

Issue 11 – July 16, 2026

Manitoba Potato Report



[Seasonal Reports](#) [Weekly Weather Maps](#) [Potato Production](#)

Provincial Summary

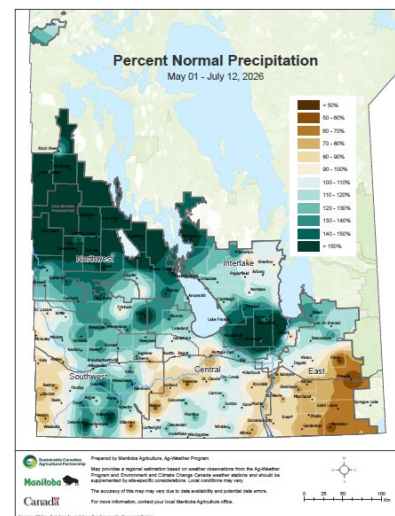
- The potato plants are at varying levels of growth, with tuber size ranging from pea-size to over 4-inches. The crops appear to be about a week behind the same time last year in tuber size and canopy cover.
- Ground operations including fungicide and insecticide sprays were interrupted in some areas by heavy rains in the week. For late blight, 3-4 fungicides spray applications have been made so far.
- Late blight spores were detected at ten spore trap sites across Manitoba between July 6 and 13. No late blight disease has been reported in the province so far. Late blight risk is moderate to high.
- In the fifth week, the total aphid numbers were low, as in the last week. One Potato aphid and no Green peach aphids were trapped. Colorado potato beetle larvae are now present across Manitoba.

Ag Weather Data

Precipitation and Soil Moisture

- In the week, July 6 -12, there were widespread showers across the province; heavy rainfall was seen on July 6-7 and again on July 10 (Fig.1, Fig. 2) leading to wet or flooded fields in many areas.
- Rainfall in the week (July 6-12) varied from 0.3 mm (Carberry) to over 75 mm (Bagot) at various potato growing areas (Table 1). The cumulative precipitation (May 1 to July 12) as % of 30-year normal, ranged from ~70% (Altona, Portage, Carberry and Treherne) to over 110 % (Shilo, Wawanesa, Carman, Winkler) (Fig. 1, Table 1). Heavy rains occurred on July 6/7, which exasperated the wet field conditions in some areas. <http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/percent-normal-precipitation.pdf>.
- The soils at the 0-30 cm depth in potato growing areas changed to generally “wet” based on Regional Soil Moisture relative to Field Capacity as of June 28 (Fig. 3a) and remained “wet” at the 120 cm depth. <https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-30cm.pdf>

Fig. 1. As a result of scattered rainfall from July 6 to 12, the cumulative precipitation has crossed 100% of normal at many potato growing areas across Manitoba, ranging from 70% to 148% of normal.



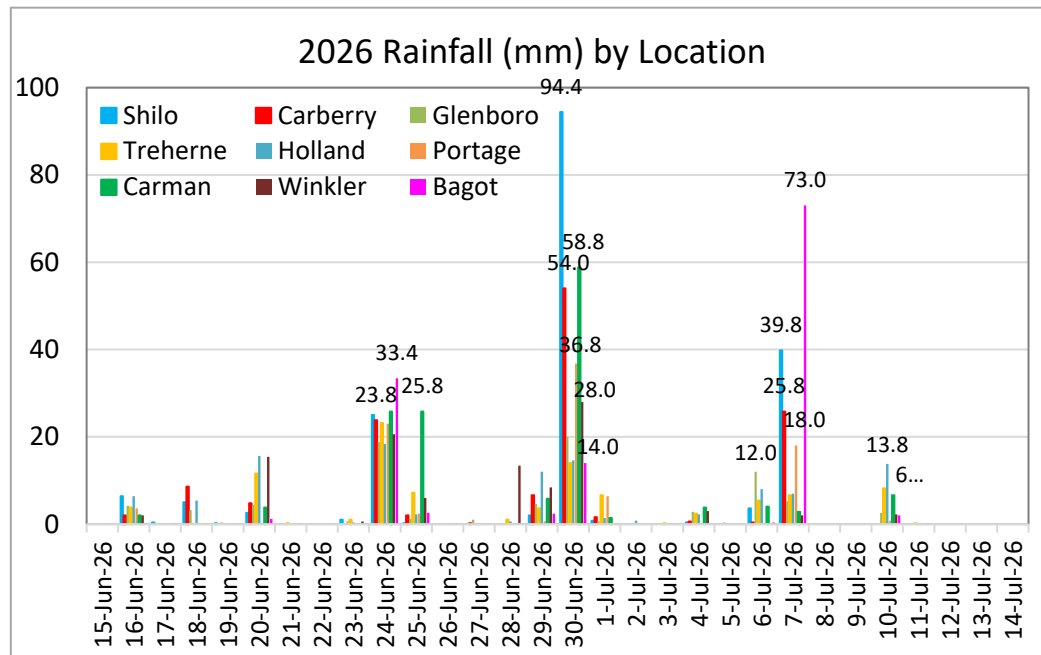
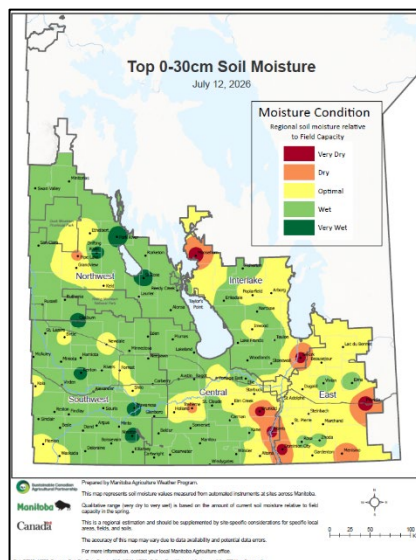
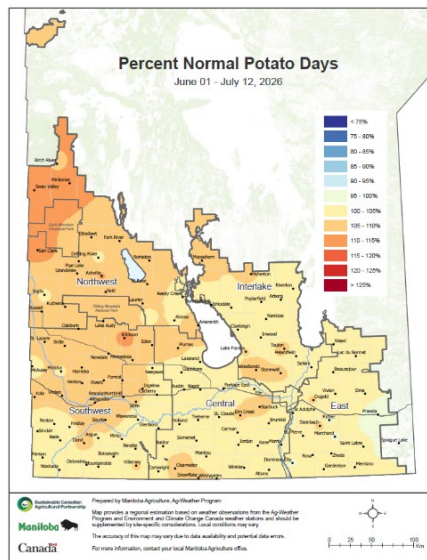


Fig. 2. Rainfall in June, towards end of the month and scattered thunderstorms on July 6-7, and 10th has led to soggy wet or flooded fields in many potato growing areas of the province.



3a



- The Cumulative heat (Growing Degree Days, GDD base 5°C) was closer to 105-113% of normal (Table 1). The cumulative Potato Heat Units (P-Days) ranged from 315 (Carberry) to 336 (Winkler, St. Claude) and were 100 to 110% of 30-year normal (Fig. 3 b) in the potato growing areas.

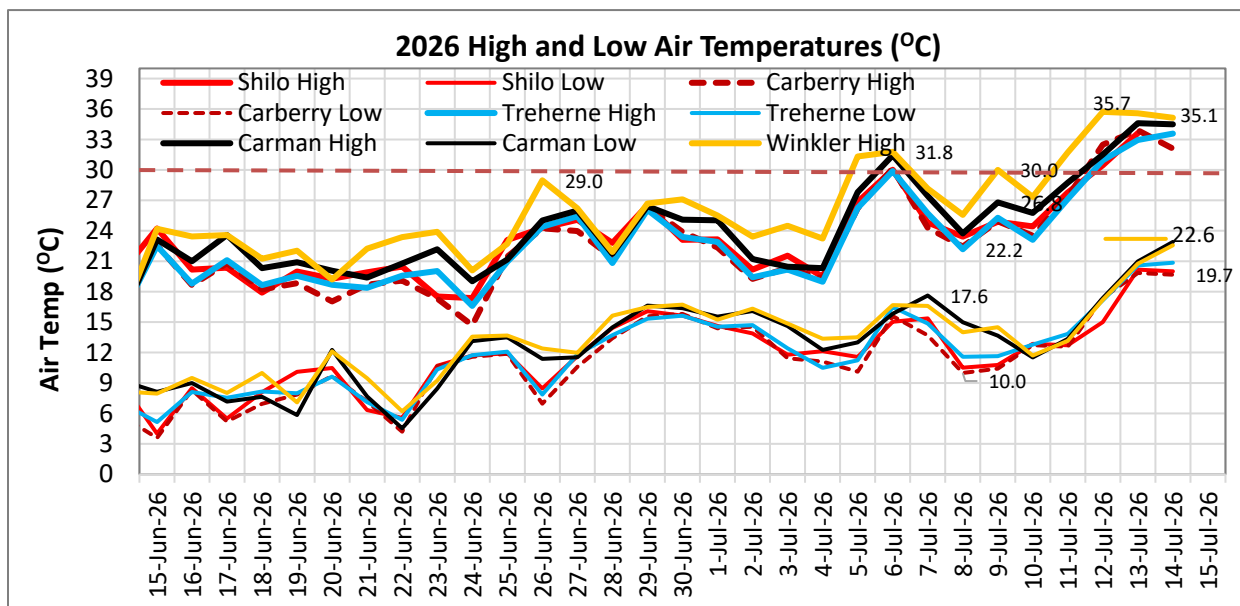


Fig. 4: Daytime air temperatures in the potato-growing areas have become cooler after July 6-7 rains and warming up again to mid 30s°C by July 11-12. Nighttime temperatures have been also rising to around 20s°C in selected weather stations. Hot daytime and warm nighttime temperatures do not favour tuberization.

Table 1. Manitoba Ag Weather Data – July 6-12

Region	Max Temp (°C)	Min Temp (°C)	Rainfall (mm) for the week	Rainfall (mm) (Since May 1)	2026 Rainfall (% of normal) since May 1	GDD (% of normal)	P-Days (June 1 to July 12)
Altona	36.2	12.2	0.9	141	70	105	330
Austin	35.6	11.8	41.5	162	92	108	329
Bagot	37.0	13.4	79.4	206	113	108	327
Carberry EC	34.7	10.6	0.3	140	75	109	315
Carman	34.6	11.5	9.3	218	111	109	332
Glenboro	34.8	10.9	7.9	141	79	111	324
Holland	34.1	10.8	21.6	161	81	110	327
Morden	35.0	12.4	3.5	174	90	107	-
Portage EC	35.7	12.1	10.9	128	70	110	333
Rivers	33.3	10.5	14.8	266	137	111	328
Shilo	-	-	-	-	-	-	324
St. Claude	34.7	13.4	8.8	167	83	107	338
Treherne	33.0	11.6	13.5	136	68	105	319
Wawanesa	34.9	10.9	39.7	258	142	110	320
Winkler	35.7	11.7	3.7	238	118	113	336

For more Manitoba weather information, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather ; “ - ” Data not available in the week.

More information on:

Crop Water Demand (CWD) mm: www.mbpotatoes.ca/cwd.cfm

P-Days: www.mbpotatoes.ca/pday.cfm

Crop Progress

- Ground operations including – fungicides sprays are continuing. In some fields, three to four fungicide applications have been made by ground or air.
- Aerial fungicide applications (> two) have been done already, prior to full canopy closure.
- Early planted crops are about 3 feet, while later planted are up to 18 inches. By July 12 the potato canopy ground cover was mostly 90 to 100% across the province (Fig. 5 a-c). Such fields should have had at least one protective fungicide application.
- After heavy rains in the week and on July 6-7, 10 and 16 flooding (Fig. 5 d, e) was reported in some areas; many fields have been wet for a few days and could lead to tuber and root rots.
- The crop growth and tuberization are rapid. Many of the early planted fields have 3 to 4-inch tubers (Fig 6 a, b). Crops are about 7-10 days behind last year's growth at the same time.
- There was hail damage in a few fields. Injured or broken stems are often the ports of entry for soft-rot bacteria, especially when the crops start settling on the ground.
- Wild boar damage has been reported in fields near Glenboro, Treherne and Arizona, MB. (Fig. 7).
- There is a forecast for cooler than last week's daytime temperatures - in the coming few days, going up to low 30s°C by July 18-19, and then cooling down on July 20-21. Overnight temperatures are expected to reach up to 16-18°C. There is chance of thundershowers from July 16-17 and 19 scattered across potato growing areas. It is expected to be generally sunny from July 18 and 19. [Manitoba - Weather Conditions and Forecast by Locations - Environment Canada](#)

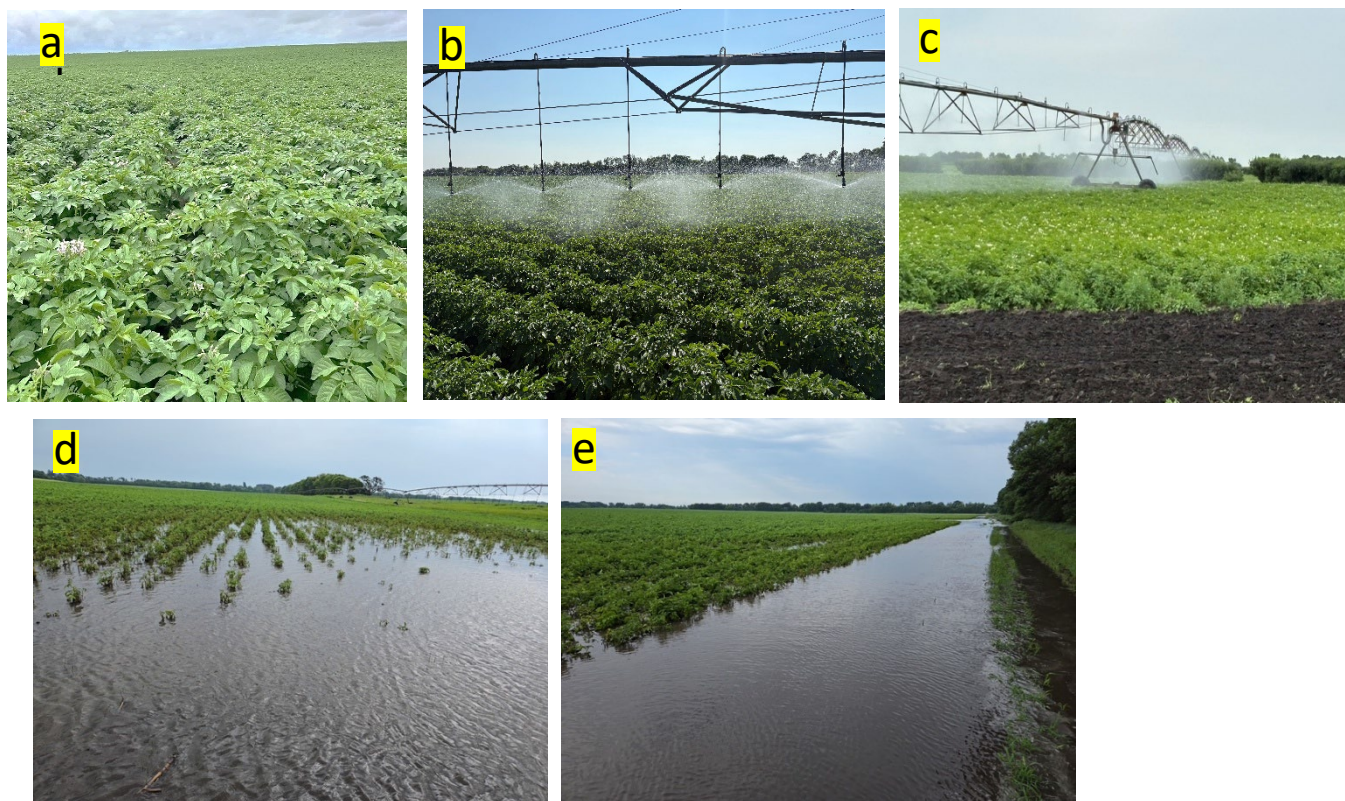


Fig. 5. Ground cover generally ranging from 90% to 100%. Photos. a: Orla Sheridan (Shilo Farms), b: Andrew Doerksen (Beaver Creek Farms), c: Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture). Crops now need irrigation in many areas; Thunderstorms on July 16 caused flooding in some fields - d, e: Kurtis McKee (JPW Farms).



Fig. 6. Many fields have good sized tubers; at this time in 2025, the tubers were 3-4 inch sized, a: Kurtis McKee (JPW farms), b: Orla Sheridan (Shilo Farms)



Fig. 7. Wild boar damage in potato fields is reported often in Glenboro, Treherne and Arizona area. Photo: Kurtis McKee (JPW Farms).

Disease Monitoring

- Late blight risk forecasting will be provided on a regional basis at www.mbpotatoes.ca. Late blight disease risk values (DSVs) started accumulating from June 1.
 - The 7-Day cumulative DSVs from July 8 to 15 show accumulations from 3 to 9, **indicating moderate to high risk of late blight** (Fig. 8), if inoculum were present in the areas. At such high-risk situations, fungicide applications are strongly recommended.
 - The forecasting is complemented with late blight spore monitoring, using Spornado passive spore traps. Spore traps have been set up in many fields and monitoring began on June 8.
 - **Results from the 5th round of monitoring from July 6-13 showed that *Phytophthora infestans* spores were trapped at 10 out of 14 Spornado sites in the Rural Municipalities of North-Cypress-Langford, Riverdale, Elton, Glenboro-South Cypress, Victoria, Oakland, North Norfolk and Portage La Prairie.**
 - It is important to scout the fields in higher risk areas which could stay wet longer, like wind-protected tree shelter-line, low lying areas/valleys in a field. It is also important to remove risk from cull-piles in the yards or near potato fields.
 - Based on local risk assessment, protective fungicide application could be applied.

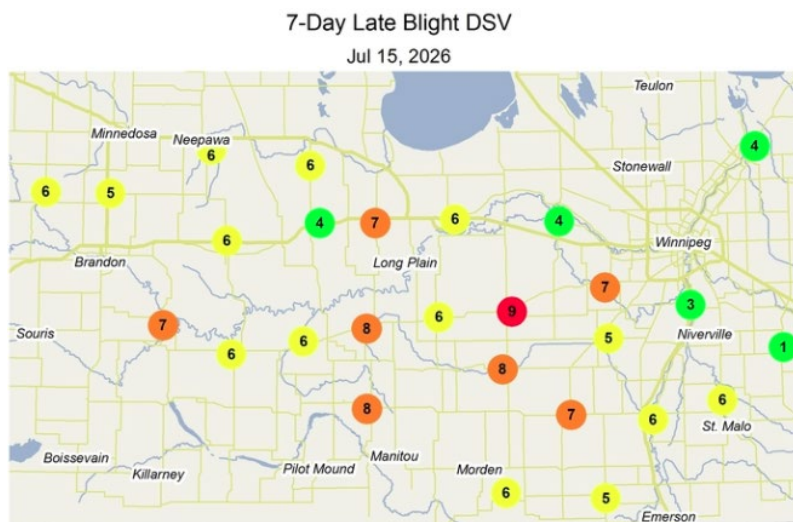


Fig. 8. 7-Day Cumulative Late Blight Disease Risk Values (DSVs) ranging from 3 to 9, suggest moderate to high late blight risk across the province.

- The P-Day values have crossed 300, which is a critical level for early blight risk, requiring targeted fungicide application. Minor levels of early blight and white mold (early blight look-alike) on leaves within crop canopy can be seen in some fields (Fig. 9 a, b).
- Incidence of minor levels of bacterial soft rot and blackleg continue to be reported from some fields, especially in wet patches of fields. (Fig. 10 a, b).
- Late blight risk maps, P-Days, and SprayCast maps are available <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm>.

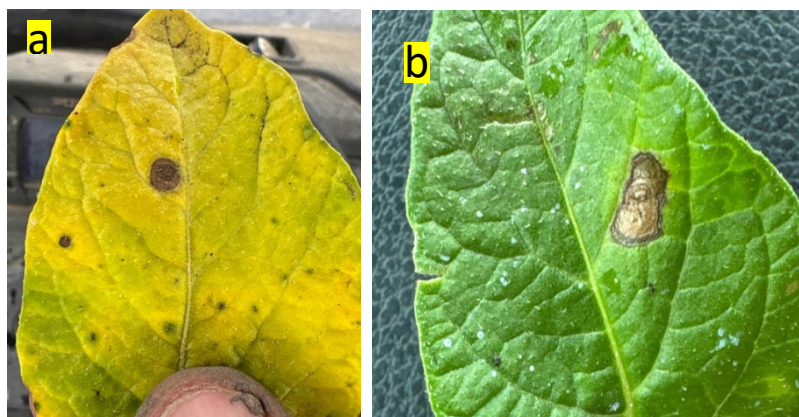


Fig. 9. a: Early blight symptoms showing up on lower leaves; b: EB look-alike, appears to be white mold infection starting from a fallen petal.



Fig. 10. Blackleg disease appears as dark-brown-black discoloration on stem leading to wilting of even large plants with black soft-rotted stems. Photos: a: Kurtis McKee (JPW farms), b: Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture).

- Potato mosaic infected plants were reported from many fields. PVY diseased plants often appear stunted with lighter-green, crinkled leaves. A “Potato Disease Clinic” was held on July 14 at the MB Crop Diversification Center, Carberry (Fig 11). Over 40 potato growers, industry reps and agronomists attended the event. On PVY infected leaves, patches of light & dark green “mosaic” pattern can be seen. Often, the symptoms are very subtle and could not be distinguished in bright sunlight. Cloudy days are ideal for scouting for mosaic infected plants. PMTV, blackleg and early blight diseases were discussed at the demo field.

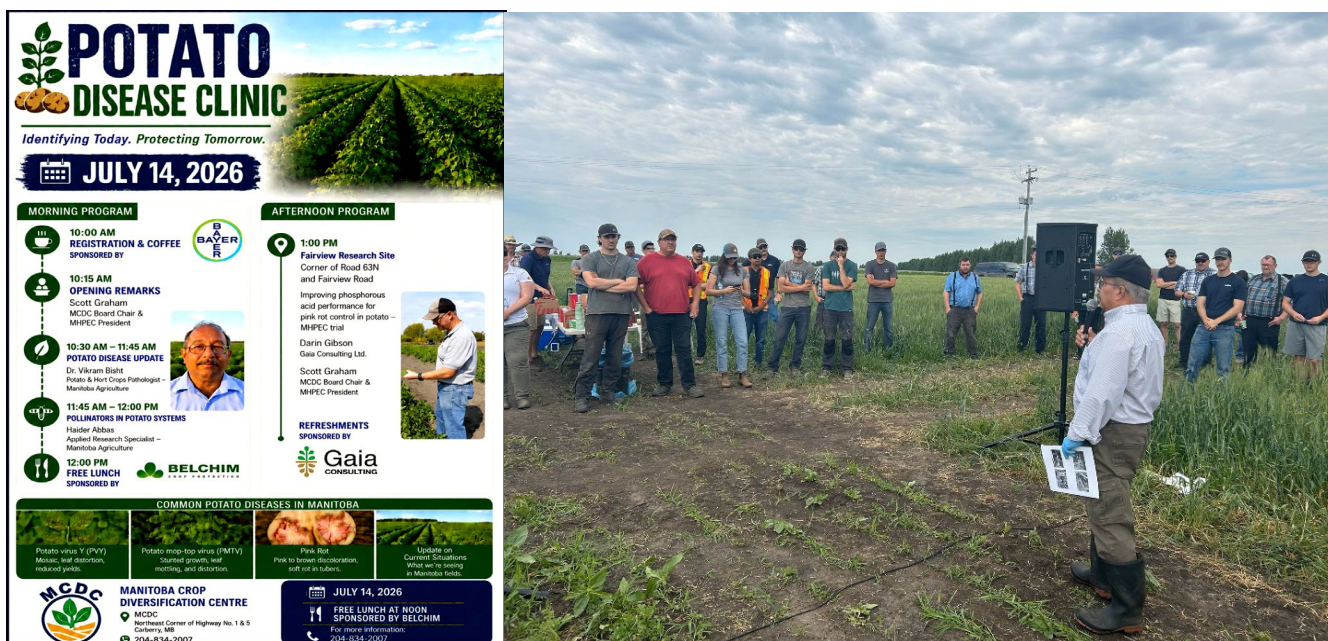


Fig 11. Potato Disease Clinic, July 14 at MCDC, Carberry

Insect Pest Monitoring

- Aphid monitoring using suction and pan traps have been set up in eight seed potato fields.
 - The fourth week's collection was done from June 29 to July 6.
 - Aphid counts showed low numbers and were similar to last week. There were fewer non-colonizing aphids trapped. Potato Aphids (PAs) were trapped at only one location. No Green peach aphids were trapped at any site (Table 2).
 - Due to heavy rainfall on July 6-7, many aphid traps overflowed and may have caused loss of some aphids, especially in some areas.
 - **MN-ND Aphid Update July 10, 2026: Trap catches in the week were low.** The average number of vectors per trap doubled over last week (1.14/trap this week and ~0.5/trap last week) so the vector counts remain low. **These numbers are below last year's populations at this date.** English Grain and Soybean aphids were the most numerous species recovered.
- European Corn Borer monitoring Delta traps were set up in 12 fields from July 6 to 13.
 - 7 out of 13 sites, had trapped ECB adults. Melbourne site with 30 ECB adults had the highest trapping of all the sites. The ECB numbers are still low and expected to go higher.
- Colorado potato beetle (CPB) adults were seen feeding on potato plants in many areas.

- Egg masses and newly hatched larval instars were reported (Fig. 12) from many areas in the province. This is an insecticide-sensitive stage for the CPB larvae. Scouting could help decide the timing of insecticide applications.
- Potato plants hidden in canola field were also infested with the CPB larvae (Fig. 12 b).



Fig. 12. Colorado potato beetle egg-masses have hatched across the province and have released a very large number of young larval instars. Photos: a, b: Kurtis Mckee (JPW farms), b: potato plants in canola crop infested with the CPB larvae; c: Young CPB larvae - Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture).

Table. 2. Weekly Aphid Report – **Week 5 (July 6 - 13) 2026**

Field #	Town	RM	Green Peach Aphid	Potato Aphid	Other Aphids	Total	ALH	PLH	Comments
Southern Region									
Field 1-H	Winker	Stanley	0	1	4	5	0	0	
Field 2-K	Stephenfield	Dufferin	0	0	5	5	6	0	
Field 3-S	Winkler	Rhineland	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Central Region									
Field 4-S	Holland	Victoria	0	0	5	5	0	0	10 thrips
Field 5-S	Glenora	Argyle	0	0	2	2	0	3	25 thrips
Field 6-S	Westbourne	Portage La Prairie	0	0	3	3	0	0	

Western Region

Field 7-A	Wellwood	N.Cypress- Langford	0	0	1	1	0	0	
Field 8-S	Carberry		0	0	0	0	0	2	30 thrips

- *The aphid counts are a summation from a suction and pan traps but pan traps could not be set up in some potato fields, waiting for hilling and other ground equipment operations.*
- “ – “ *indicates samples not received.*
- *ALH = Aster leafhopper, PLH = Potato leafhopper*

Growers and industry stakeholders, please report or submit for diagnosis, any disease or insect observations of importance. If you suspect late blight disease in your area, please contact vikram.bisht@gov.mb.ca

All reports and information will also be available at <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm> and also archived at [Province of Manitoba | agriculture - Potato Report](#).