

# ALASKA CROP-WEATHER



Alaska Division of Agriculture  
Alaska Cooperative Extension

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
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**RELEASED:** May 3, 2004

**GENERAL:** Spring is starting to make an appearance across most of the state. There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork**, however tillage was on hold until soil conditions become more suitable. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 80% adequate, 20% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 85% adequate, 15% surplus. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as zero to two weeks behind normal. **Hay supplies** were rated as 5% short, 85% adequate, 10% surplus. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 10% fair, 75% good, 15% excellent.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY April 26 - May 2, 2004		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	0%	0%
ADEQUATE	80%	85%
SURPLUS	20%	15%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 04/26-05/02		
MAT AES SITE: +0.158		

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**, although no tillage was done due to frost still being in many fields. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 65% adequate, 35% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 80% adequate, 20% surplus. **Hay supplies** for cows was reported as 75% adequate, 25% surplus, hay supplies for horses was more limited. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 10% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing machinery for field work and fertilizing hay ground. Local greenhouses are up and running.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies** were both reported as 100% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 100% adequate. Hay fields were greening up. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% fair, 85% good, 10% excellent. Major **farm activities** during the week included preparing equipment and fertilizing hay fields. A few vegetable fields have been tilled and many local greenhouses are open for business.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** An average of **2.0 days were suitable for fieldwork** due to wet conditions. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies** were reported as 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Hay supplies** were reported as 20% short, 70% adequate, 10% surplus, with low feed supplies being reported in the Homer area. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% poor, 30% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, fertilizing hay fields and moving livestock to summer pastures. Local greenhouses are open for business.

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

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip (inches)</u>
	2004	2003	2002	2004	2003	2002	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	39	34	39	41	44	40	63	30	0.01
Sawmill Creek	34	na	na	na	na	na	66	27	0.0
Plant Materials Center	38	39	36	39	41	38	61	33	0.02

## 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 April 26, 2004  
 To: Sunday May 2, 2004

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 04 - May 2, 04					BASE 40F TOT
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	
Fairbanks Intl	64	29	44	+4	0.00	0	0.00	-0.02	0	0	+0	18
Fairbanks/Eiels	66	30	46	+6	0.00	0	0.00	-0.02	0	2	+2	20
Nenana Muni AM	61	27	44	+6	0.01	1	0.00	+0.00	0	0	+2	18
Ftgreely/Allen	65	30	44	+4	0.00	0	0.00	-0.02	0	0	-2	16
Healy River Air	64	14	42	+5	0.08	4	0.01	-0.01	1	5	+6	20
Gulkana Arpt A	65	23	42	+5	0.00	0	0.00	-0.02	0	1	+1	18
Sutton	58	31	43	+2	0.58	6	0.08	+0.04	1	0	+0	15
Palmer Municipa	63	33	47	+5	0.02	1	0.00	-0.02	0	4	+4	23
Talkeetna	66	31	44	+5	1.28	4	0.00	-0.08	0	4	+4	24
Willow Airport	63	34	45	+4	0.52	6	0.05	+0.03	1	2	+2	21
Anchorage Intl	59	32	45	+4	0.27	2	0.00	-0.04	0	2	+2	20
Kenai Municipal	63	35	45	+5	0.42	5	0.03	-0.03	1	2	+2	18
Homer	60	35	45	+6	0.29	5	0.02	-0.06	1	0	+0	18
Kodiak	48	32	42	+2	1.96	7	0.95	+0.55	2	0	+0	4

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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