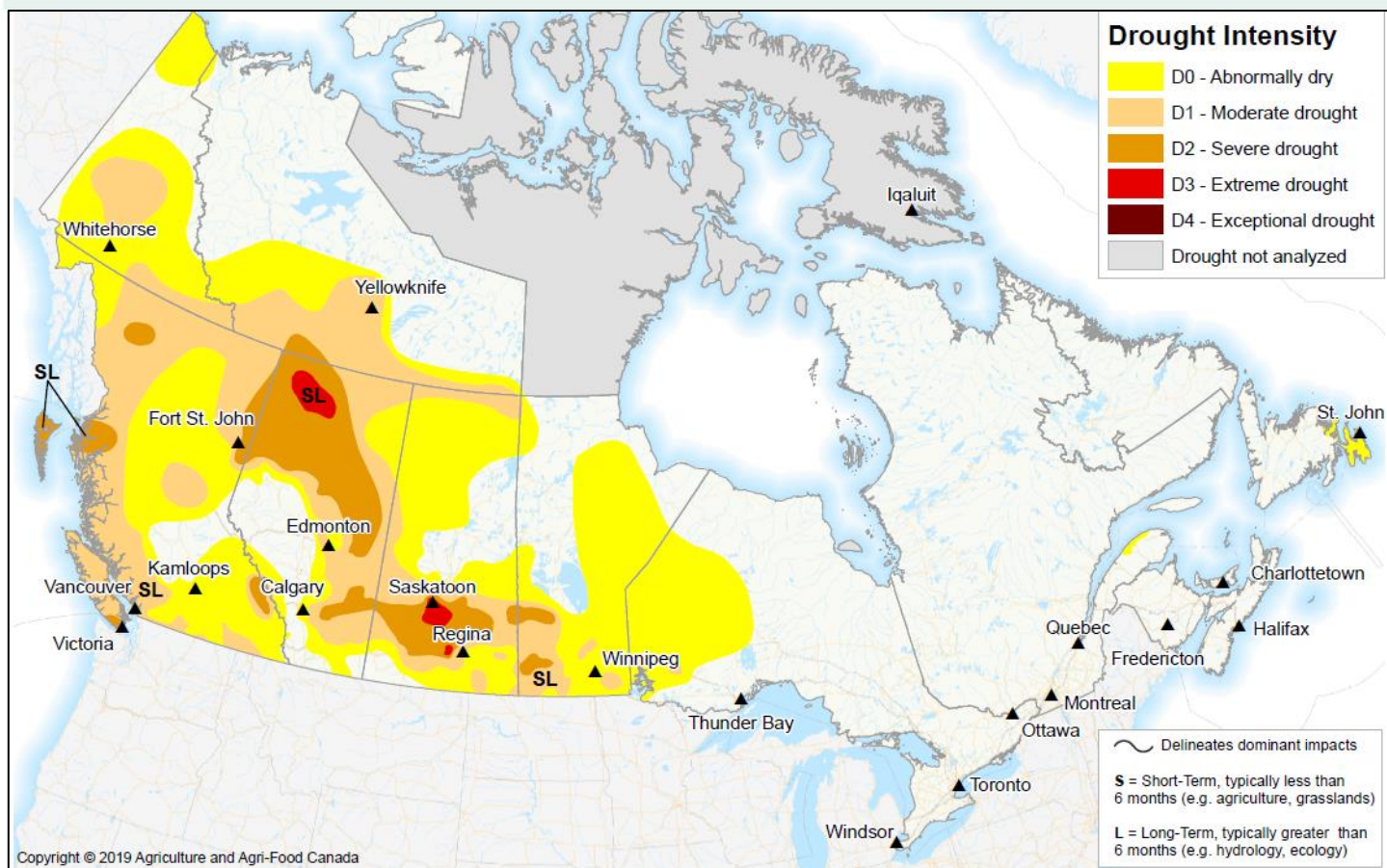


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of May 31, 2019



Drought remains a significant concern in western Canada as conditions have deteriorated due to continued precipitation deficits. As dry conditions prevailed in the west, eastern and central Canada continued to receive substantial precipitation. Most of the country experienced cooler than normal temperatures with the exception of British Columbia which experienced warmer than normal temperatures. Drought persisted in parts of British Columbia due to continued precipitation deficit in the region. Deteriorating soil moisture conditions and below normal precipitation in the Prairie region led to worsening drought conditions. As a result of this there are increased concerns for feed supply in the growing season. In Central Canada, drought in northern Ontario led to deteriorating soil moisture. Short term dryness in an area that experienced drought last year led to the development of a small dry pocket in eastern Quebec. A small dry pocket developed in Newfoundland where precipitation has been below normal for over ninety days. Dry conditions persisted in the Yukon and southern portions of the Northwest



Territories due to below average long-term and short-term precipitation. At the end of May 2019, moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) affected 19 percent of the land area in Canada. The most significant drought concerns persisted in the northern Alberta, south-central Saskatchewan, south-western Manitoba, and western and northern British Columbia.

Pacific Region (BC)

Conditions in British Columbia worsened due to below average precipitation throughout May. At the end of the month, drought conditions existed in the southern interior, northwest, and the coastal regions. Most of the province received below 30mm of precipitation during May, and continued to experience Abnormally Dry (D0) or Moderate Drought (D1) conditions. Poor streamflow and significant short term precipitation deficits along Vancouver Island's east coast led to the development of two small Severe Drought (D2) pockets. D1 expanded along the coastal region, where precipitation accumulation throughout May was below 40% of normal. D1 conditions persisted around the northwestern and northeastern region as a result of long term precipitation deficits. D2 in the areas around Dease Lake and Terrace remained relatively unchanged due to below average precipitation. At the end of the month, fire danger in the northern half of the province was very high. At the end of May 2019, moderate to exceptional Drought (D1-D4) affected 52 percent of the area and 82 percent of the population of British Columbia.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Conditions across the Prairie Region continued to deteriorate due to below average precipitation throughout May. Much of the region has received less than 60% of normal precipitation over the past six months, and these long-term deficits have worsened over the past couple of months. Precipitation deficits for the past 60 days were up to 60mm in the more heavily impacted areas. By the end of the month, Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate Drought (D1) conditions enveloped a large portion of the region. Fire danger was rated as extreme across much of Alberta and southern Saskatchewan. The Severe Drought (D2) pocket in Northern Alberta expanded as a result of insufficient precipitation during May. High Level experienced the second driest spring on record; thus, an Extreme Drought (D3) pocket developed in this region. Adequate precipitation along the south-western border between Alberta and British Columbia improved drought conditions in this area. Continued precipitation deficits led to worsening conditions around south-central Saskatchewan, where D2 expanded. This area has received below 10% of normal precipitation since March and has also had persistent poor soil moisture concerns. The driest spring on record prompted the development of two D3 pockets around Saskatoon and Moose Jaw. D2 conditions also developed around areas in southwestern Manitoba as a result of continued precipitation deficits and poor soil moisture conditions. D2 persisted around Swan River, as this area experienced the third driest spring on record, receiving below 40% of normal precipitation in the past 90 days. Feed supply concerns continued to be a significant concern as drought over the past two years has significantly reduced availability. Pastures have been very slow to recover this spring and

producers continue to provide supplemental feed if they have access. At the end of May 2019, moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) affected 37 percent of the area and 40 percent of population of the Prairie Region.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Central Canada continued to receive above normal precipitation throughout May, leading to excess soil moisture with the exception to some parts of northwestern Ontario and eastern Quebec. Much of the region received near normal to above normal precipitation during the month. Coupled with cool temperature, excessive moisture levels contributed to the delay of seeding across the region. Warm and dry weather is needed to get the 2019 season moving. A large Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket developed in northwestern Ontario as a result of poor soil moisture conditions. A small Moderate Drought (D1) formed around Dryden, where precipitation was inadequate to relieve long-term moisture deficit. A small D0 also developed in eastern Quebec due to precipitation deficits occurring in a region that recovered from drought this past winter.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Most of Atlantic Canada received adequate precipitation and soil moisture conditions remained optimal. At the end of the month, streamflow across the region was reported as above average. Growing precipitation deficits in Newfoundland over the past three months led to the development of a small Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket around the southeast portion of the island.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Conditions in Northern Canada worsened throughout the month. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions expanded into the Northwest Territories and Yukon. A large Moderate Drought (D1) pocket also formed in these regions as a result of poor streamflow and precipitation deficits. Precipitation in these regions appear to be moderately low and streamflow also appears to be poor in the eastern part of the Northwest Territories, eastern Yukon and areas surrounding Carjacks. At the end of May, fire danger in the southernmost areas of the Region was very high.