

ALASKA CROP-WEATHER

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension



ALASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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

RELEASED: May 2, 2005

GENERAL: Unseasonably warm temperatures prevailed across most of the major growing areas last week hastening the arrival of spring. Record high temperatures were recorded in Fairbanks, Palmer, Homer, Kenai, Anchorage as well as other communities across the state. There were **6.5 days suitable for fieldwork**, however tillage was on hold until soil conditions become more suitable. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 5% short 80% adequate, 15% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as zero to ten days ahead of normal. **Hay supplies** were rated as 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 5% poor, 10% fair, 50% good, 35% excellent.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY April 25 - May 1, 2005		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 6.5		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	5%	0%
ADEQUATE	80%	95%
SURPLUS	15%	5%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 04/25 - 05/01 MAT AES SITE: N/A		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**, although no tillage was reported as farmers wait for fields to dry and thaw out. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 80% adequate, 20% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 100% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 20% fair, 50% good, 30% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing machinery for fieldwork and waiting for field to dry out. Commercial greenhouses were up and running.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 85% adequate, 15% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. Hay fields were starting to green up. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 55% good, 45% excellent. Major **farm activities** during the week included preparing equipment and fertilizing hay fields. A few vegetable and fallow fields have been tilled and many local greenhouses are open for business.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 20% short, 80% adequate. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were reported as 100% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 15% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 10% poor, 15% fair, 55% good, 20% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, fertilizing hay fields and moving livestock to summer ranges. Local greenhouses are open for business.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip</u> (inches)
	2004	2003	2002	2004	2003	2002	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	32	39	34	43	41	44	73	35	0.20
Sawmill Creek	32	34	na	na	na	na	70	27	0.00
Plant Materials Center	40	38	39	35	39	41	73	28	0.16

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 25, 2005
 To: Sunday May 1, 2005

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 05 - May 1, 05 GDD					BASE 40F TOT
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	73	30	49	+11	0.00	0	0.00	-0.01	0	5	+5	15
Fairbanks/Eiels	73	34	52	+13	0.00	0	0.00	-0.01	0	6	+6	16
Nenana_Muni_AM	73	27	48	+11	0.00	0	0.00	+0.00	0	3	+3	13
Ftgreely/Allen	68	29	49	+10	0.03	2	0.00	-0.01	0	1	+0	11
Healy_River_Air	68	32	49	+12	0.00	0	0.00	-0.01	0	4	+4	14
Gulkana_Arpt_A	69	25	47	+10	0.00	0	0.00	-0.01	0	0	+0	8
Sutton	73	32	52	+12	0.02	1	0.02	+0.00	1	0	+0	9
Palmer_Municipa	73	31	52	+11	0.00	0	0.00	-0.01	0	3	+3	13
Talkeetna	71	29	49	+11	0.00	0	0.00	-0.04	0	2	+2	12
Willow_Airport	68	32	50	+9	0.02	1	0.02	+0.01	1	1	+1	11
Anchorage_Intl	69	32	50	+9	0.01	1	0.01	-0.01	1	3	+3	13
Kenai_Municipal	69	31	48	+9	0.00	0	0.00	-0.03	0	0	+0	8
Homer	65	34	48	+9	0.00	0	0.00	-0.04	0	0	+0	10
Kodiak	69	33	46	+7	0.00	0	0.00	-0.20	0	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.

Copyright 2005: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc.
 All rights reserved.

For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page
 at www.awis.com or call toll free at 1-888-798-9955.

Alaska Agricultural Statistics Service
 PO Box 799
 Palmer, AK 99645