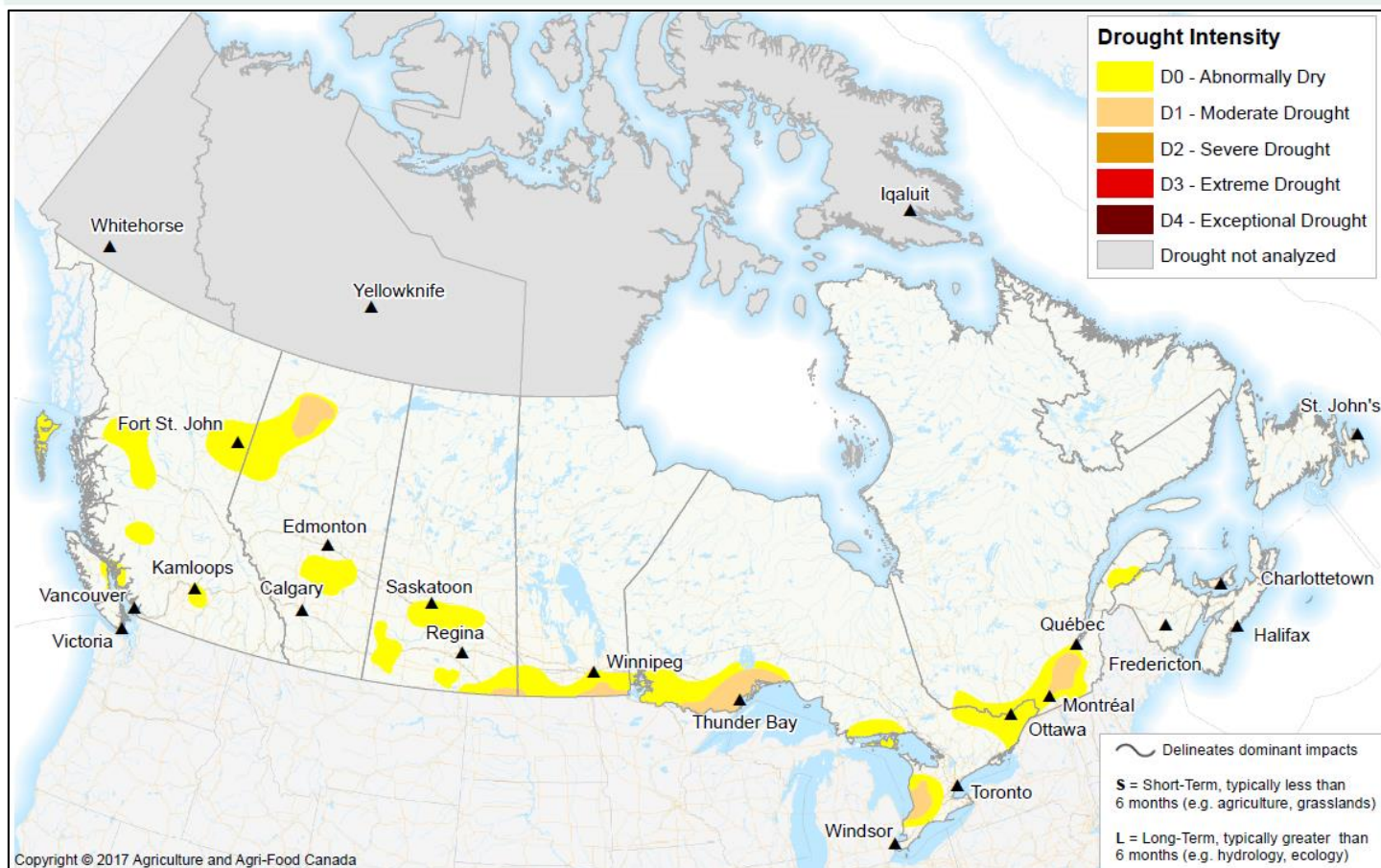


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of November 30, 2012



Above normal precipitation throughout November resulted in a slight decrease in extent of drought in Western Canada, while drought classifications in Eastern Canada were largely maintained due to below normal monthly precipitation and continuation of impacts from the summer drought. There were very few regions of the country with any significant concerns for drought as much of Canada has entered the cold season. The lack of drought concerns will likely remain over the next number of months. The one region of the country that continues to receive some attention is the southern and eastern regions of Ontario due to the significant drought during the spring and summer of 2012, and recent lack of precipitation. These concerns were put on hold as the region received adequate autumn precipitation. Temperatures for November were generally normal to slightly above from northwest Ontario eastward and in southeast British Columbia, while the west was generally cooler at up to 4°C below average.



Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Dry conditions remained in the northern Peace River region of Alberta, however above average snowfall in November should help to improve drought conditions in the region; but longer term impacts will remain. Over six months the region is short approximately 50 mm (2 in). Livestock feed shortages were reported in the region, and anticipated feed production for next season was well below average.

Much of southeastern Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba received more than 150 percent of normal precipitation in November; some areas even reported record snowfall for the month. This will help alleviate dry conditions remaining in both provinces. In contrast, very little precipitation fell in November over the drought affected regions of southeastern Manitoba and northwestern Ontario where moderate drought (D1) conditions persisted. Feed supplies were also expected to be short over the winter.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Moderate Drought (D1) classifications were maintained in southwestern Ontario and southern Quebec. Much of southern Ontario continued to recover from the summer drought conditions and low water condition warnings remained. Lake levels in the Great Lakes ranged from below normal to near record lows. Abnormally warm temperatures throughout the region, combined with below normal precipitation resulted in the continuation of the D0 and D1 ratings. Portions of southern Quebec were classified D1; snowfall in the region was limited in November, and over the past three months precipitation was down about 80 mm (over 3 in). The severe drought over the growing season continues to impact the region, most notably feed supplies and pasture conditions. The 'Hay East 2012' initiative is one example of response to the drought in the Ontario and Quebec region, bringing hay from areas of oversupply in Western Canada to Ontario and Quebec.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

In the Atlantic region, precipitation levels were normal over the past three months, however snowfall was largely absent throughout November; as a result the region will be monitored closely over the course of December.