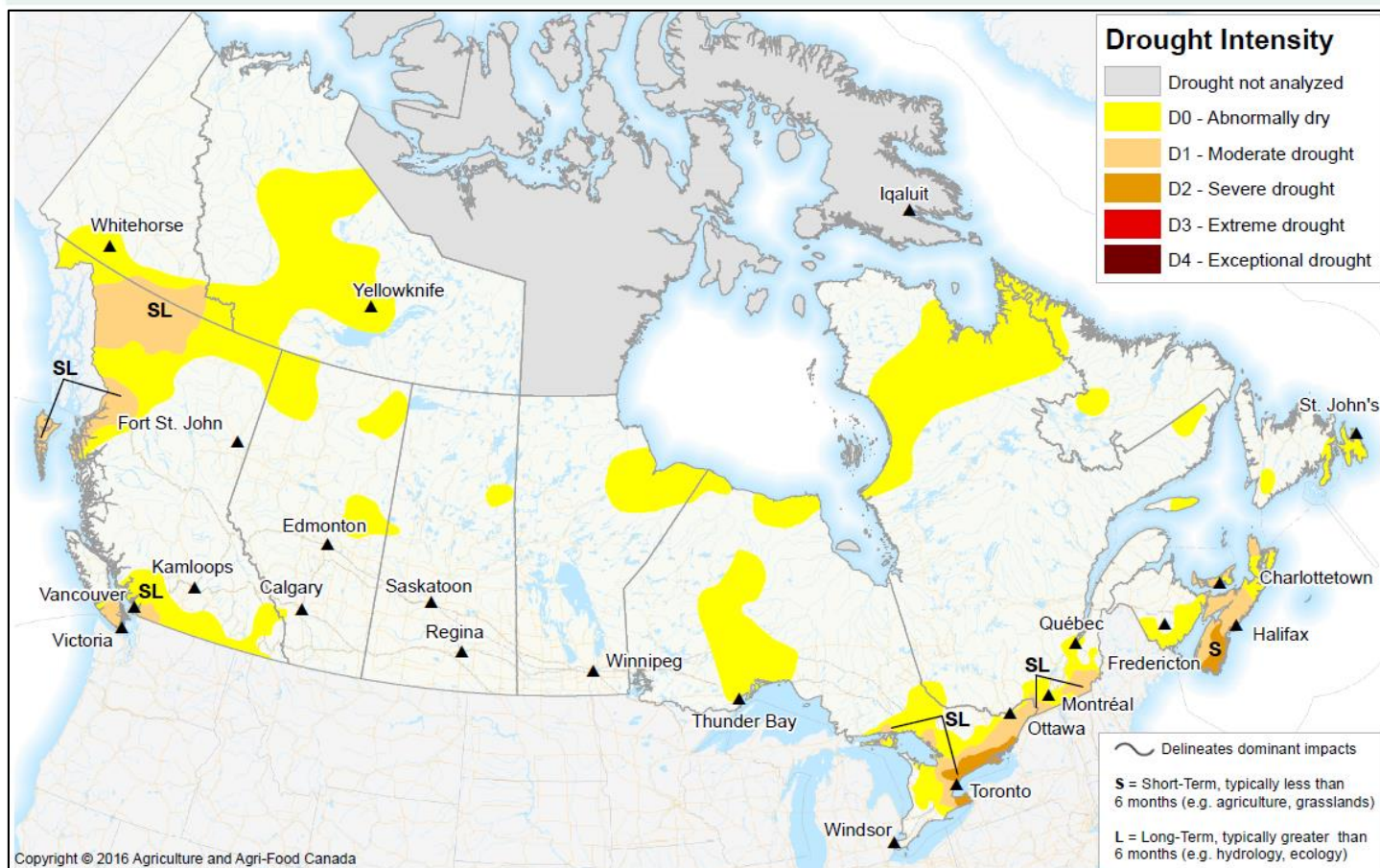


# Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of September 30, 2016



September brought variable amounts of precipitation and changes in temperature across the nation. Southern Ontario and Quebec continued to experience drought conditions as a prolonged precipitation deficit continued. The Pacific region benefitted from a relatively wet month, reducing the effects of dryness in many areas of northern British Columbia. However, southwest British Columbia continued to be affected by long term effects of drought. The Atlantic, especially Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, suffered from abnormally dry conditions which resulted in a low water supply. The Prairie region experienced a varied level of precipitation. Western Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta experienced dry conditions.

## Pacific Region (BC)



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada

Canada

The province of British Columbia had a cool month with above normal precipitation. This was especially noticeable in the Northern Interior, where areas that were in Severe Drought (D2) such as Dease Lake and Meziadin Lake were able to be brought down to Moderate Drought (D1) conditions. The extent of D1 conditions in the north was slightly pulled back towards the southeast. Southern British Columbia experienced less precipitation than the north during the month of September. There was no precipitation south of Kelowna, so the Abnormally Dry (D0) pockets around Cranbrook and Vancouver were extended to include this area. Vancouver and Vancouver Island saw above average precipitation and streamflow levels this month, but both continued to experience long-term Moderate Drought (D1) conditions.

## **Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)**

The prairie region experienced varied amounts of precipitation, with many regions drier than previous months. This helped to alleviate concern regarding excess moisture seen throughout the growing season. Precipitation analysis showed that dryness in western Alberta around Canmore had diminished, so the Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket in this region was removed. Northwestern Alberta continued to experience dry conditions and the D0 pocket near High Level was extended north up to the Northwest Territories' border. The area surrounding Fort Chipewyan received 50% less precipitation than its fourteen-year normal which resulted in a Moderate Drought (D1) pocket. The Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket around Weyburn, Saskatchewan shrunk due to above average levels of precipitation. Northeast Manitoba received varying levels of precipitation. Due to wet conditions around Fort Churchill the Moderate Drought (D1) pocket was removed and the area was classified as Abnormally Dry (D0). North of Fort Churchill saw a healthy amount of precipitation this month and the extent of the Abnormally Dry (D0) area reduced away from the Nunavut border. The Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket was also reduced around Split Lake due to a near-normal amount of precipitation. The dryness in northern Manitoba moved eastward towards northern Ontario, and the Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket was extended to the border.

## **Central Region (ON, QC)**

Southern Ontario and southern Quebec received very little precipitation this month, continuing their trend of dryness over the past few months. The area around Peawanuck in northern Ontario experienced up to 75% less precipitation than its fourteen-year normal this month, and was classified as Abnormally Dry (D0). The Moderate Drought (D1) pocket in southeastern Ontario was expanded to include Brockville and Perth as well as the majority of the Southern Niagara peninsula north of Lake Erie. These regions have experienced very low levels of precipitation throughout the growing season. Bracebridge and South River were improved from Moderate Drought (D1) to Abnormally Dry (D0) because these regions have experienced less dry conditions than the rest of southeast Ontario. North of Lake Superior, precipitation led to the shrinking of the Abnormally Dry (D0) layer around Homepayne, while the D0 pocket directly west of this was increased in size. Dryness also led to an Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket appearing

around Peawanuck in Northern Ontario. Southwestern Quebec also continued to experience dry conditions this month, contributing further to its dry growing season. The Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket in southern Quebec was extended to include Mont-Tremblant, southeast Montreal, and Victoriaville. The Moderate Drought (D1) pockets in this region were also extended to include Lachute and Granby. Northern Quebec's Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions were worsened in September, with up to 75% below normal levels of precipitation in eastern regions.

## **Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)**

The month of September brought very little rain to Atlantic Canada. Several areas in southern Nova Scotia continued to experience severe drought that resulted in very low water supply across the province. The southernmost tip of Nova Scotia continued to see the worst of the drought, with many farms reporting dry wells. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions in New Brunswick expanded to include Oromocto due to the precipitation deficit in this region, which was more than 75% below the fourteen-year average. Central Prince Edward Island, including the city of Charlottetown, experienced less dry conditions throughout the growing season and was brought down from Moderate Drought (D1) to D0. Several areas in Newfoundland saw above average precipitation this month, shrinking the abnormally dry D0 conditions to the southwestern and southeastern regions of the province.

## **Northern Region (YT, NT)**

Drought conditions present in Canada's North have been similar to previous months. Areas that were dry continued to experience less precipitation while places not already in drought in the North did not deteriorate. Severe Drought (D2) is still present near the town of Watson Lake. From Watson Lake east just past Yukon's border with the Northwest Territories and west to Teslin Moderate Drought (D1) continues to persist. Both of these areas are in southern Yukon. From the Yukon Territory past the Great Bear Lake in the Northwest Territories Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions also continue.