

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 19, 2003

GENERAL: Planting was underway across the state last week. Temperatures were slightly below normal and most areas received some rain. Daytime high temperatures were mostly in the mid to high fifties. Lows were in the twenties to mid-thirties. **Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.0 days.** Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were reported as 5% short, and 95% adequate. **Planting of barley** was 75% complete statewide, last week 20% of the crop was planted. **Planting of oats** was 60% complete, last week less than 5% of the crop was planted. **Planting of potatoes** began this week with 15% of the crop being reported as seeded. **Vegetable** crops were being transplanted/seeded. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 10% fair, 75% good and 15% excellent.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY May 12 - May 18, 2003		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	5%	5%
ADEQUATE	95%	95%
SURPLUS	0%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 05/12-05/18		
MAT AES SITE:		+0.220

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork.** Topsoil moisture was reported at 5% short, and 95% adequate. Subsoil moisture supplies were 100% adequate. Planting of **barley** was 75% complete, last week 20% of the crop was planted. Planting of **oats** was 60% complete. Planting of **potatoes** began this week. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 20% fair, 50% good and 30% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included fertilizing hay acres and pastures, as well as planting small grains and potatoes.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork.** Topsoil moisture was reported as 100% adequate, while subsoil moisture was 10% short and 90% adequate. **Planting of barley and oats** was underway. **Potato** planting was underway, with 20% of the crop reported as seeded. **Vegetable** crops were being seeded/transplanted. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 100% good. Major **farm activities** during the week included field preparation, weed control, fertilizing, planting small grains and vegetables.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork.** Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were reported as 100% adequate. Planting of potatoes has not yet begun. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 10% poor, 20% fair, 60% good and 10% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included ground preparation, and fertilizing.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) 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	44	50	49	43	52	55	57	34	0.52
Sawmill Creek	34	na	49	na	na	na	59	25	0.13
Plant Materials Center	42	53	49	45	54	55	56	33	0.33

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 12, 2003
 To: Sunday May 18, 2003

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 03 - May 18, 03					GDD
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks Intl	57	27	42	-7	0.27	2	0.28	+0.02	3	1	-5	66
Fairbanks/Eiels	57	30	43	-6	0.13	2	0.13	-0.14	2	1	-5	87
Nenana Muni AM	58	25	41	-7	0.30	3	0.43	+0.31	5	1	-1	51
Ftgreely/Allen	54	30	42	-6	0.23	3	0.26	-0.01	6	1	-23	47
Healy River Air	57	27	39	-8	0.23	4	0.40	+0.13	9	0	+2	40
Gulkana Arpt A	55	28	40	-5	0.28	6	0.37	+0.13	7	0	+0	34
Sutton	52	32	42	-4	0.44	6	1.25	+0.85	11	0	-1	61
Palmer Municipa	57	36	45	-3	0.55	6	0.82	+0.49	8	1	-8	115
Talkeetna	62	31	46	+1	0.31	3	1.64	+0.77	9	3	+5	118
Willow Airport	57	35	46	-2	0.35	6	1.03	+0.70	11	0	+0	109
Anchorage Intl	57	33	45	-3	0.02	1	0.62	+0.26	5	1	-4	98
Kenai Municipal	52	26	40	-4	0.19	1	0.80	+0.26	6	0	+0	50
Homer	51	29	41	-4	0.40	2	0.69	+0.01	5	1	+1	67
Kodiak	53	31	42	-2	0.43	4	0.75	-2.92	9	8	+8	87

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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