



**R+K HOLT FARMS LONG RANGE WEATHER PROGNOSIS FOR THE  
VIKING-IRMA-INNISFREE AREA  
ISSUED FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2009.  
NEXT FORECAST ISSUED  
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11**



**SHORT RANGE SYNOPSIS THROUGH TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8**

**A FEW SHOWERS TODAY...THEN DRY AND WINDY...**

A cold low will bring substantial rainfall to portions of central Alberta today, but the R+K Holt Farms area will largely escape the brunt of the storm. Still, some scattered shower activity is expected over the Holt Farms area today. Indeed, the Environment Canada radar loop currently shows a band of showers moving through the Holt Farms area.

Clearing is expected tonight. This will allow temperature values to drop into the high single digits overnight. An upper ridge will rebound over Alberta on Saturday pushing temperatures back into the mid twenties. Saturday's wind speed values will be much lower than today's and will gradually shift back into a southeasterly direction by the afternoon.

Another cold low will begin to affect Alberta by Sunday afternoon as deep surface low pressure center forms northwest of Edmonton. While rain develops across northwestern Alberta, the Holt Farming area will experience another very warm and windy day as a tight south to southeast pressure gradient forms over the region. Temperatures will move into the mid to upper twenties Sunday, depending on the cloud-cover across the region. Very strong southeast winds will materialize across the farming zone by Sunday afternoon.

A cold front will march through central Alberta Sunday night bringing a chance of showers or thundershowers to the farming area and very strong west winds. Temperature readings will drop substantially on Monday, but will likely remain a couple of degrees above seasonal. Brisk west winds and a slight chance of showers will dominate Monday as the cold low moves across northern Alberta.

Temperature readings will continue to slump on Tuesday as a cooler air mass settles across central Alberta. Winds will continue to be strong Tuesday morning but should ease off during the afternoon as the pressure gradient slackens. Our models indicate very little chance of precipitation on Tuesday as a strong westerly flow aloft keeps the air mass quite dry over the farming area.

FORECAST CONFIDENCE: HIGH. The overall trend in weather through the short range period is being handled in a consistent fashion amongst all model runs today. The biggest question mark will be the amount of rainfall across the Holt Farms area today. After today, all models show quite dry and windy conditions through the short range period. It should be noted that, although all runs show the track of the next disturbance well north of the Farming area, a band of heavier precipitation does begin to slump toward the region on Monday. If the models are slightly off in the predicted storm track. Monday/Tuesday will be a lot wetter than indicated.

**MEDIUM RANGE SYNOPSIS THROUGH SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13**

**CONTINUING MILD AND DRY...NOT AND WINDY...**

A westerly flow aloft will dominate across Alberta on Wednesday September 9 and Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup>. This will keep a fairly mild and dry air mass in place over the region. Daytime highs are

expected to be near or slightly above seasonal averages. All models are indicating virtually no chance of rain Wednesday or Thursday.

Clear skies and light winds will push overnight lows into the low to mid single digits Wednesday and Thursday.

Strong upper ridging will make a brief reappearance over Alberta on Friday and Saturday. This will minimize the chance of rainfall across the region while holding an unseasonably warm air mass back into the region. All models are moving daytime highs back to well-above seasonal values by next Friday.

A slight downturn in weather is anticipated Saturday as a weak cold front moves through Alberta, but many runs suggest that the front may be delayed until Sunday September 13 or even Monday the 14<sup>th</sup>.

FORECAST CONFIDENCE: HIGH. Our models are showing extremely good consistency regarding the evolution of the upper pattern through most of the medium range period. Our temperature estimates during the next upper ridging episode may be a bit conservative, but certainly well above temperatures are projected. This will also help to keep overnight lows above seasonal throughout the period.

## **LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS THROUGH SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19**

### **ABOVE SEASONAL TEMPERATURES AND DRY WEATHER PERSISTING....**

Despite the passage of a weak cold front sometime on the weekend of September 12, our models continue to show a mild weather pattern across Alberta throughout most of the extended range period. Both our Canadian and US charts show good consistency in re-developing upper ridging conditions over Alberta once again by about Tuesday September 15. Both models tend to hold the upper ridge over the Province for a few days before shifting this major feature eastward into Saskatchewan toward the end of the long range period with a major change in weather appearing right at the end of the period.

This weather pattern will continue to hold unseasonably warm and dry conditions over the R+K Holt Farms areas through to at least Friday September 18.

While the unseasonably warm air mass will certainly help to keep daytime highs well above seasonal, the dryness of the air during the period makes overnight lows a bit hard to access this far out in time. We have generally kept overnight lows in the mid single digits, but the trend toward light winds at night and clear skies may yield values a few degrees lower than indicated in today's tabular forecast.

CONFIDENCE: HIGH for the overall pattern. There is almost uncanny consistency in our models throughout the entire forecast period this week. Indeed, if the models are correct, quite favorable harvesting conditions will dominate across the Holt Farming area for the next 2 weeks. We have only MODERATE confidence on our overnight low temperature forecasts, however.

## **PROJECTED DAILY FORECAST**

TEMPERATURES IN DEGREES CELCIUS

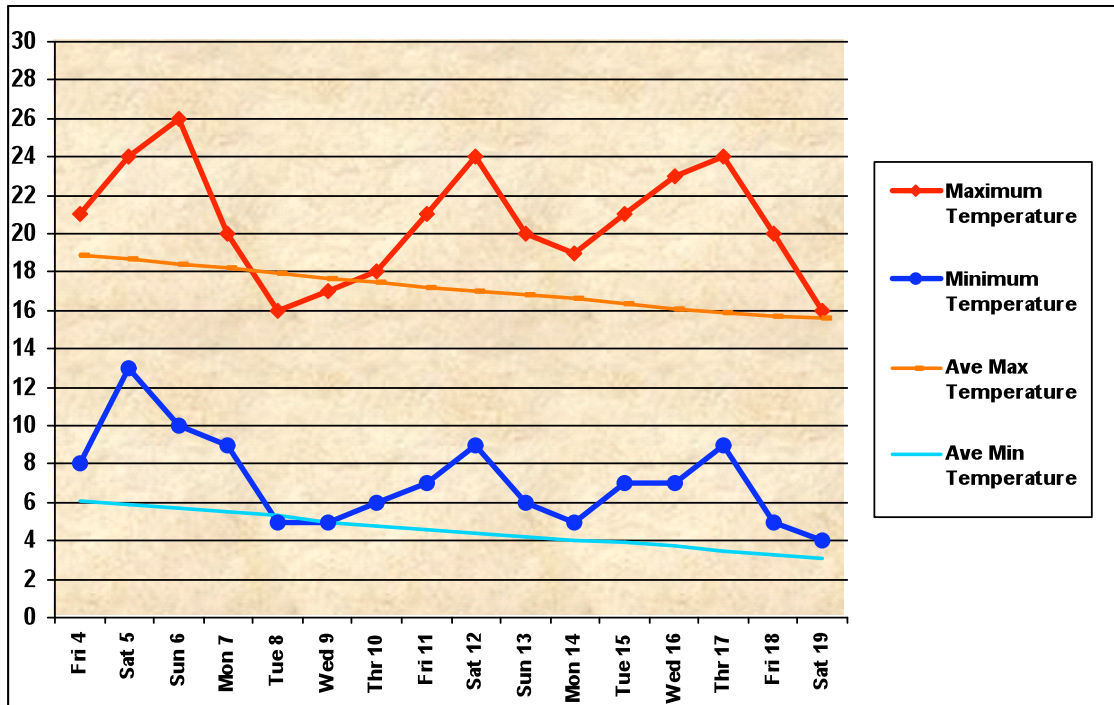
Example...-17/-24 High Monday/Low Monday night (ie Tuesday morning)

PROBABILITY OF PRECIPITATION IN PERCENT

WIND DIRECTION: W=west; WLY=westerly; SW=southwest; NW=northwest, NE=northeast etc.

WIND SPEED IN KILOMETERS PER HOUR; G=gust

<b>DATE</b>	<b>MAX/MIN TEMP</b>	<b>PROB OF PRECIP</b>	<b>WIND DIR/SPEED</b>
<b>FRI SEPT 4</b>	21/8	100	NW 30G50
<b>SAT SEPT 5</b>	24/13	0	NW 20 shifting to SE 20
<b>SUN SEPT 6</b>	26/10	40 in evening/overnight	SE 40G60
<b>MON SEPT 7</b>	20/9	30	WLY 40
<b>TUE SEPT 8</b>	16/5	20	WLY 40 decreasing to WLY 25
<b>WED SEPT 9</b>	17/5	0	W 25 decreasing to 15
<b>THR SEPT 10</b>	18/6	0	SLY 15
<b>FRI SEPT 11</b>	21/7	0	SE 20
<b>SAT SEPT 12</b>	24/9	20	SLY 25
<b>SUN SEPT 13</b>	20/6	40	Becoming N 30
<b>MON SEPT 14</b>	19/5	40	NE 30
<b>TUE SEPT 15</b>	21/7	20	WLY 20
<b>WED SEPT 16</b>	23/7	0	SE 30
<b>THR SEPT 17</b>	24/9	10	SLY 20
<b>FRI SEPT 18</b>	20/5	60	NW 40G60
<b>SAT SEPT 19</b>	16/4	60	NW 40G60



**PREDICTED TEMPERATURE TREND SEPTEMBER 4 THROUGH 19**  
Average Daily Temperature Based on Lloydminster Data