

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
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RELEASED: September 29, 2003

GENERAL: There were **3.0 days suitable for fieldwork** statewide. Daytime high temperatures were generally in the forties and fifties. Lows were the twenties to thirties in South Central and in the teens and twenties in the Tanana Valley and Kenai. Frosts were reported across the state. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 15% short, 85% adequate. The **barley and oat** crops were both reported as 90% harvested. The 5 year average for barley is 90% harvested, while the 5 year average for oats is 75% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 70% harvested, the five year average is 90% harvested. Repeated hard frosts in the Delta area have caused damage to the potato crop. Last week the percentage of the potato crop harvested should have been 60%. **Second cutting hay** harvest continued as the weather allowed, with harvest being reported as 80% complete statewide. **Winter supplies of hay** were reported as 20% short, 80% adequate. **Wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported only in the Delta Junction area.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY September 22 - September 28, 2003		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 3.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	0%	15%
ADEQUATE	90%	85%
SURPLUS	10%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 9/22 - 9/28 MAT AES SITE: -0.048		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **2.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 20% short, 80% adequate. The **barley and oat crops** were both 90% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 15% harvested, with repeated hard frosts possibly causing up to 50% damage. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 80% complete. **Wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported as 80% none, 20% light. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, small grains, potatoes and baling straw.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was 10% short, 90% adequate. The **barley and oat** harvests were winding down. **Potatoes** were reported as 95% harvested. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 80% complete. No **wind and rain damage** to small grains was reported. Major **farm activities** during the week included hay, grain, potato and vegetable harvests.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 80% adequate, 20% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Potatoes** were reported as 90% harvested. **Second cutting hay harvest** was virtually complete. Major **farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, potatoes and vegetables.

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	47	49	45	48	46	43	60	32	0.41
Sawmill Creek	na	37	43	na	na	na	na	na	na
Plant Materials Center	50	50	49	45	46	43	63	24	0.13

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 22, 2003
 To: Sunday September 28, 2003

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 03 - September 28, 03					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks Intl	51	24	36	-4	0.00	0	9.54	+3.01	50	866	-73	2034
Fairbanks/Eiels	50	23	35	-5	0.09	2	10.62	+2.43	62	895	+0	2085
Nenana Muni AM	51	25	35	-3	0.00	0	12.44	+6.24	60	730	-71	1843
Ftgreely/Allen	50	24	33	-7	0.04	2	7.05	-1.96	43	760	-99	1872
Healy_River_Air	50	19	34	-6	0.05	2	10.77	+1.19	84	741	+72	1846
Gulkana_Arpt_A	55	11	34	-5	0.11	2	4.65	-2.46	47	507	+22	1577
Sutton	59	27	41	-2	0.35	3	11.08	+0.96	90	542	+30	1768
Palmer_Municipa	58	32	43	-2	0.34	2	6.16	-2.59	60	757	+80	2091
Talkeetna	65	29	45	+4	0.36	3	18.99	+3.08	75	1148	+486	2519
Willow_Airport	59	25	42	-3	0.35	2	9.42	+0.84	86	971	+314	2298
Anchorage Intl	59	31	44	-1	0.43	2	6.00	-3.08	57	870	+186	2201
Kenai_Municipal	59	19	42	-3	0.27	2	7.75	-1.75	51	524	+124	1734
Homer	57	28	44	-2	0.24	3	6.69	-2.23	54	425	+61	1661
Kodiak	58	29	45	-2	2.86	4	23.38	-4.17	85	453	+62	1699

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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