

Provincial Report to the CWSS/SMC
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Legislation

Manitoba’s amended *Noxious Weeds Act* (NWA) was enacted on April 30, 2017, after approval of the Noxious Weeds Regulation. Several minor amendments were made to The Noxious Weeds Act as part of The Reducing Red Tape and Improving Services Act 2019, which received royal assent June 3, 2019. Amendments to The Noxious Weeds Act included in The Reducing Red Tape and Improving Services Act are summarized below:

- New or rapidly spreading species of weeds could spread to an area greater than 5 acres prior to detection. Therefore amendments were made to increase the area triggering the destruction of tier 2 weeds to “less than 20 acres” instead of “less than 5 acres” to help prevent this from occurring. Areas over 20 acres are required to be controlled to stop spread.
- An amendment was made to include crop residue in the list of things (previously grain, seed, forage, hay, root crops) that noxious weeds or seeds can be found in and could result in a weed inspector making an order to destroy or prevent from being transported.

Invasive Plants

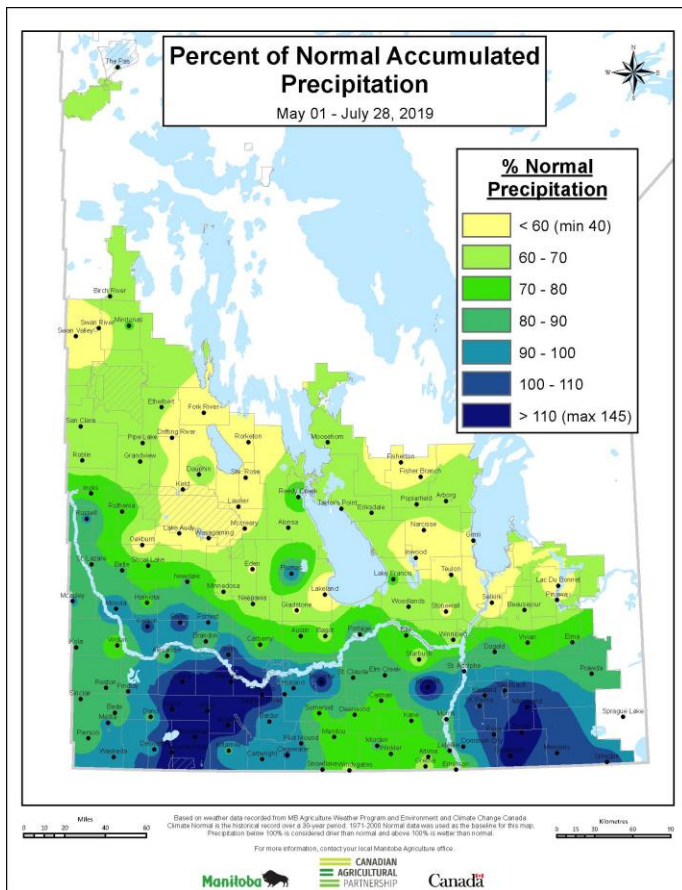
Surveillance activities were heightened in Manitoba after waterhemp (Tier 1 Noxious Weed) detections were made in two new municipalities. By the end of the 2019 growing season, waterhemp was definitively detected in 4 municipalities, with the potential for a 5th municipality to be added. Samples were tested and found to be resistant to Group 2 and 9 herbicides. The genetic testing for waterhemp confirmation and herbicide resistance profiles was made possible with the financial support provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Pest Management Centre’s Pesticide Risk Reduction Program [PMC](#). AAFC Research Scientists: Dr. Laforest, Dr. Simard, Dr. Nurse and Dr. Page; OMAFRA Weed Management Specialist, Mrs. Obeid and the MAPAQ Diagnostic Lab were integral in the implementation of this project.

Manitoba Agriculture received reports on the following terrestrial invasive plant species in 2019 (RM - rural municipality; WCD - weed control district):

Invasive Plant Species	Action(s) in 2019
Bartsia, red (<i>Odontites vernus</i>) – Tier 1	- New populations discovered/reported in two municipalities, at least one other population is spreading and causing increased concern
Hogweed, giant (<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>) – Tier 1	- Media reports investigated were cow parsnip
Knapweed, diffuse (<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>) & spotted (<i>C. stoebe</i>) – Tier 1	- diffuse knapweed population in the RM of Stanley monitored, not spreading but not completely destroyed yet - known spotted knapweed populations are being managed by weed supervisors and Canadian Forces Bases - several new spotted knapweed locations were reported in 2019
Hawkweed, orange (<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>) – Tier 1	- WCD is actively engaged in controlling/destroying existing populations but challenging to “destroy” the weed in wooded areas and native grasslands

Waterhemp, tall (<i>Amaranthus tuberculatus</i>) – Tier 1	- Several waterhemp resources were developed for Manitoba growers and launched even with the publication ban imposed during an election
Brome, downy (<i>Bromus tectorum</i>) & Japanese (<i>B. japonicas</i>) – Tier 2	- no new populations reported in 2019 - numerous areas monitored and controlled by WCDs
Common reed, invasive (<i>Phragmites australis</i> <i>australis</i>) – Tier 2	- Known populations are being monitored, WCDs continue work to build awareness
Spurge, leafy (<i>Euphorbia esula</i>) – Tier 2	- populations continue to expand, complaints are being directed to RMs for better enforcement of the NWA

Weather/Crop Report



The 2019 growing season was extremely dry (again) across most of agro-Manitoba, with the exception of two small pockets in southern Manitoba that were almost “normal” (see map). The dry conditions in the spring favored certain weeds including lamb’s quarters, redroot pigweed and perennial weeds like Canada Thistle and milkweed. In addition to dry conditions, cool night-time temperatures slowed the growth of many weeds, leading to poor performance from a variety of herbicides, even glyphosate.

Identification submissions to Manitoba Agriculture included giant ragweed, velvetleaf, dogbane, red bartsia, oak-leaf goosefoot, and nightshade species.

Once again, transportation of hay or other feed sources and the use of forage from ditches was a concern for potentially spreading noxious weeds.

Late season precipitation, resulted in delayed harvest, the opportunity for waterhemp to

mature in the field prior to harvest and the potential spread through overland water movement in drainage runs and ditches. Anticipated spring flooding will also be a huge concern for the spread of noxious weeds.

Herbicide Resistance

There was confirmation of multiple samples of Group 2 resistant redroot pigweed in Manitoba in 2019. This confirms suspicions and tends to indicate that herbicide resistance is under-reported.