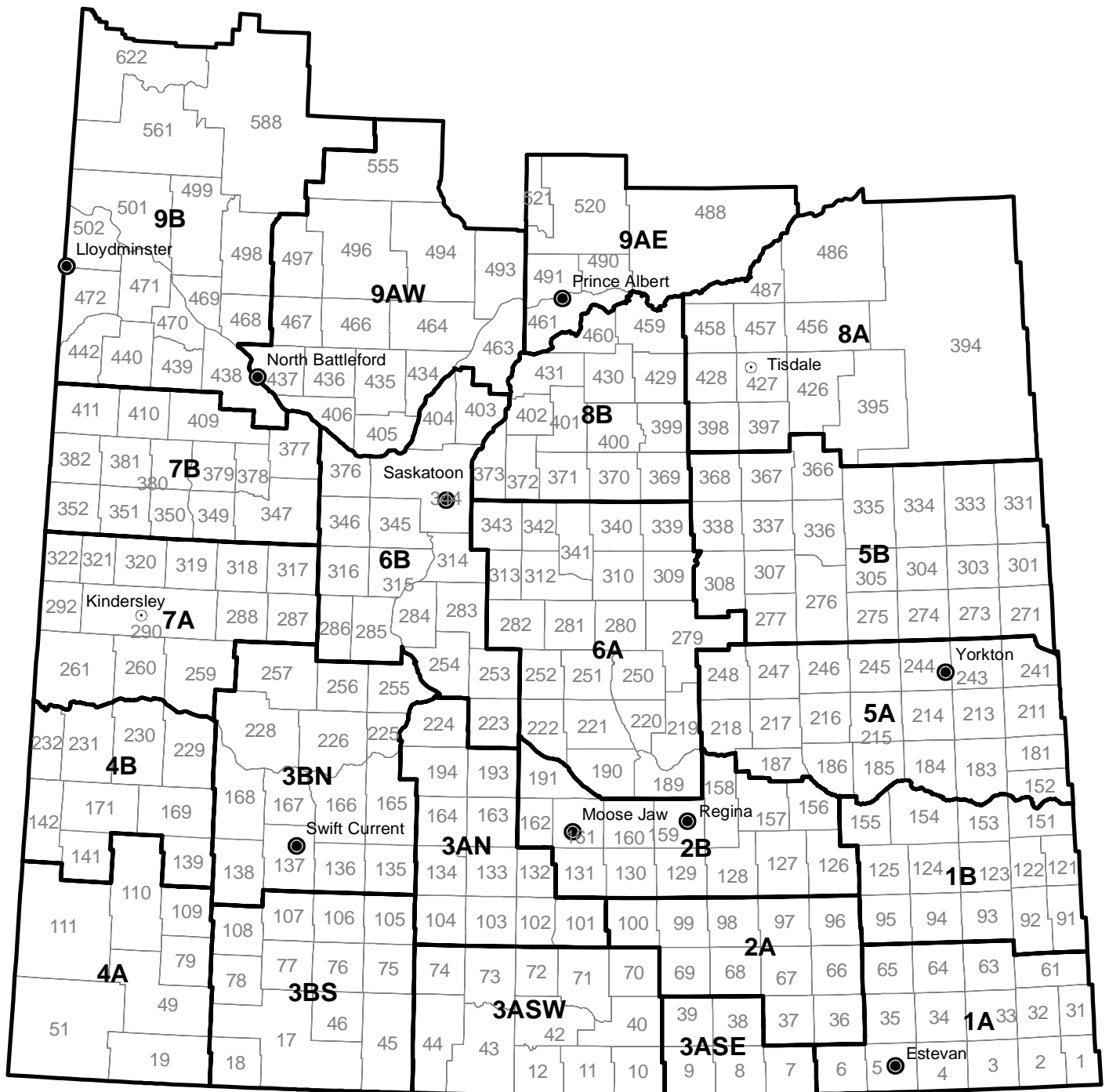
Crop Municipality		Past	Since	Crop Municipality		Past	Since	Crop Municipality		Past	Since
Dist. No.	Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No.	Name	Week	April 1	Dist. No.	Name	Week	April 1
1A	1 Argyle	NIL	149	3BN	135 Lawtonia	15	273		345 Vanscoy	5	206
	2 Mount Pleasant	NIL	181		136 Coulee	8	226		346 Perdue	11	224
	3 B Enniskillen	NIL	152		138 Webb	21	188		376 B Eagle Creek	4	199
	32 Reciprocity	NIL	117		166 Excelsior	3	202		404 Laird	5	213
	33 A Moose Creek	NIL	142		167 Sask. Landing	8	194	7A	259 Snipe Lake	12	125
	34 Browning	7	222		225 Canaan	12	185		287 St. Andrews	6	119
	35 Benson	2	176		226 Victory	15	192		288 Pleasant Valley	9	145
	63 A Moose Mountain	NIL	193		228 A Lacadena	5	158		292 Milton	23	204
	63 B Moose Mountain	2	196		228 B Lacadena	22	226		317 B Marriott	24	204*
	64 Brock	1	198	4A	19 Frontier	4	142		317 C Marriott	19	185
	65 Tecumseh	3	205		49 A White Valley	20	120		318 A Mountain View	44	218
1B	91 Maryfield	4	139		51 Reno	1	127		318 B Mountain View	13	204
	92 Walpole	NIL	171		79 Arlington	12	105		320 Oakdale	15	150
	93 Wawken	10	216		109 Carmichael	NIL	144		321 Prairiedale	34	260
	95 Golden West	NIL	216		110 Piapot	NIL	131		322 Antelope Park	22	181
	121 Moosomin	NIL	218		111 A Maple Creek	2	122	7B	347 A Biggar	6	192
	122 Martin	NIL	211		111 B Maple Creek	1	123		350 A Mariposa	1	140
	124 Kingsley	6	202	4B	139 Gull Lake	7	144		351 Progress	8	174
	125 Chester	5	182		141 Big Stick	3	142		377 Glenside	8	213
	151 B Rocanville	5	319		142 Enterprise	1	177		378 A Rosemount	15	174
	153 Willowdale	7	214		231 Happyland	3	183		378 B Rosemount	6	127
	154 Elcapo	8	220		232 Deer Forks	7	160		379 Reford	9	155
	155 Wolseley	2	234	5A	152 Spy Hill	NIL	266		380 Tramping Lake	7	7*
2A	36 Cymri	2	239		183 Fertile Belt	NIL	227		381 Grass Lake	13	186
	66 Griffin	TR	200		185 Mcleod	3	203		382 Eye Hill	30	233
	67 Weyburn	TR	209		186 Abernethy	3	217		411 Senlac	18	282
	68 Brokenshell	1	211		187 North Qu'appelle	5	201	8A	395 Porcupine	NIL	251
	96 Fillmore	3	208		211 Churchbridge	TR	219		397 Barrier Valley	9	310
	97 Wellington	2	196		213 Saltcoats	TR	166		398 Pleasantdale	7	238*
	99 Caledonia	16	214		216 Tullymet	6	269		456 Arborfield	33	239
2B	126 Montmartre	TR	179		217 B Lipton	5	232		457 A Connaught	6	374
	127 Francis	10	215		241 Calder	NIL	170		457 B Connaught	6	218
	129 Bratt's Lake	10	195		243 Wallace	NIL	185*		458 Willow Creek	22	230
	131 Baildon	28	248		245 A Garry	TR	214		486 Moose Range	8	183
	156 A Indian Head	6	225		245 B Garry	2	237		487 Nipawin	10	229
	156 B Indian Head	4	231		246 Ituna Bon Accord	16	236	8B	369 St. Peter	13	329
	157 South Qu'appelle	6	211		247 Kellross	7	309		370 Humboldt	1	222
	158 Edenwold	5	191		248 Touchwood	16	224		371 Bayne	9	228
	160 Pense	10	218	5B	271 Cote	TR	193		372 Grant	4	191
	161 Moose Jaw	43	362		273 Sliding Hills	2	141		373 Aberdeen	10	185
	191 Marquis	5	259		275 B Inisinger	NIL	237		399 Lake Lenore	2	218
3ASE	8 Lake Alma	15	240		276 Foam Lake	8	281		400 Three Lakes	18	189
	38 A Laurier	7	218		277 Emerald	5	266		402 Fish Creek	6	189
	38 B Laurier	5	171		307 Elfros	24	287		429 A Flett's Springs	NIL	193
	39 A The Gap	1	173		308 Big Quill	4	187		429 B Flett's Springs	NIL	208
	39 B The Gap	8	187		335 Hazel Dell	4	258		430 Invergordon	19	250
3ASW	10 Happy Valley	14	163		336 Sasman	NIL	251		431 St. Louis	48	284
	12 Poplar Valley	17	156		337 Lakeview	5	287		459 Kinistino	3	185
	42 Willow Bunch	23	187		338 Lakeside	3	266	9AE	488 Torch River	1	246
	43 A Old Post	3	137		366 B Kelvington	25	238		520 Paddockwood	16	283
	43 B Old Post	6	157		367 Ponass Lake	13	337	9AW	406 Mayfield	4	212
	44 Waverley	11	233	6A	189 Lumsden	8	284		435 Redberry	4	213
	70 Key West	NIL	183		190 A Dufferin	2	182		436 Douglas	NIL	197
	71 A Excel	3	198		190 B Dufferin	8	273		436 B Douglas	2	119*
	71 C Excel	NIL	262		190 C Dufferin	5	239		463 Duck Lake	12	213
	73 A Stonehenge	12	237		219 B Longlaketon	6	201		464 Leask	7	248
	73 B Stonehenge	3	237		219 C Longlaketon	5	196		466 Meeting Lake	8	186
3AN	101 A Terrell	2	196		220 Mckillop	12	275		467 Round Hill	4	210
	101 B Terrell	8	192		221 Sarnia	9	252		494 Canwood	13	269
	102 Lake Johnston	4	193		222 Craik	12	296		496 Spiritwood	22	250
	103 Sutton	9	236		251 Big Arm	8	196		555 Big River	20	240
	132 Hillsborough	22	272		252 Arm River	8	215	9B	438 A Battle River	14	188
	134 Shamrock	14	266		279 A Mount Hope	29	219		438 B Battle River	8	192
	193 Eyebrow	9	286		279 B Mount Hope	19	230		440 Hillsdale	11	109
3BS	17 A Val Marie	2	146		280 Wreford	20	187		442 Manitou Lake	18	187
	17 B Val Marie	2	138		282 McCreaney	26	217		468 Meota	11	171
	45 Mankota	19	219		309 Prairie Rose	6	237		472 Wilton	26	199
	46 Glen Mcpherson	NIL	168		312 Morris	11	224		498 A Parkdale	22	157
	75 A Pinto Creek	8	203		313 Lost River	6	185		498 B Parkdale	9	120
	75 B Pinto Creek	10	219		339 B Leroy	6	253		499 Mervin	30	178
	76 A Auvergne	10	133		340 A Wolverine	17	281		501 A Frenchman Butte	21	147
	76 B Auvergne	13	167		340 B Wolverine	12	290		501 B Frenchman Butte	18	140
	77 Wise Creek	14	105		341 Viscount	7	190		501 C Frenchman Butte	19	172
	78 B Grassy Creek	15	101	6B	254 Loreburn	18	215		502 Britannia	22	189
	78 C Grassy Creek	11	121		283 Rosedale	10	169		561 Loon Lake	3	117
	105 Glenbain	10	350		284 Rudy	19	223		588 B Meadow Lake	3	121
	106 Whiska Creek	30	200		285 Fertile Valley	11	223		588 C Meadow Lake	3	106
	107 Lac Pelletier	16	161		314 Dundurn	8	9*		588 D Meadow Lake	16	133
	108 Bone Creek	7	142		344 Corman Park	10	162		622 Beaver River	4	147

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

* incomplete

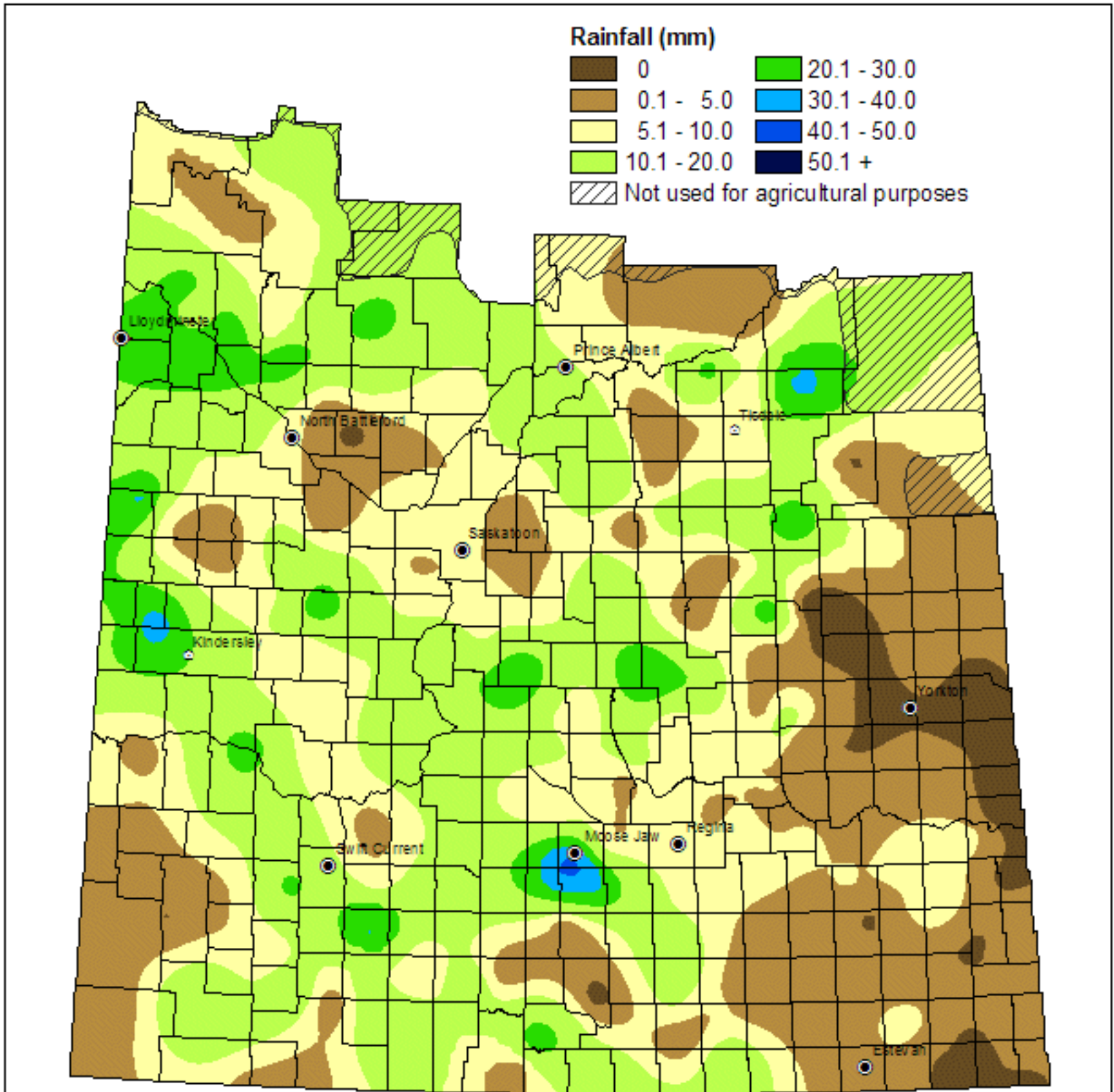
Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities



Weekly Rainfall

for the week ending July 29, 2006

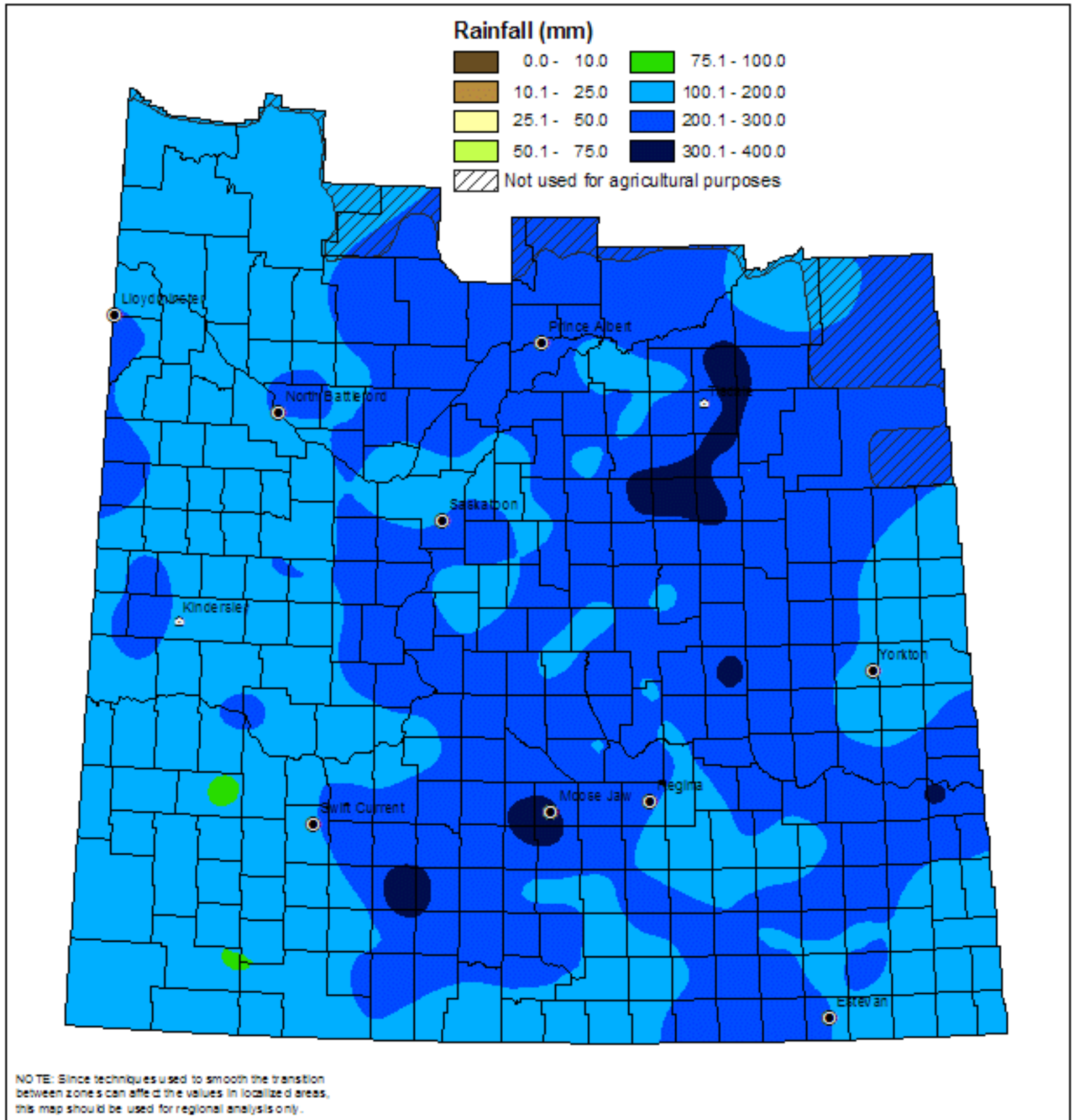


NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.

Cumulative Rainfall

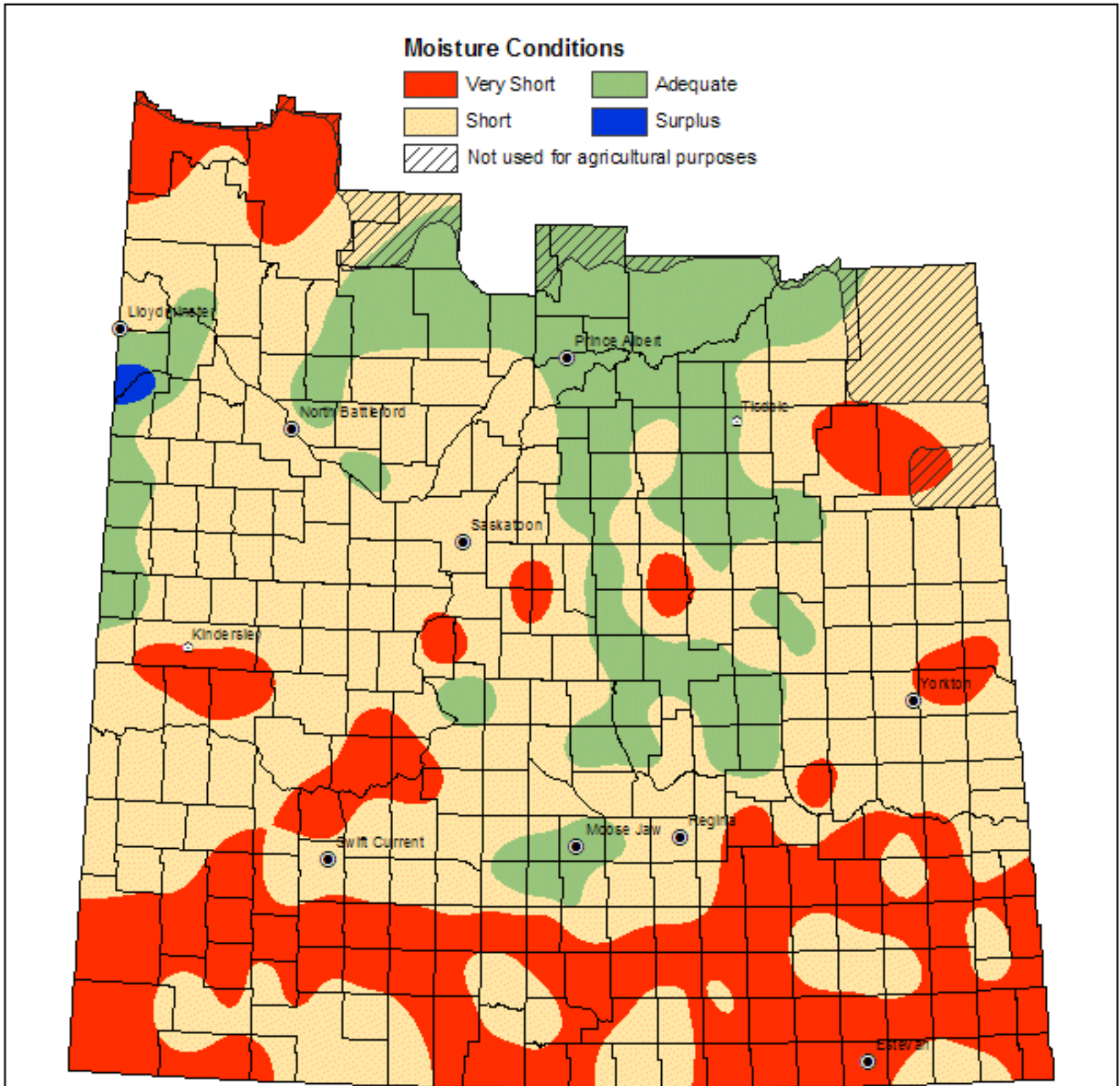
From: April 1, 2006

To: July 29, 2006



Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions

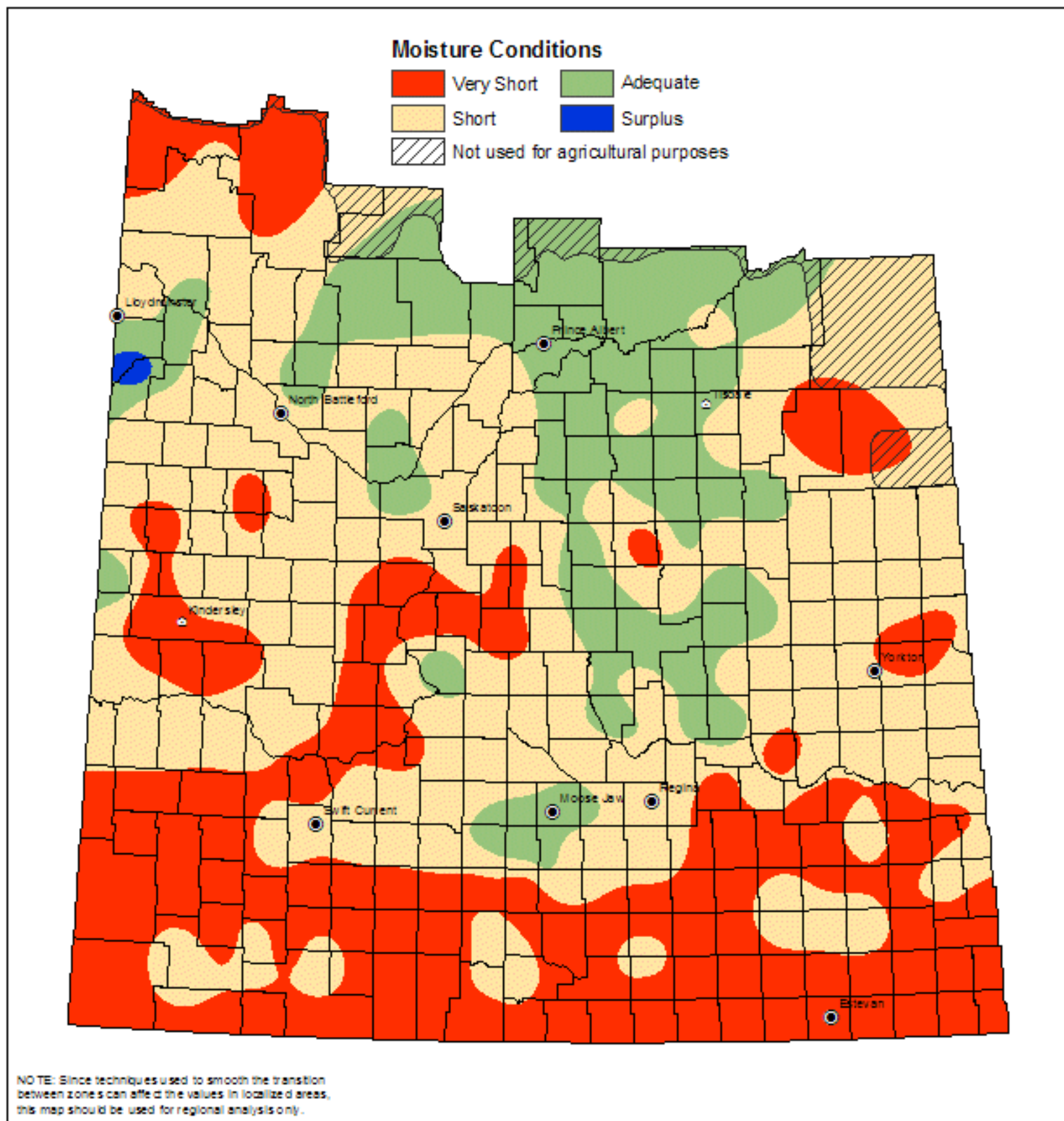
July 30, 2006



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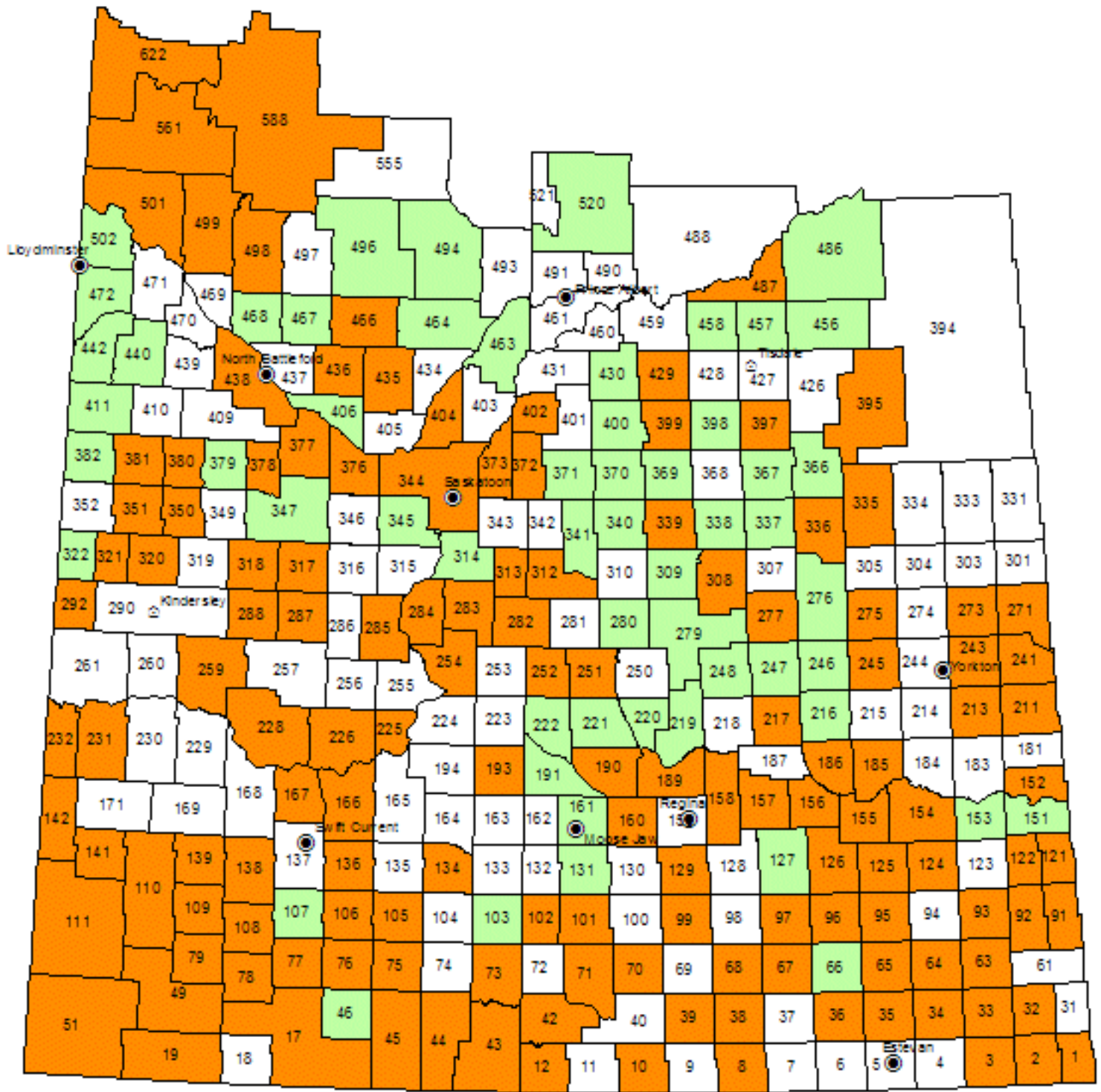
Hay and Pasture Topsoil Moisture Conditions

July 30, 2006



Crop Damage - Drought

for the week ending July 29, 2006



Damage Reported
 No Damage Reported
 No Data