

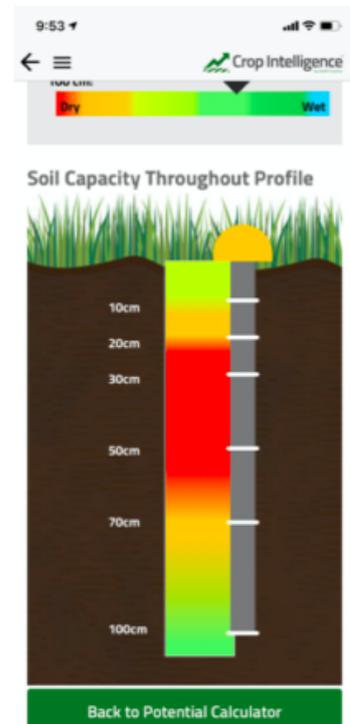
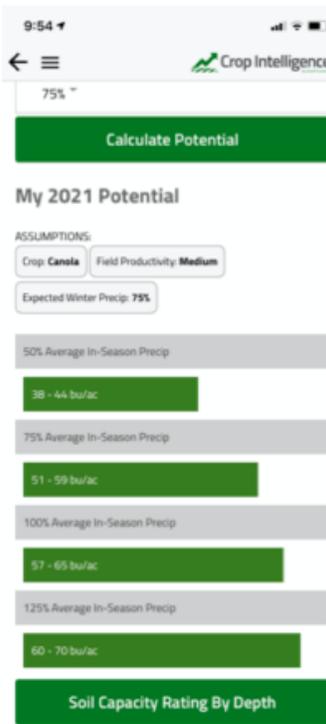
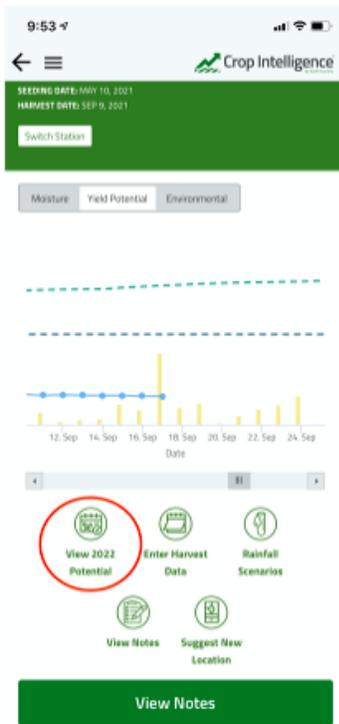
# Driving Decisions Newsletter

Issue 1

September 2021

## [CropIntel.ca](http://CropIntel.ca)

As harvest wraps up across western Canada growers are turning their attention towards fall planning and the 2022 crop year. Understanding what you have left for soil moisture at the end of the growing season is an important indicator in what your yield potential is for the following growing season. Crop Intelligence **2022 Potentials** takes the stored soil moisture left at the end of the growing season and couples it with the potential winter precipitation and in season precipitation to give you an idea of what your yield potential is going into next season.



With this information you can:

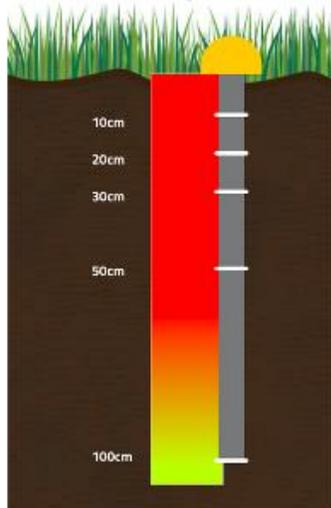
- Set more informed yield goals
- Determine fertility requirements
- Strategically allocate resources
- Plan crop rotations

## Opportunities in Planning

Whether you are looking to lessen the impact of drought or capitalize on additional yield potential in season, making an informed plan now is the best steps to set up for success going into next year.

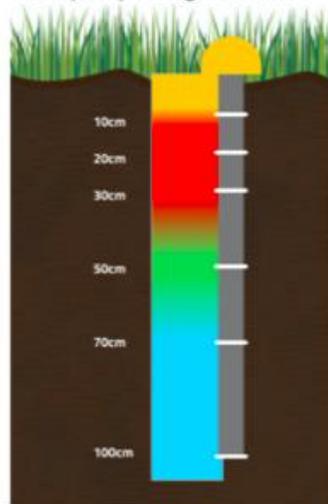
In the year that was 2021, most growers dealt with lower than average precipitation combined with higher than average temperature thresholds leading to below average yields. We are seeing 2 trends coming out of this data, dry profiles with low stored moisture or profiles that are surprisingly full considering conditions. Lets break down the how and why and what can be understood from these scenarios.

Soil Capacity Throughout Profile



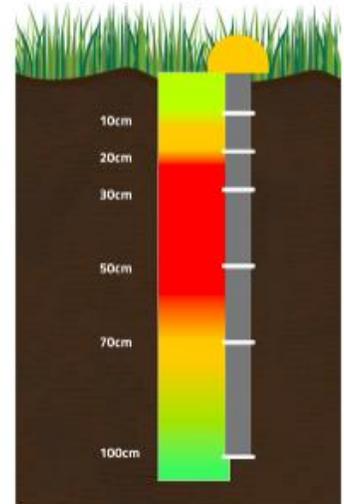
Dry Profile

Soil Capacity Throughout Profile



Stored Moisture

Soil Capacity Throughout Profile



Profile Recharge

With **dry soil moisture** profiles, the crop has done a good job of removing much of the available water throughout the season. These soils will need some decent winter moisture to recharge and may be at a disadvantage going into 2022.

Things to consider:

- Reduce fall tillage to conserve moisture and increase residue to maximize snow catch.
- Select a crop and variety that is more drought tolerant.
- Select a crop with lower input costs.
- Consider a split fertilizer application, with the option to top up in season if conditions improve.

With profiles that have good **stored moisture at depth**, the crop removed much of the soil moisture at the top of the profile but ran out of steam and failed to pull at depth leaving moisture stored for next year's crop.

Things to consider:

- If the crop failed to produce yield due to dry conditions nutrients applied may still be around and available in 2022 and soil sampling should be considered.
- Select a crop and variety that can take advantage of the stored moisture.
- Review your fertility plan, if front loading is there an opportunity to top dress in season.

Late fall precipitation will **recharge** our profiles and that moisture will be stored for next year so be prepared to be flexible and adjust plans as we move through the fall, winter and into the spring. With the 2022 Potentials tool, expected winter precipitation can be adjusted to reflect changing conditions.

Have questions about interpreting your fall soil moisture data, reach out to your Crop Intelligence partner for more information or email us at [info@cropintel.ca](mailto:info@cropintel.ca).