

MFGA Green Gold Report – June 15, 2020 – WESTERN / CENTRAL

2020 Reports for Optimum Alfalfa Harvest Date cover Eastern, Central and Western Manitoba.

SITE	RFV NIR	RFV PEAQ	Height	CP
Elm Creek	138	149	30	18
Austin (harvested)	134	150	31	20
Gladstone	177	150	31	27
PLP Southport	138	139	33	18
PLP South	157	142	32	22
Newton	149	156	28	20
CENTRAL AVERAGE	149	148	31	21
Miniota N (harvested)				
Dauphin	172	149	30	23
Hartney				
Fork River	169	182	23	25
Sifton	196	156	28	26
Souris (harvested)				
Brookdale/MBFI	193			24
WESTERN AVERAGE	183	162	27	25

Over the past 5 days the alfalfa has added about 1 inch of new growth/day while it looks like the RFV has remained unchanged. Flowering is present in the majority of the fields reported.

[ACCESS ALL MFGA GREEN GOLD REPORTS](#)

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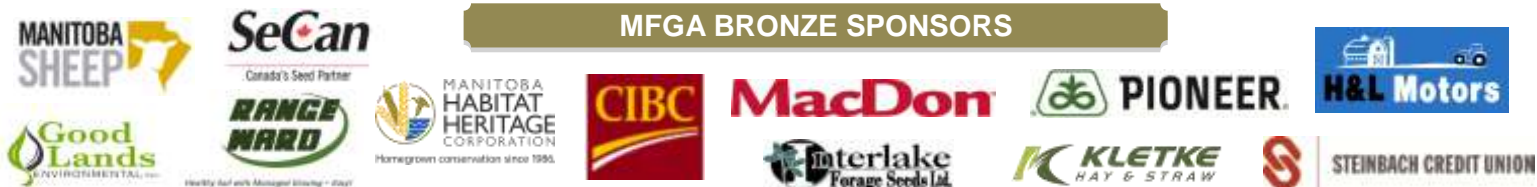
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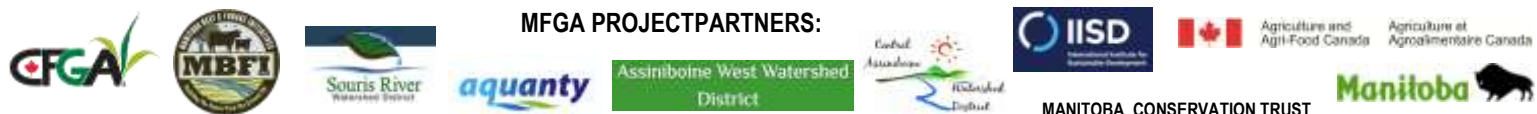
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What I'm hearing

Most producers are reporting that their alfalfa is in early flowering or late bud. We have seen the alfalfa add about 1 inch of new growth/day. What has me puzzled is that there is basically no change in the RFV which is unusual as we were dropping at a rate of 5 pts/day prior to this.

In past years when I have sampled I can get this happening due to sampling variation in a field. The other possibility is that because we had some excellent growing weather the alfalfa may have added more leaves than stem thickening and this could affect the RFV by decreasing the % of fiber in the sample. If this was the case it would make sense that all samples showed similar changes rather than just one or two.

I have received some early yield estimates for this year and it is looking like yields are good (not necessarily great). This isn't the case in other parts of the province as the [Mb Crop report](#) is reporting expected lower yields in many areas.

Last Report for 2020

The Green Gold program has been around in Mb for 25 years and over that time I have had the pleasure and privileged of working with many producers and Mb Ag staff to provide timely information on managing alfalfa to maximize quality and quantity.

As MFGA's Green Gold program winds up for 2020 I would like to take this opportunity to thank the producers that provided fields and/or submitted samples so that we could put together an overview of how alfalfa was progressing across the province for other forage producers in the province.

For the **Eastern** area: Thanks to Richard Boonstoppel, Daniel Messerli, Jeremy Dueck, Cliff Banman and Jacob Roehle.

For the **Central** area: Thanks to Harold Pott, Clarence Doerksen, Happyrock Dairy. Jill Verway, and Luc Bernard.

For the **Western** area: Thanks to Luke Muir, Ken Everson, Roger Richard, Corrine Devos, Tyson Gillis, Jean Born and Jordan Dickson at MBFI

Finally a special thanks to Pam Iwanchysko, Shawn Cabak and Tim Clarke with Mb Ag and Resource Development who continue to support and promote forage management throughout the province.

Finally

As MFGA winds down its Green Gold program for 2020 I would ask that you give us some feedback as to how useful the program was for you and your operation this year. What you liked, and what you think needs to be improved.

Also as you get your first cut off I would really appreciate hearing how first cut fared as to yield and quality. Please email me with your comments at john@mfga.net include where you are located in the province if you don't mind.



1 Alfalfa Austin Mb starting to lodge Photo Tim Clarke