

For the Period July 26 to August 1, 2016

Harvest operations have just begun in parts of the province with some farmers combining peas, lentils and winter cereals, or swathing canola, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture's weekly Crop Report. It was another good week for hay progress, as producers now have 70 per cent of the hay crop baled or put into silage and another 15 per cent cut and ready for baling. The five-year average (2011 to 2015) is 73 per cent baled or put into silage.

Hay quality is rated as six per cent excellent, 69 per cent good, 23 per cent fair and two per cent poor. Very few hay acres have been through a second cut. Hay is slow to dry in swath due to high humidity and rain.

The southeast region has made good progress combining winter wheat and fall rye. Combines are also rolling on pea crops in the south regions. There were a few reports of canola being swathed and pulses being desiccated in various areas of the province.

The majority of the precipitation was recorded in the west regions of the province, ranging from trace to 50 mm (Macklin area). A couple of other areas reported significant rain and severe weather, including the Yorkton and Melville area, where heavy downpours, large hail and confirmed tornadoes were reported. Lentils and peas in many areas of the province are suffering from season-long excess moisture. Diseases and hail have also caused crop damage.

Provincially, cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 12 per cent surplus, 81 per cent adequate, six per cent short and one per cent very short. Hay land and pasture topsoil moisture is rated as seven per cent surplus, 83 per cent adequate, nine per cent short and one per cent very short. Sufficient rain throughout the growing season in most areas of the province has resulted in good pasture growth. Pasture conditions are rated as 20 per cent excellent, 64 per cent good, fourteen per cent fair and two per cent poor. In the northwest region, where precipitation was lacking, pasture conditions are rated as one per cent excellent, 43 per cent good, 43 per cent fair and 13 per cent poor.

Farmers are busy haying and getting ready for harvest.

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Also available on the Ministry of Agriculture website at www.saskatchewan.ca/crop-report.

Southeastern Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 1 – Carnduff, Estevan, Redvers, Moosomin and Kipling areas
- Crop District 2 – Weyburn, Milestone, Moose Jaw, Regina and Qu'Appelle areas
- Crop District 3ASE – Radville and Lake Alma areas

Harvest operations have started in the region with winter wheat, fall rye, peas and lentils being combined. In some areas, up to half of the winter wheat and fall rye has already been put into the bin. Peas are being combined in the Radville and Frobisher areas. Other crops are turning quickly.

Seventy-two per cent of the hay crop is baled and 16 per cent has been cut and will be ready for baling. Haying is furthest advanced in Crop District 1A with 81 per cent baled, while crop district 1B has 56 per cent baled. Hay quality is rated as 75 per cent good and 25 per cent fair. High humidity and rain showers are causing quality loss in the swath. Dry weather is needed to get the rest of the hay up in good shape. There are a few reports of producers taking the second cut of hay.

Pastures have excellent growth due to season-long precipitation received and are rated as 10 per cent excellent, 75 per cent good, 12 per cent fair and three per cent poor. There are areas where some acres in pastures are flooded and access is limited.

It was a drier week for the region when it came to rainfall reported. Precipitation ranged from nil to 27 mm (Tantallon). Most areas reported below 8 mm for the week. A dry week was needed to help dry out fields in preparation for harvest. The Frobisher area reported 8 mm, Moosomin 25 mm, Indian Head 11 mm and Radville 5 mm.

Cropland topsoil moisture is rated as 11 per cent surplus, 82 per cent adequate and seven per cent short. Hay land and pasture topsoil moisture is rated as eight per cent surplus, 84 per cent adequate, seven per cent short and one per cent very short. Crop District 1B is reporting that 29 per cent of cropland acres have surplus topsoil moisture at this time. Twenty-nine per cent of hay and pasture land in Crop District 1B has surplus topsoil moisture. There is crop loss where land has flooded, remained under wet conditions or where disease has set in.

Crop damage this week was mainly caused by wind, lodging and hail. Hail was reported in the Oxbow and Indian Head areas. A wet growing season has resulted in some crop loss from disease.

Producers are trying to finish haying, moving bales and getting ready for harvest.

Southwestern Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 3ASW – Coronach, Assiniboia and Ogema areas
- Crop District 3AN – Gravelbourg, Mossbank, Mortlach and Central Butte areas
- Crop District 3B – Kyle, Swift Current, Shaunavon and Ponteix areas
- Crop District 4 – Consul, Maple Creek and Leader areas

Harvest has just started for a few producers in the region. There are some reports of winter cereals and peas being combined. Other crops are maturing quickly. Desiccation of pulse crops and swathing of canola is expected to begin in the coming week.

Rain showers were reported during the week, delaying haying operations. Sixty-nine per cent of the hay crop has been baled and 16 per cent is cut and ready to bale. Quality is rated as four per cent excellent, 63 per cent good, 30 per cent fair and three per cent poor. Haying is furthest advanced in Crop District 3BS, which has 80 per cent baled, while Crop District 4B is reporting 48 per cent is baled.

Rainfall in the region ranged from one mm (Big Beaver) to 44 mm (Leader). The Rockglen area recorded 19 mm, Moose Jaw and Eyebrow 8 mm, Climax 37 mm, Swift Current 29 mm and Consul 41 mm.

Cropland topsoil moisture conditions are rated as 10 per cent surplus, 87 per cent adequate and three per cent short. Hay land and pasture topsoil moisture is rated as two per cent surplus, 93 per cent adequate and five per cent short. Pastures are holding their condition due to the moisture received over the growing season and are rated as 32 per cent excellent, 60 per cent good and eight per cent fair.

The majority of crop damage this past week was attributed to hail and strong winds causing lodging. Crop loss is occurring due to excess moisture in some areas, particularly in pulse crops. Lentil crops are taking the brunt of the continued rain, and yield and quality will be affected. Hail damage was reported in the Climax area. Warm and dry weather for harvest is needed, as many fields are quite soft and field operations may be difficult.

Producers are busy trying to finish up haying and are getting ready for harvest.

East-Central Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 5 – Melville, Yorkton, Cupar, Kamsack, Foam Lake, Preeceville and Kelvington areas
- Crop District 6A – Lumsden, Craik, Watrous and Clavet areas

Good hay progress was made in between rain showers in some areas of the region. Seventy-four per cent of the hay has been baled or put into silage and 13 per cent is cut and waiting to be baled. Hay quality is rated as 10 per cent excellent, 77 per cent good and 13 per cent fair. Haying operations throughout July have been very slow in the region, due to less-than-ideal weather conditions. Frequent rain showers and high humidity have caused quality to deteriorate.

There have been a couple of reports of winter wheat and fall rye being combined in the region.

Heavy rain went through some areas in the region during the past week. Rainfall in the region ranged from nil to 42 mm (Yorkton area). Localized flooding of roads and fields were reported. There were two confirmed tornadoes that touched down in the Melville and Yorkton areas. A house, bins, barn and power poles were severely damaged. Round bales were moved to neighbouring fields. High winds caused many crops to lodge. No one was

injured in the storms. Other areas with higher amounts of rainfall include Esterhazy (26 mm), Saltcoats and Chamberlain (18 mm).

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland are rated as 10 per cent surplus, 85 per cent adequate and five per cent short. Hay land and pasture topsoil moisture is rated as eight per cent surplus, 86 per cent adequate and six per cent short. There is crop loss due disease and lodging from excess moisture throughout much of the growing season, particularly in lentils. Crop reporters from the Togo, Goodeve and Allan areas have indicated that generally crops look good in their area, as recent heavy rain storms have missed them.

Pastures are holding up well due to good growing conditions and sufficient moisture. Pastures are rated as 21 per cent excellent, 70 per cent good and nine per cent fair.

Sources of crop damage this week include localized flooding, hail, wind and diseases such as root rot and other pulse diseases. Desiccating of pulses and swathing of canola is expected to start in the coming week.

West-Central Saskatchewan:

- Crop Districts 6B – Hanley, Outlook, Loreburn, Saskatoon and Arelee areas
- Crop District 7A – Rosetown, Kindersley, Eston, Major
- Crop District 7B - Kerrobert, Macklin, Wilkie and Biggar areas

Haying operations continue in the region, with 67 per cent baled or put into silage and 15 per cent and drying down. Quality is rated as four per cent excellent, 58 per cent good and 38 per cent fair. Rain showers rolled through much of the region, slowing down hay operations.

There are reports of a few winter wheat and fall rye crops combined and in the bin. Some pea fields have been desiccated and are ready to straight cut.

Rainfall varied throughout the region, with most areas recording over 15 mm and ranging from two mm (Rosthern) to 50 mm (Macklin). Other areas reporting larger amounts of include Outlook (24 mm), Hanley (22 mm), Kindersley (32 mm), Smiley (36 mm), and Lusland (24 mm). The Conquest area holds the regional record for greatest amount of precipitation since April 1 (351 mm).

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland are rated as 17 per cent surplus, 81 per cent adequate and two per cent short. Hay land and pasture topsoil moisture is rated as 11 per cent surplus, 83 per cent adequate and six per cent short. Crop District 7A is reporting that 27 per cent of cropland has surplus topsoil moisture. Pasture conditions are rated as 32 per cent excellent, 50 per cent good and 18 per cent fair.

There is crop loss due to excess moisture in some areas. Pulses are taking the biggest hit when it comes yield loss due to excess moisture. Oilseeds tend to be holding up the best. Other crop damage this week is attributed to lodging, diseases and hail. Producers are desiccating peas. Warm and dry weather is needed coming into harvest for field accessibility. Despite the excess moisture in most areas of the region, crop reporters in the

Sonningdale, Macklin, Major, Alvena, Duck Lake and Landis areas are indicating most crops are looking good and are anticipating good yields and decent quality.

Northeastern Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 8 – Hudson Bay, Tisdale, Melfort, Carrot River, Humboldt, Kinistino, Cudworth and Aberdeen areas
- Crop District 9AE – Prince Albert, Choiceland and Paddockwood areas

Haying operations continue despite interruption from a few rain showers throughout the week. Livestock producers have 72 per cent of the hay baled and an additional 12 per cent is cut and waiting for baling. Crop District 8A has 58 per cent baled while Crop District 8B has 92 per cent baled or put into silage. Quality is rated as nine per cent excellent and 81 per cent fair. High humidity is causing delays in drying down the swath.

Rainfall was recorded throughout most of the region, ranging from 3 mm (Lake Lenore) to 34 mm (Nipawin). The Tisdale area received 20 mm, Kinistino 28 mm, and the Bruno and Garrick areas 12 mm. There were other areas that received over 55 mm, but were not captured with the crop report data.

There are reports of winter wheat and fall rye crops being harvested. A few producers have started to desiccate pea crops in the region.

Cropland topsoil moisture conditions are rated as 24 per cent surplus, 75 per cent adequate and one per cent short. Hay land and pasture topsoil moisture is rated as 26 per cent surplus and 74 per cent adequate. Crop District 8A is reporting that 54 per cent of cropland and 49 per cent of hay land and pasture have surplus topsoil moisture at this time. Pasture conditions are rated as 11 per cent excellent, 76 per cent good, 12 per cent fair and one per cent poor.

Crop damage is attributed to excess moisture and wind, which has caused lodging and disease. Hail that caused substantial crop damage was also reported in the Porcupine Plain area. Significant rain in the past few weeks has washed out roads in some areas and is flooding crops, causing loss. Warm, dry weather is needed to help dry out soil to support harvest equipment.

Northwestern Saskatchewan:

- Crop District 9AW – Shellbrook, North Battleford, Big River and Hafford areas
- Crop District 9B – Meadow Lake, Turtleford, Pierceland, Maidstone and Lloydminster areas

Haying continues for livestock producers, with 67 per cent of the hay crop baled and an additional 17 per cent cut and waiting to be baled. Quality is rated as six per cent excellent, 69 per cent good, 23 per cent fair and two per cent poor. Most areas reported rain showers that slowed hay progress and increased drying time in the swath.

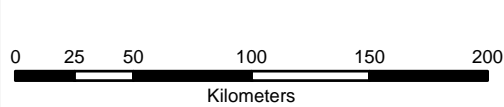
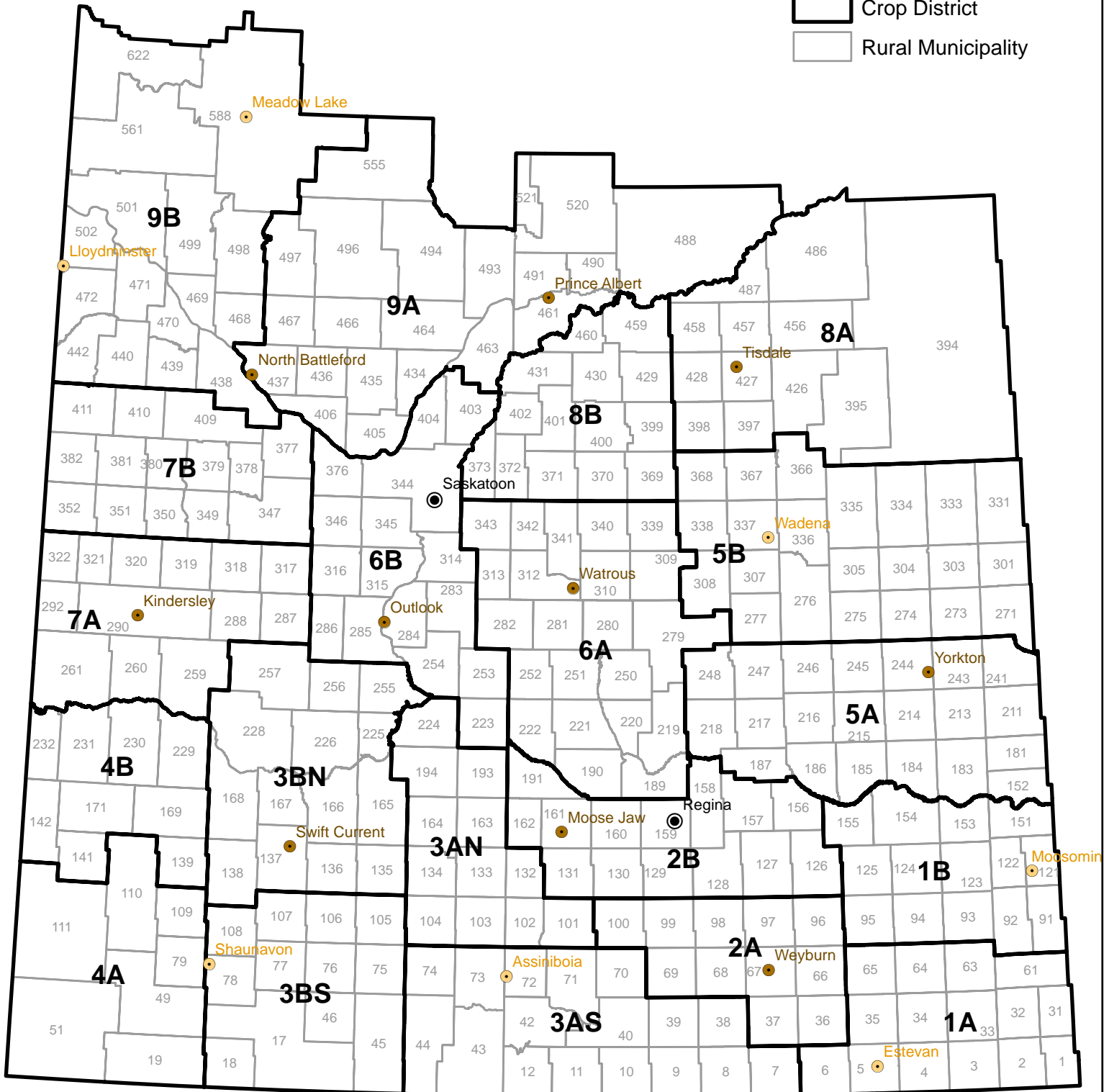
Rainfall varied throughout the region with the majority of it recorded in Crop District 9B. Precipitation ranged from 2 mm (Duck Lake) to 47 mm (St. Walburg). The Debden area received 21 mm, Radisson 6 mm, Glaslyn 18 mm, Frenchman Butte 38 mm and Pierceland 10mm. The Frenchman Butte area holds the regional record for greatest amount of precipitation since April 1 (316 mm). The Speers and Neilburg areas have reported the least amount of rainfall since April 1 (108 mm).

Cropland topsoil moisture is rated 67 per cent adequate, 24 per cent short and nine per cent very short. Hay land and pasture topsoil moisture is rated as 62 per cent adequate, 31 per cent short and seven per cent very short. Crop District 9AW is reporting 28 per cent of crop land acres and 36 per cent of hay land and pasture acres are short of topsoil moisture. Pasture conditions are rated as one per cent excellent, 43 per cent good, 43 per cent fair and 13 per cent poor.

Crops in general are in good condition, despite dry conditions in some areas. However, a rain at this time would help to fill and finish off crops just before harvest. The crop region has not received as much precipitation throughout the growing season when compared to the rest of the province. Crop damage this past week is attributed to strong winds, lodging and diseases, particularly in peas.

Crop Districts and Rural Municipalities in Saskatchewan

- Regional Service Office
- Regional Satellite Office
- ▭ Crop District
- ▭ Rural Municipality



Projection: UTM Zone 13 Datum: NAD83

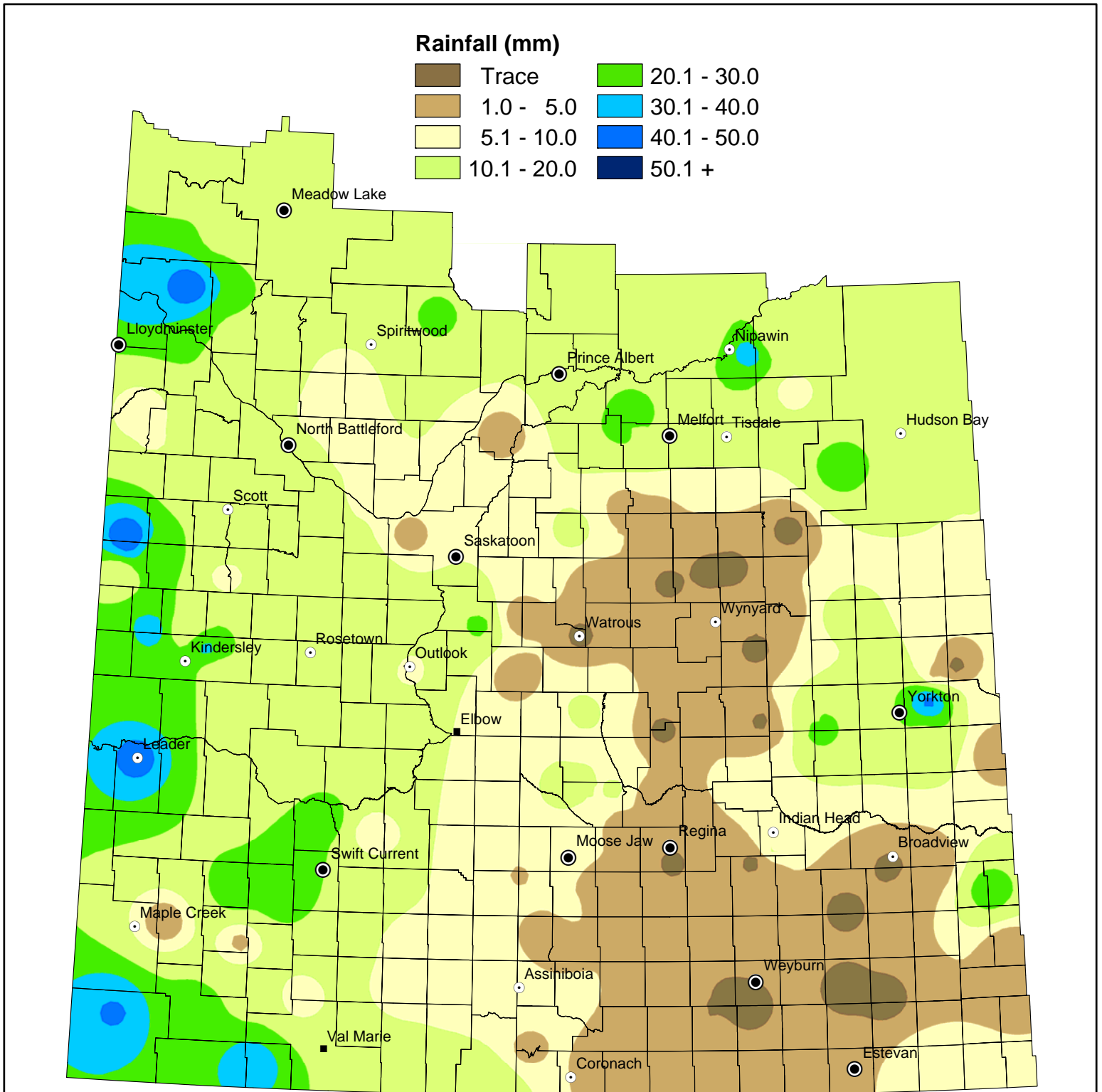


Data Source:
Crop Districts - Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

Geomatic Services, Ministry of Agriculture June 10, 2014

Weekly Rainfall

from July 26 to August 1, 2016

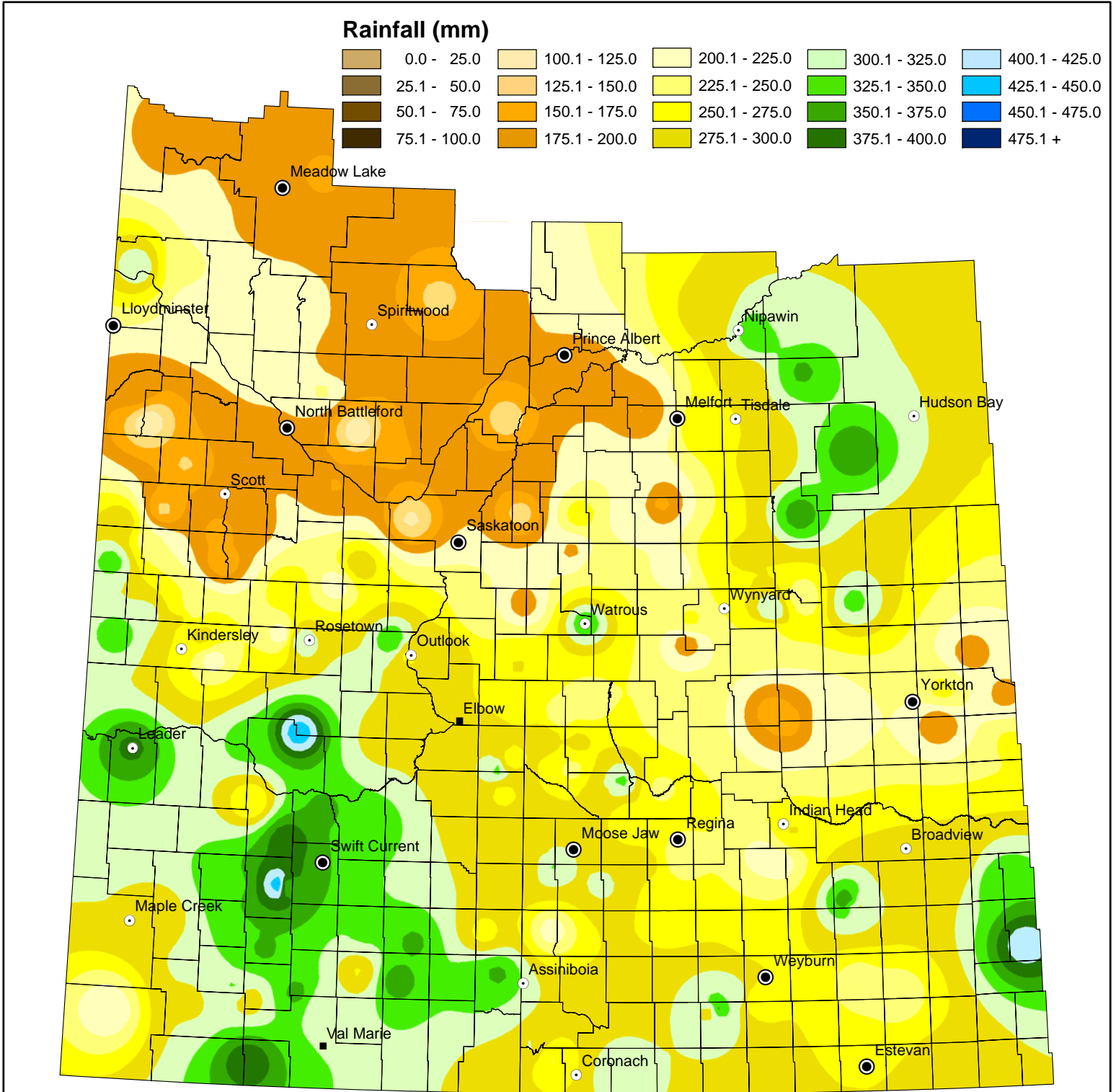


NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.



Cumulative Rainfall

from April 1 to August 1, 2016

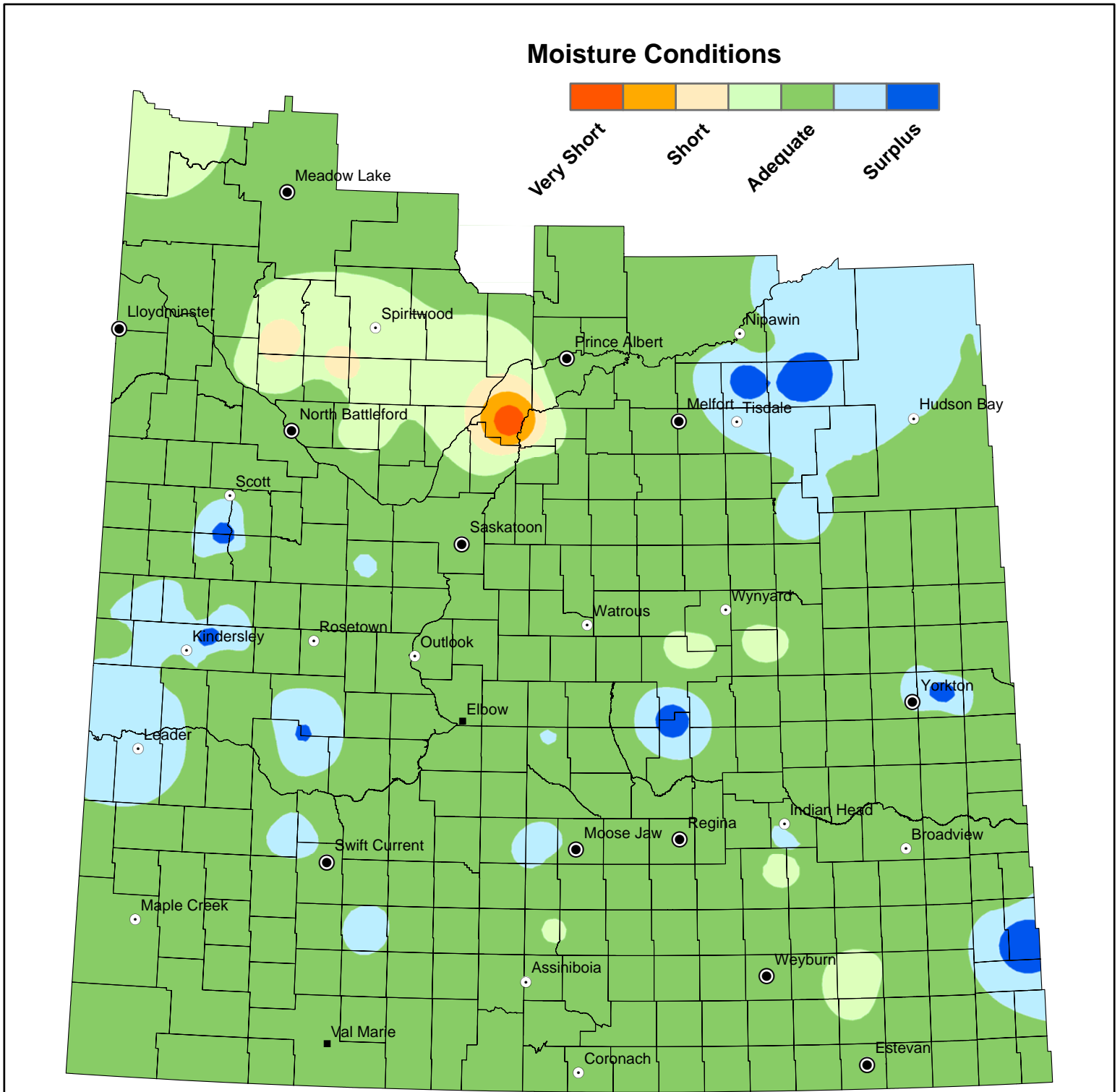


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Cropland Topsoil Moisture Conditions

August 1, 2016

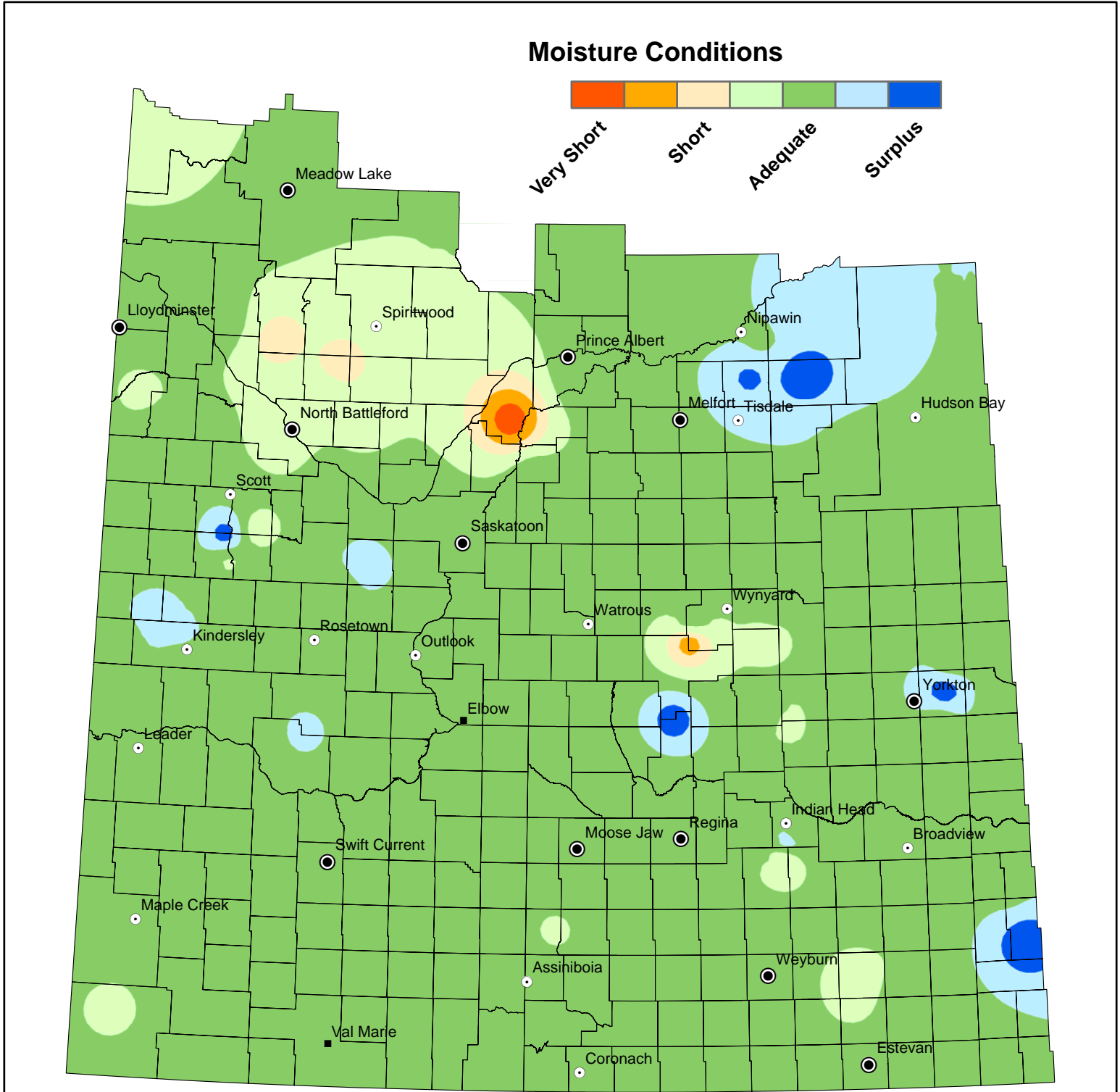


NOTE: Since techniques used to smooth the transition between zones can affect the values in localized areas, this map should be used for regional analysis only.



Hay and Pasture Topsoil Moisture Conditions

August 1, 2016



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