

Alberta's 2018 Canola Crops: Flip Flopping Extremes

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2018 flip flopping temperature extremes

April temperature was very cold with a few pockets of **record** cold. Lots of snow left at the end of April.

May was **record** warm; dry in most areas to **record** dry in NW and Peace region.

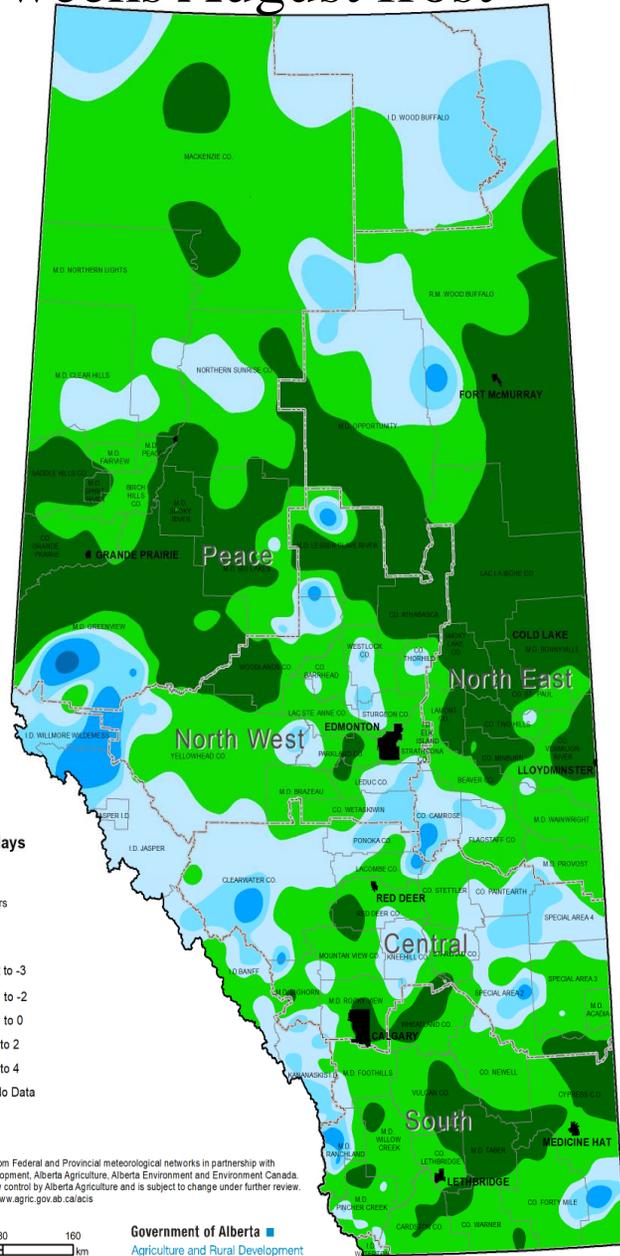
June was warmer than normal; most areas had near normal rain but several areas were very dry while it was wet in North Peace.

July was near normal to slightly warmer; most areas had near normal rain to drier than normal. South Peace wetter than normal.

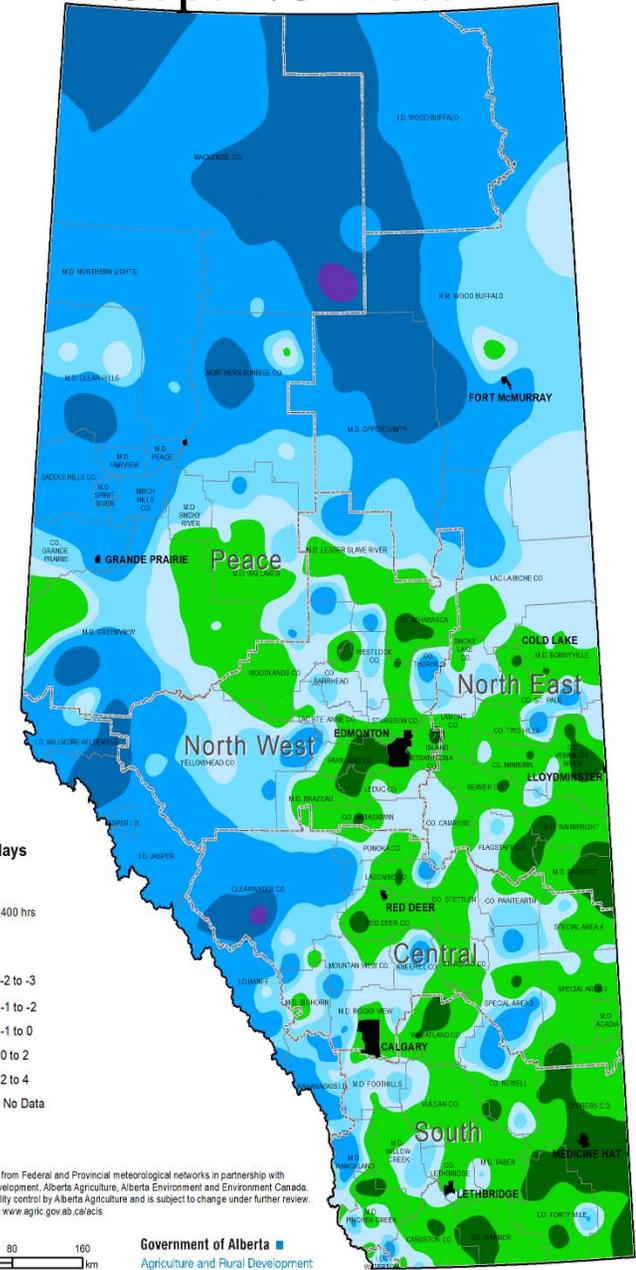
August normal temperature; **pockets of frost** later in month. Drier than normal in most areas.

September was very cold; **record** cold in central and Peace regions. **Hard frosts** in central and Peace region in first week. Wetter than normal in central AB with recurring snowstorms.

Last 2 weeks August frost



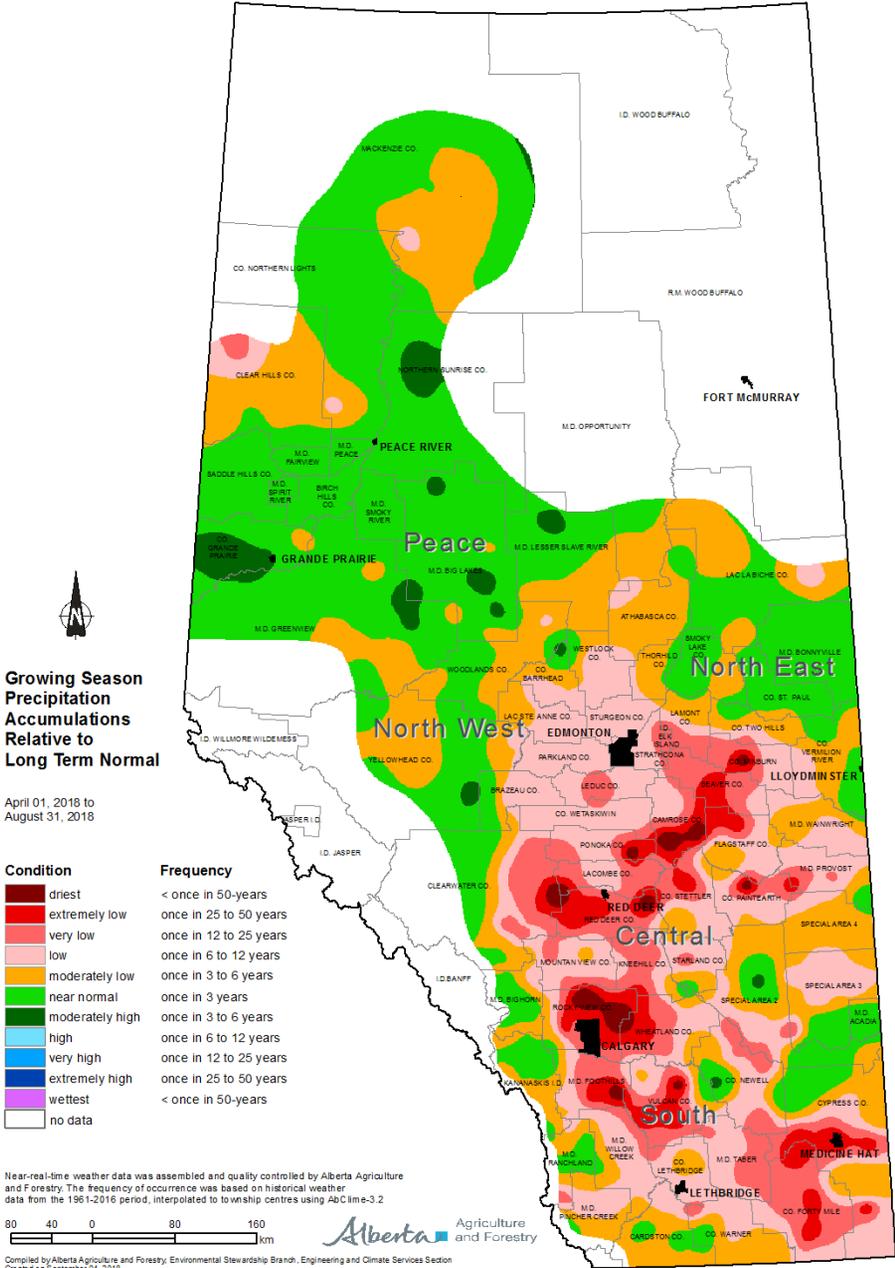
Sept 4/5 frost



Growing season summary:

Near normal to wet in east central AB and Peace regions

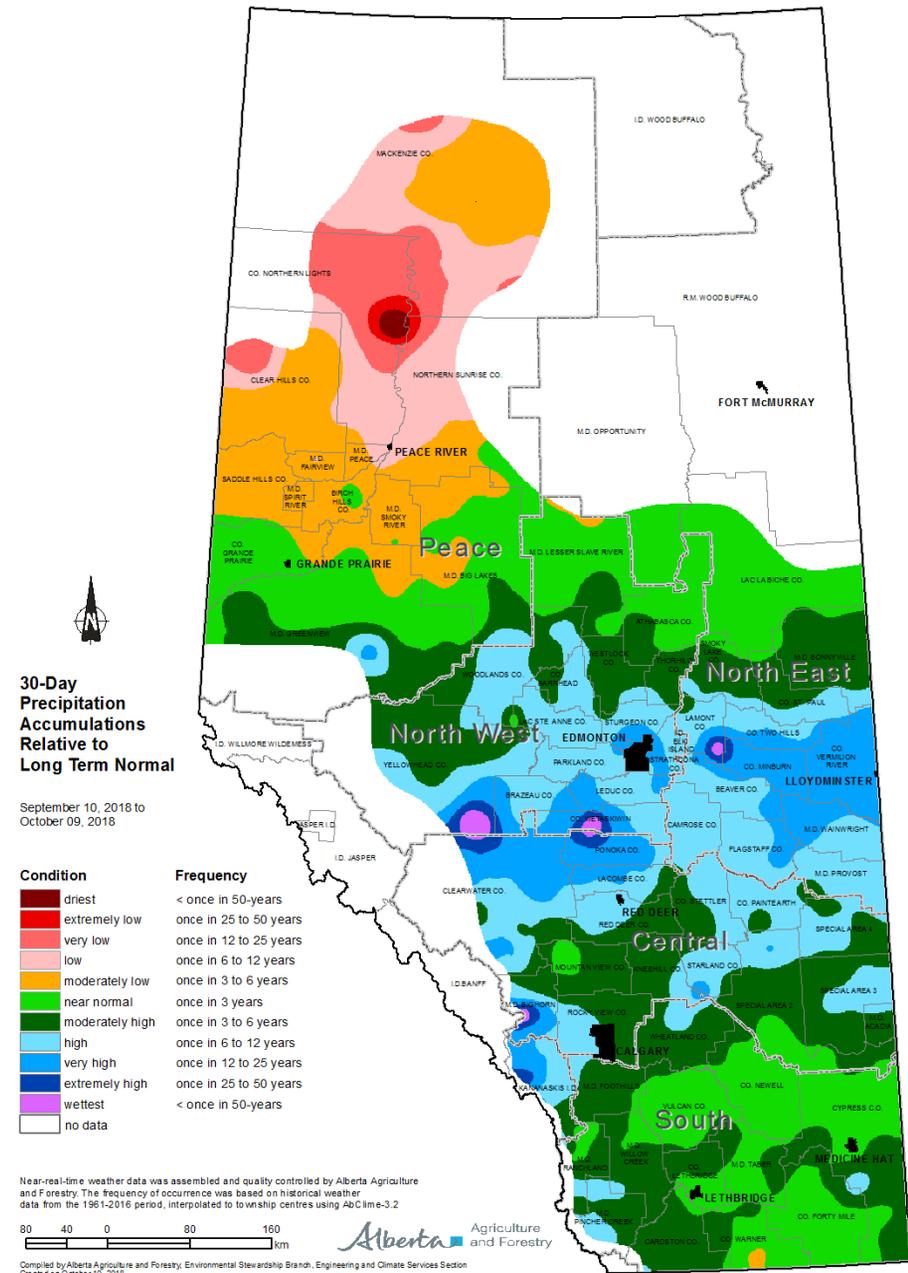
Drought in southern Alberta and central areas



Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

Sept 10 – Oct 10
 was very cold and
 wet causing long
 harvest delay

Harvest progress
 resumed after
 middle of October,
 with 2 good weeks.
 About 5% canola
 left unharvested.



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2018 Disease Overview

- Sclerotinia stem rot slightly higher than 2017 but dramatically down from 2016 due to dry mid-summer conditions and drought in southern areas
- Blackleg survey showed slightly lower prevalence, incidence and severity than 2017 and continuing down from 2016 high
- Clubroot spread continues which is not surprising given the wet conditions 2016 fall / 2017 spring
 - 2 more counties found their first infestations in 2018 (southern AB and Peace region)

2018 Insect Pest Overview

(Information from Scott Meers)

- Some severe flea beetle cases, but not unusual
- Less cutworms
- Bertha armyworm was at low levels but may be a buildup phase of cycle
- Cabbage seedpod weevil range expansion halted or retreated
 - This has happened in the past (2001 drought)

2018 Alberta canola yield average may achieve ~40 bu/acre

even with below average southern AB yields due to drought

- Grade worse than average overall due to pockets of high green seed in central AB to Peace from Aug / early Sept frost
- Oil content slightly below AB average, mainly due to southern AB drought
- Seeded , harvested area ~6.7 million acres
- Production ~ 6.4 million tonnes