

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
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RELEASED: May 12, 2003

GENERAL: Rain fell in many of the growing areas across the State last week. Temperatures in general remained above normal. Last week saw daytime high temperatures mostly in the mid to high fifties. Lows were in the twenties to mid-thirties. Rain and winds held **days suitable for fieldwork to 5.0 days. Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 5% short, and 95% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 1% short, and 99% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported up to two weeks ahead of normal. **Hay supplies** were rated as 25% short, 70% adequate and 5% surplus. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 10% fair, 75% good and 15% excellent.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY May 5 - May 11, 2003		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 6.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	5%	1%
ADEQUATE	95%	99%
SURPLUS	0%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 05/05-05/11		
MAT AES SITE: +0.162		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days were suitable for fieldwork.** Strong winds were reported over the weekend. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 5% short, and 95% adequate. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 100% adequate. Frost is still reported in the ground in some acres. **Hay supplies:** Good horse hay was reported as 20% short and 80% adequate while cow hay was 80% adequate and 20% surplus. Hay fields were continuing to green up. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 20% fair, 40% good and 40% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing machinery, fertilizing hay ground and planting barley. Local greenhouses are up and running.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork.** **Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies** were reported as 100% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 40% short and 60% adequate, however supplies of hay for sale are low. Hay fields continue to green up. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 100% good. Major **farm activities** during the week included preparing equipment, tilling soil, fertilizing hay fields, weed control and planting barley and early vegetables. 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 15% short and 85% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 55% short and 45% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 10% poor, 20% fair, 60% good and 10% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included preparing machinery, fertilizing hay, field preparation, and moving livestock to summer pastures. Local greenhouses are open for business.

Soil Temperatures (F°) at 4 inch depth

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip (inches)</u>
	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2001	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	38	44	41	43	41	43	60	32	0.35
Sawmill Creek	na	na	45	na	na	na	na	na	na
Plant Materials Center	40	38	46	40	40	44	59	33	0.40

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 May 5, 2003
 To: Sunday May 11, 2003

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 03 - May 11, 03					GDD
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks Intl	61	29	45	+0	0.01	1	0.01	-0.11	1	1	+1	45
Fairbanks/Eiels	63	34	48	+3	0.00	0	0.00	-0.13	0	1	+1	62
Nenana Muni AM	63	30	45	+2	0.13	2	0.13	+0.08	2	1	+3	36
Ftgreely/Allen	59	26	43	-2	0.03	3	0.03	-0.09	3	1	-10	26
Healy_River_Air	54	28	44	+2	0.17	5	0.17	+0.04	5	0	+3	34
Gulkana_Arpt_A	59	21	43	+2	0.09	1	0.09	-0.02	1	0	+0	31
Sutton	54	33	43	-1	0.81	5	0.81	+0.59	5	0	+0	45
Palmer_Municipa	59	34	46	+0	0.27	2	0.27	+0.08	2	1	-1	78
Talkeetna	58	32	45	+3	1.33	6	1.33	+0.81	6	3	+5	75
Willow_Airport	57	35	45	+0	0.68	5	0.68	+0.49	5	0	+0	67
Anchorage Intl	61	33	45	+0	0.60	4	0.60	+0.38	4	1	+1	62
Kenai_Municipal	55	27	42	+0	0.61	5	0.61	+0.28	5	0	+0	40
Homer	54	32	44	+3	0.29	3	0.29	-0.15	3	1	+1	58
Kodiak	51	33	43	+2	0.29	4	0.32	-1.88	5	8	+8	74

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

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