



MFGA Green Gold Report – June 2, 2021 – CENTRAL

Reports for Optimum Alfalfa Harvest Date cover Manitoba’s Central, Western, Eastern and Interlake areas.

SITE	RFV NIR	RFV PEAQ	Height	CP
Austin	208	237	16	26
Gladstone	199	237	16	28
Horndean	242	252	13.5	29
MacGregor	244	258	12.5	30
Manitou – Central	-	-	-	-
Manitou – South of Town	188	243	14	26
St. Leon	-	-	-	-
Treherne	225	243	14	30
CENTRAL AVERAGE	218	245	14	28

Light rains came on Tuesday but wasn't enough to make an impact. The impact of the late frost has shown up on the mid-top leaves but not severe. Some insect activity has been spotted in some spots. Early bud stage is in effect in certain areas.

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DISTINCT BY DESIGN

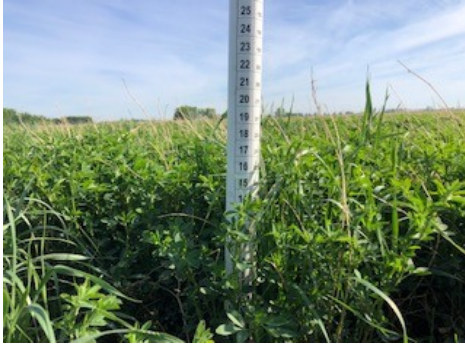


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Growth has increased slightly in the past 5 days. There was light damage on the edges of the leaves. Early buds have developed in certain areas. The crop is shorter with the lack of moisture and the RFV's are dropping.

Alfalfa Flowering

Once alfalfa starts to flower it usually indicates that it is time to cut your hay no matter what type of livestock you are feeding. Alfalfa beyond full bloom doesn't generally increase your tonnage of harvested material and as it matures it loses lower leaves rapidly

decreasing its feed value. Normally fields that are cut in early June, with rains and warm weather start to initiate new growth at the crown. What you should be planning for is that in 28-35 days you should be looking at taking your second cut. With haying in this area starting around the 8th to 10th of June you might expect second cut to start around July 22nd. This will enable you to look at 3 cuts before the critical fall period and a 4th cut sometime in late September early October.

What is Hay Day?

Hay Day is the estimated day that alfalfa will reach a RFV of 170. Past experience has shown that approximate 20 points are lost during the haying process and the time taken to get the entire crop cut, cured and baled. Silage shortens this process and therefore the quality can be higher. Grass/alfalfa mixes can and do reduce the RFV by 20-30 points depending on the % of the blend. Nutritionist like to target hay in the 135-150 RFV towards Dairy cows in the 1st trimester and towards dairy calves. The RFV hay from 125-140 is fed to the dairy cows in the last 200 days and heifers 12-18 months of age. Hay at 115-130 makes excellent Beef cow and heifer 12-18 month old feed and any from 100-115 is good for the Dry cow and heifer between 18 and 24 month.

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