

# ALASKA CROP-WEATHER



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

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
P.O. Box 799  
Palmer, AK 99645

**RELEASED:** September 15, 2003

**GENERAL:** There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** statewide. Daytime high temperatures were generally in the fifties to low sixties. Lows were mostly in the twenties and thirties. Hard frosts were reported in Delta Junction, Fairbanks and in parts of the Mat-Su Valley. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 10% short, 65% adequate, 25% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 20% short, 80% adequate. The **barley** crop was reported as 55% harvested, the 5 year average is 45% harvested. The **oat** crop was 25% harvested, the 5 year average is 15% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 45% harvested. The five year average is 50% harvested. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 50% complete statewide. Winter supplies of hay were reported as 20% short, 80% adequate. No **wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported. Harvest of hay, small grains, potatoes and vegetables continued across the state.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY September 8 - September 14, 2003		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	10%	20%
ADEQUATE	65%	80%
SURPLUS	25%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 9/08 - 9/14		
MAT AES SITE: +0.021		
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 08/04-08/11		
MAT AES SITE: +1.043		

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **4.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. Rain and killing frosts were reported. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 60% adequate, 40% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 15% short, 85% adequate. **Barley** was 55% harvested. The **oat** crop was 25% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 15% harvested. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 50% complete, with rain/snow continuing to hamper the harvest. No **wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported. **Farm activities** for the week included baling hay, harvesting small grains, potatoes and vegetables and equipment repair.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **6.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was 25% short, 75% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was 30% short, 70% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 65% harvested. The **oat** harvest continued. **Potatoes** were reported as 65% harvested. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 45% complete. No **wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported. Major **farm activities** during the week included hay, grain, potato and vegetable harvests, weed control and equipment repair.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** An average of **7.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 25% short, 75% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Potatoes** were reported as 45% harvested. **Second cutting hay harvest** was 75% complete. Major **farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, potatoes and vegetables.

## Soil Temperatures ( F<sup>0</sup> ) at 4 inch depth

	<u>Grass</u>		<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip</u>	
	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2001	High	Low	(inches)
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	50	52	47	46	50	49	66	37	0.61
Sawmill Creek	40	42	50	na	na	na	66	15	0.96
Plant Materials Center	52	na	54	46	na	50	65	31	0.53

**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 September 8, 2003  
 To: Sunday September 14, 2003

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 03 - September 14, 03 GDD					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks Intl	61	27	44	-4	0.60	2	9.54	+3.48	50	866	-76	2034
Fairbanks/Eiels	61	28	43	-5	0.58	3	10.48	+2.83	59	895	-2	2085
Nenana Muni AM	60	24	43	-5	0.65	1	12.44	+6.56	60	730	-74	1843
Ftgreely/Allen	60	26	42	-6	0.37	2	6.86	-1.73	40	760	-88	1872
Healy_River_Air	61	25	42	-5	1.14	4	10.70	+1.81	81	741	+71	1846
Gulkana_Arpt_A	64	24	45	+0	0.10	3	4.47	-1.98	44	507	+23	1577
Sutton	63	32	49	+1	0.23	5	10.60	+1.90	86	542	+35	1744
Palmer Municipa	66	38	52	+2	0.49	2	5.82	-1.74	58	757	+91	2048
Talkeetna	68	36	52	+5	0.03	2	18.63	+4.68	72	1147	+488	2446
Willow Airport	64	34	50	+0	0.14	5	8.95	+1.63	83	971	+314	2262
Anchorage Intl	64	40	52	+3	0.06	2	5.40	-2.39	54	870	+198	2148
Kenai Municipal	64	30	48	+0	0.07	2	7.48	-0.46	49	524	+133	1702
Homer	62	36	50	+1	0.16	2	6.45	-0.85	51	425	+75	1610
Kodiak	66	38	51	+1	0.87	3	20.34	-3.28	78	453	+71	1622

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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