

MFGA Green Gold Report – May 26, 2023 – WESTERN REGION

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

SITE	RFV NIR	RFV PEAQ	Height	CP
Foxwarren	179	237	16	27
Laurier	231	229	16	27
McCreary	207	222	17	27
Miniota	269	268	12	34
Ninette	244	235	15	30
Oak Burn	-	-	-	-
Oak Lake	-	-	-	-
Oak River	-	-	-	-
Rosburn	-	-	-	-
Souris	208	222	16.5	31
Ste. Rose	222	-	-	29
WESTERN AVERAGE	222	235	15	29

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What we are seeing:

- Fields in the west are in the late vegetative state heading towards the early bud stage.
- The height has ranged from 12-17 inches.
- The RFV PEAQ has gone down 15 points.
- There have been reports of insect activity on the top leaves of plants.

Watch for Alfalfa Weevil

Although there are no reports of alfalfa weevil damage to the crop as of May 26 forecast, is 25-40% emergence of the 1st larval stage of the weevil. Continued warm weather will only increase the emergence. The thing to watch for is that if your harvest is delayed due to a short crop you may find the weevil feeding on what little forage you have as they rapidly advance through the various larval stages.

Early Bud Stage

The [MFGA Green Gold Program](#) uses Predictive Equations for Alfalfa Quality (PEAQ) protocol for measuring alfalfa. The PEAQ considers the early bud stage to have 1 to 2 nodes and have visible buds. These buds may be hidden by leaves so it's important to check for the presence of buds by pinching the stem tip with your fingers. The presence of a small, hard "ball" means that a bud is present.

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