

# ALASKA CROP-WEATHER

Alaska Division of Agriculture  
Alaska Cooperative Extension  
**RELEASED:** August 16, 2004



U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
P.O. Box 799  
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**GENERAL:** There were **7.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. Temperatures remained above normal, ranging from 4 to 11 degrees above average last week. Little rain fell across the state as conditions remain dry and hazy. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 85% short, 15% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were 65% short, 35% adequate. The **barley** crop was reported as 50% ripe, 50% harvested. The **oat** crop was reported as 20% turning color, 60% ripe, 20% harvested. Small grain harvest is several weeks ahead of normal due the warm temperatures. **Condition of the barley** crop was listed as 30% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent. **Condition of the oat** crop was listed as 50% fair, 50% good. **Potatoes** were reported as 90% in bloom statewide. **Condition of the potato** crop was listed as 15% fair, 45% good, 40% excellent. **The second harvest of hay** was reported as 15% complete. Many growers are hoping for rain to improve growth on the second cutting. **Condition of the second cutting hay** crop was listed as 30% poor, 30% fair, 30% good, 10% excellent. Farm activities for the week include irrigation, weed control, equipment repair and harvesting vegetables, hay and small grains.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY August 09 - August 15, 2004		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 7.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	85%	65%
ADEQUATE	15%	35%
SURPLUS	0%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 08/09-08/15 MAT AES SITE: +1.069		

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **7.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 90% short, 10% adequate. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 60% short, 40% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 50% ripe, 50% harvested. **Oats** were 20% turning color, 60% ripe, 20% harvested. **Condition of the barley** crop was listed as 30% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent. The **oat** crop was 50% fair, 50% good. **Potatoes** were reported as 75% in bloom. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 10% complete. **Condition of the second cutting hay** crop was listed as 30% poor, 30% fair, 30% good, 10% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting small grains, hay and vegetables, baling straw, and weed control.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **7.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies** were both reported as 95% short, 5% adequate. **Potatoes** were 99% in bloom. **Small grain harvest** was underway. **Second cutting hay** harvest was underway with only a few fields harvested. **Condition of the second cutting hay** crop was listed as 40% poor, 35% fair, 25% good. Major **farm activities** included irrigation, harvesting hay, small grains, grass seed and vegetables, equipment and fence repair, weed control and irrigation.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** An average of **7.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture supplies** were reported as 25% short, 75% adequate. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were reported as 20% short, 80% adequate. **Potatoes** were 80% in bloom. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 80% complete. **Condition of the second cutting hay crop** was listed as 5% poor, 10% fair, 55% good, 30% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay and vegetables, equipment repair, and weed control.

### 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	61	59	58	61	56	57	80	45	0.00
Sawmill Creek	56	51	48	na	na	na	85	40	0.00
Plant Materials Center	61	60	60	61	57	56	79	43	0.00

**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 9, 2004  
 To: Sunday August 15, 2004

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 04 - August 15, 04				GDD	
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F		BASE	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks Intl	81	52	66	+9	0.02	1	3.52	-1.16	34	1269	+413	2288
Fairbanks/Eiels	82	50	66	+9	0.01	1	5.54	-0.38	43	1352	+541	2390
Nenana Muni AM	82	50	65	+10	0.00	0	6.79	+2.25	47	1141	+406	2153
Ftgreely/Allen	83	49	66	+10	0.00	0	4.75	-2.38	34	1120	+375	2131
Healy River Air	81	51	66	+11	0.00	0	4.93	-2.05	63	1044	+442	2049
Gulkaņa Arpt_A	81	35	59	+6	0.00	0	2.25	-2.65	26	785	+368	1802
Sutton	76	41	59	+4	0.08	2	5.50	-0.32	55	620	+195	1628
Palmer Municipa	79	48	63	+7	0.00	0	2.70	-2.44	31	887	+331	1942
Talkeetna	85	48	64	+9	0.00	0	3.80	-5.68	30	980	+411	2027
Willow Airport	79	48	64	+7	0.06	2	4.42	-0.27	48	939	+382	1989
Anchorage Intl	76	50	63	+7	0.31	1	2.75	-2.12	23	805	+250	1831
Kenai Municipal	76	40	58	+4	0.02	1	2.93	-2.04	31	540	+229	1519
Homer	72	45	59	+5	0.02	2	2.24	-2.21	33	479	+213	1443
Kodiak	66	45	55	+0	1.56	4	22.63	+5.03	66	389	+107	1335

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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