

Weather Data 2018 – Arborg & Beausejour areas

Although Beausejour site got almost near normal rainfall during 2018 cropping season, but Arborg site did receive significantly less rainfall similar to 2017 season. In 2018 crop season (May 1-Sep 30), Arborg site received 78% of the normal rainfall. However, both sites had more growing degree-days than 30-year normals (Tables 1 & 2).

Table 1. Seasonal weather summary at Arborg site from May 1 – September 30, 2018

	Actual	Normal	% of Normal
Growing degree days	1668	1554	107
Crop heat Units	2646	2616	101
Total precipitation (mm)	249	320	78

Table 2. Seasonal weather summary at Beausejour site from May 1–September 30, 2018

	Actual	Normal	% of Normal
Growing degree days	1702	1620	105
Crop heat Units	2721	2634	103
Total precipitation (mm)	362	348	104

Growing degree-days (GDD) is a good indicator how crop will grow during the season. To calculate GDD, first determine the mean temperature for the day. This is usually done by taking the maximum and minimum temperatures for the day, adding them together and dividing by two. The base temperature (e.g. 0°C for cereals, 5°C for canola) is then subtracted from the mean temperature to give a daily GDD. If the daily GDD calculates to a negative number, it is made equal to zero. Each daily GDD is then added up (accumulated) over the growing season.

May was relatively drier month and Arborg site received only 58% of the normal rainfall during seedling emergence period (May 10-June 10). September-October were relatively wet months and resulted in delayed harvesting of flax, soybean and corn trials.

The beginning of May saw warm temperatures and the first seeding began May 10th in Arborg and May 8th in Beausejour. On September 9, a hailstorm significantly damaged soybeans plots at the PESAI site in Beausejour. Especially the early maturing soybean varieties were severely damaged in roundup ready and conventional soybean trials. Similarly, a storm in the last week of August resulted in shattering of excess moisture canola at Arborg site.

More information on current and seasonal weather conditions can be accessed at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/index.html>.