

...from the desk of  
Scott Schaffert P. Ag.  
CCA 4R



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# Between the Rows

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## Seeding and Spraying Update

Seeding in the MacKenzie Region is rapidly progressing. According to Alberta Agriculture 85% of the major crops for this area (canola, peas and cereals) has been seeded by May 23. This represents a 25% increase in the acres seeded since May 16. We are trending well ahead of both our 5 year average (62%) and our 10 year average (72%). We are also on par with the rest of the province in terms of % acres seeded.

Spraying has also been progressing

ahead of previous years. Some of the earlier seeded peas are beginning to be sprayed this week. Cereals are also getting close to being sprayed as well.

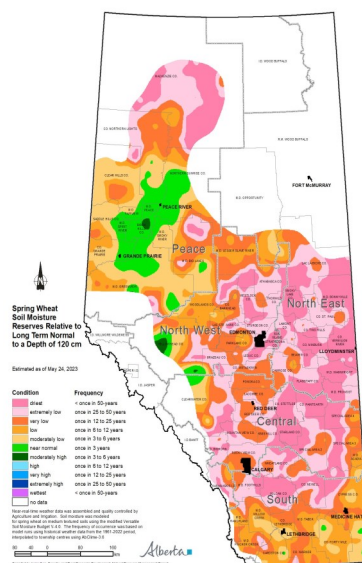
If you are unsure about the correct stage or have question about which product or rate to use; please give me a call. In my scouting updates I send you each time I'm out in your field I look to provide you as much information as possible so you can make the correct decision for each field.



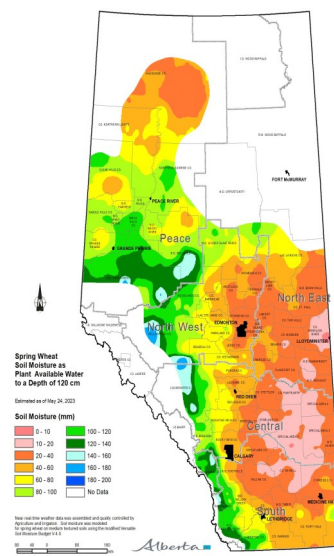
Seeding down Fox Lake Road

## Moisture Update

Soil moisture conditions have been deteriorating in the MacKenzie Region since the beginning of seeding. Lower snowfall accumulation, coupled with a very dry September and very little May precipitation have lowered our available moisture reserves. However reserves are still there and crops have not yet reached peak moisture demand. So new growth is still continuing. Most of the North Peace area has received less than 10 mm of rain the past 30 days, so even thunderstorms will be welcomed. Humidity has been higher in the past week, however higher winds and less smoke cover are drying out the top 1 inch. The smoke cover we had actually reduced the sun's drying out of the soil, but also reduced the photosynthetic capability of the crops. June is normally our wettest month of the year.



Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data



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## Meet Gary Friesen



Gary and Valerie Friesen

Hi, my name is Gary Friesen, I'm from La Crete Alberta and have lived here all my life. By Gods amazing blessing I'm married to my beautiful wife Valerie.

Since joining CropMaxx, Gary has been very busy running the blender and loading chemicals. All of us here at CropMaxx have been very impressed with Gary's willingness to learn

and hard work ethic. This season I will be taking Gary out with me from time to time to give him the perspective of agronomy out in the field. Next time you're in Fort stop in and say Hi to Gary.

## Green Foxtail

*Setaria viridis* is a species of grass known by many common names, including green foxtail, green bristleglass, and wild foxtail millet.

This is an annual grass with erect stems growing up to a meter long, but usually less in Alberta. The leaf blades are up to 40 centimeters long and 2.5 wide and glabrous. The inflorescence is a dense, compact, spikelike panicle up to 20 centimeters long, growing erect or

sometimes nodding at the tip only. Spikelets are 1.8–2.2 mm long. Each is subtended by up to three stiff bristles.

Green foxtail is a prolific seed producer and the seeds will germinate all summer long whenever moisture and temperature allow. It can produce seeds within 6 weeks of germination.

Green foxtail is a major weed in southern Alberta, but is present in the Rocky Lane-High Level area of

MacKenzie County.

Green foxtail can be hard to kill with herbicides and is known to have resistant biotype to Group 1,2 and 3 herbicides.



Weed of the Week:

Green Foxtail

## Question of the Week

This weeks question is from a picture I took last week. The question is: What is happening to the yellow plant?

- A. Nothing, all yellow peas have yellow plants
- B. Herbicide damage
- C. Genetic mutation
- D. Kids painting plants



To answer the Question of the Week, call Sherri at the CropMaxx Office (780) 927-CROP (2767), the first to answer wins a prize.

Last Week's Answer:

C. Starter nitrogen reduces the formation of nodules, thereby reduce nitrogen fixation and potentially leaving the pea plant deficient late in the season.



Question of the Week