

ALASKA CROP-WEATHER



Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension

National Weather Service
U.S. Dept of Commerce

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 799
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RELEASED: May 5, 2003

GENERAL: An unusually warm winter has been followed by a warm, dry spring. Temperatures in general have been above normal while precipitation has been below normal in many locations. Last week saw daytime high temperatures mostly in the sixties. Lows were in the twenties to thirties. Little to no precipitation was reported last week, resulting in **6.0 days suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 10% short, 85% adequate, and 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 5% short, and 95% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as zero to 10 days ahead of normal. **Hay supplies** were rated as 10% short, 85% adequate and 5% surplus. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 5% fair, 85% good and 10% excellent.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY April 28 - May 4, 2003		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 6.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	10%	5%
ADEQUATE	85%	95%
SURPLUS	5%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 04/28-05/04		
MAT AES SITE: +1.213		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 95% adequate and 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 100% adequate. **Hay supplies:** Good horse hay was reported 20% short and 80% adequate while cow hay was 80% adequate and 20% surplus. Hay fields were just beginning to green up. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 15% fair, 60% good and 25% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing machinery, and fertilizing hay ground. Local greenhouses are up and running.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **7.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture supplies** were reported as 20% short and 80% adequate. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were reported as 5% short and 95% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short and 90% adequate. Hay fields were greening up. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 100% good. Major **farm activities** during the week included preparing equipment and fertilizing hay fields. A few vegetable fields have been tilled and planting of some crops has begun. Most local greenhouses are open for business.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies** were reported as 25% short and 75% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 60% short and 40% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 10% poor, 20% fair, 50% good and 20% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, purchasing fertilizer and moving livestock. Local greenhouses are open for business.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip</u> <u>(inches)</u>
	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2001	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	34	39	38	44	40	37	65	30	0.0
Sawmill Creek	na	na	43	na	na	na	na	na	na
Plant Materials Center	39	36	39	41	38	38	65	29	0.0

PAN EVAPORATION

Pan evaporation is an indirect estimation of evapotranspiration or consumptive water use by plants. For purposes of watering or irrigation of plants, it is a good indicator of climatic effects on water use by crops. A positive reading indicates that evaporation exceeded precipitation.

Weather Summary For Alaska Agricultural Statistics Service
 Prepared By AWIS, Inc.

For the Period: Monday April 28, 2003
 To: Sunday May 4, 2003

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 03 - May 4, 03					GDD BASE 40F TOT
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	
Fairbanks Intl	67	27	42	+2	0.00	0	0.00	-0.04	0	0	+0	8
Fairbanks/Eiels	66	25	43	+3	0.00	0	0.00	-0.04	0	0	+0	8
Nenana Muni AM	66	22	40	+0	0.02	1	0.00	+0.00	0	0	+2	1
Ftgreeely/Allen	68	25	41	+1	0.00	0	0.00	-0.04	0	0	-4	0
Healy_River_Air	64	23	42	+3	0.07	1	0.00	-0.04	0	0	+2	5
Gulkana_Arpt_A Sutton	70 64	23 28	43 46	+6 +6	0.00 0.00	0 0	0.00 0.00	-0.04 -0.08	0 0	0 0	+0 +0	8 24
Palmer Municipa	65	32	49	+7	0.00	0	0.00	-0.05	0	1	+1	37
Talkeetna	90	33	51	+11	0.00	0	0.00	-0.17	0	3	+4	40
Willow Airport	63	35	48	+7	0.00	0	0.00	-0.05	0	0	+0	33
Anchorage Intl	60	33	47	+5	0.00	0	0.00	-0.08	0	0	+0	27
Kenai Municipal	64	26	44	+5	0.00	0	0.00	-0.12	0	0	+0	21
Homer	63	31	45	+6	0.00	0	0.00	-0.16	0	1	+1	29
Kodiak	61	35	49	+9	0.03	1	0.03	-0.77	1	8	+8	48

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
 Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) and Pan Evap in inches.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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