

Saskatchewan harvest 56% complete

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The harvest is furthest along in the southwest, the Saskatchewan Agriculture Ministry says in its weekly crop report. (CBC)

Despite some setbacks due to windy weather, more than half of this year's crop has now been harvested.

The provincial government's weekly crop report says 56 per cent is in the bin. Normally, about 40 per cent of the harvest has been combined at this point.

Progress is furthest along in the southwest (85 per cent combined) and slowest in the northwest (27 per cent combined), the report said.

It's been a tough week for some canola farmers, however. Wind gusts around 90 kilometres per hour scattered the crop in some areas.

Henry Gareau, the reeve of the rural municipality of St. Louis, said farmers in his area lost more than \$1 million worth of crop in recent days due to the wind.

"It's very frustrating," Gareau said. "We had a good canola crop, we've had so much rain this summer, the crops were decent and the price is so good. We've lost a lot of revenue from the canola side."

Meanwhile, with much of the crop still yet to be harvested, frost could be a concern. Several communities in the southwest, including Eastend and Val Marie, saw sub-zero temperatures on Wednesday night.