

ALASKA CROP-WEATHER



Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension
Ag & Forestry Experiment Station

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
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RELEASED: September 2, 2003

GENERAL: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** statewide as rain fell across most of the state last week. Daytime high temperatures were generally in the sixties to low seventies. Lows were mostly in the thirties to forties. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 55% adequate, 45% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 15% short, 85% adequate. The **barley** crop was reported as 15% harvested. The **oat** crop was 10% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 10% harvested. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 40% complete statewide. **Wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported as 95% none, 5% light to moderate.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY August 25 - August 31, 2003		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	0%	15%
ADEQUATE	55%	85%
SURPLUS	45%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 8/25 - 8/31		
MAT AES SITE: +0.170		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 30% adequate, 70% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 15% short, 85% adequate. **Barley** was 15% harvested. The **oat** crop was 10% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 10% harvested. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 45% complete, with rain hampering harvest. No **wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, barley, oats, potatoes and vegetables, baling straw and equipment repair.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was 5% short, 95% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was 15% short, 85% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 25% harvested. The **oat** harvest was also underway. **Potatoes** were reported as 10% harvested. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 15% complete, with rain again hampering the harvest. **Wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported as 90% none, 10% light to moderate. Major **farm activities** during the week included hay, grain, potato and vegetable harvests, weed control and equipment repair, and attending the fair.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **2.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were reported as 15% harvested. **Second cutting hay harvest** was 60% complete as rain hampered harvest. Major **farm activities** for the week included waiting for drier weather and preparing for harvest.

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	56	57	57	54	55	53	64	46	0.28
Sawmill Creek	46	48	57	na	na	na	74	30	0.21
Plant Materials Center	57	58	56	54	52	53	63	43	0.19

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 August 25, 2003
 To: Sunday August 31, 2003

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 03 - August 31, 03					GDD
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks Intl	71	43	56	+4	0.55	5	8.10	+2.63	42	858	-64	1938
Fairbanks/Eiels	72	37	55	+3	0.59	4	8.10	+1.16	50	886	+9	1993
Nenana Muni AM	69	42	55	+4	0.31	6	10.58	+5.20	54	719	-70	1755
Ftgreely/Allen	70	38	54	+3	0.70	2	5.34	-2.69	34	757	-59	1788
Healy_River_Air	66	46	56	+5	0.41	5	8.57	+0.47	72	738	+84	1768
Gulkana_Arpt_A	64	34	49	-2	0.73	5	3.96	-1.79	39	505	+40	1488
Sutton	59	45	52	-1	1.04	7	9.90	+2.71	77	534	+51	1610
Palmer_Municipa	63	45	54	+0	0.49	4	5.13	-1.19	53	721	+91	1872
Talkeetna	70	50	58	+6	1.21	7	18.18	+6.36	65	1091	+457	2251
Willow_Airport	63	48	55	+1	0.79	7	8.41	+2.37	75	935	+300	2090
Anchorage Intl	65	49	55	+2	0.73	7	5.26	-1.13	48	815	+181	1953
Kenai_Municipal	65	48	56	+4	0.78	5	7.41	+1.00	47	503	+138	1554
Homer	62	42	55	+3	1.20	6	6.29	+0.53	49	417	+97	1466
Kodiak	60	43	53	-2	3.85	7	19.30	-0.99	73	421	+72	1455

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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