

# 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  
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**RELEASED:** May 23, 2005

**GENERAL:** There were 5.5 **days suitable for fieldwork** last week. Planting of small grains continued in the Mat-Su and Tanana valleys. **Potato** seeding was continued around Palmer. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 5% short, 95% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 100% adequate. **Barley** planting was reported at 90% complete statewide with 55% emerging. Planting of **oats** was reported as 65% complete with 20% emerging. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as zero to 4 days ahead of normal. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 10% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent. **Range/Pasture Conditions** were listed as 5% poor, 10% fair, 60% good, 25% excellent. **Winter freeze damage** was reported as 85% none, and 15% light. Farm activities for the week included planting small grains, potatoes, and vegetables, spring baling of hay & straw, fertilizing, weed control, fence repairs.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY May 16 - May 22, 2005		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.5		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	5%	0%
ADEQUATE	95%	100%
SURPLUS	0%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 05/16-05/23 MAT AES SITE: +0.538		

**TANANA VALLEY:** There were 6.0 **days were suitable for fieldwork** last week. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 5% short, 95% adequate. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 100% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 90% planted with 55% emerged. **Oats** were reported as 60% planted and 20% emerged. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 20% fair, 50% good, 30% excellent. **Range/Pasture Conditions** were listed as 10% fair, 50% good, 40% excellent. **Winter freeze damage** was reported as 95% none, and 5% light. **Farm activities** for the week included fertilizing hay fields, and small grains, and fence repairs.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of 6.0 **days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and Subsoil moisture** were both reported as 100% adequate. **Barley** planting was reported as 70% complete, 30% emerged. **Oats** were reported as 75% planted, 25% emerged. **Potatoes** were reported as 40% planted. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% fair, 85% good, 10% excellent. **Range/Pasture Conditions** were listed as 5% poor, 10% fair, 80% good, 5% excellent. **Winter freeze damage** was reported as 60% none, and 40% light. Major **farm activities** during the week included planting potatoes, small grain, & vegetables, fertilizing, weed & pesticide control and fence repair.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** An average of 5.0 **days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and Subsoil moisture** were reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were reported as 10% planted. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 10% poor, 20% fair, 40% good, 30% excellent. **Range/Pasture Conditions** were listed as 10% poor, 20% fair, 40% good, 30% excellent. **Winter freeze damage** was reported as 90% none, and 10% light. Major **farm activities** for the week included fertilizing fields, tilling and fertilizing gardens & vegetable plots.

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

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip</u> <u>(inches)</u>
	2005	2004	2003	2005	2004	2003	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	47	52	49	51	50	51	73	36	0.36
Sawmill Creek	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	Na
Plant Materials Center	52	50	51	44	51	50	70	32	0.46

### 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 May 16, 2005  
 To: Sunday May 22, 2005

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 05 - May 22, 05 GDD					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F		BASE	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	71	40	53	+3	1.08	4	1.17	+0.83	7	109	+95	314
Fairbanks/Eiels	70	37	53	+3	0.55	6	0.57	+0.20	7	121	+107	337
Nenana_Muni_AM	71	40	52	+4	0.84	3	0.84	+0.68	3	83	+75	290
Ftgreely/Allen	68	34	50	+2	0.79	4	0.80	+0.41	5	70	+36	263
Healy_River_Air	63	36	48	+0	0.69	5	0.74	+0.36	7	45	+43	233
Gulkana_Arpt_A	71	26	46	+1	0.59	4	0.59	+0.27	4	8	+5	150
Sutton	66	28	47	+1	0.49	5	1.10	+0.58	13	2	-3	155
Palmer_Municipa	72	37	51	+3	0.58	4	0.58	+0.17	4	51	+37	251
Talkeetna	72	33	50	+4	0.47	2	1.12	+0.03	6	23	+21	195
Willow_Airport	70	39	51	+4	0.33	4	0.89	+0.48	11	39	+38	236
Anchorage_Intl	70	34	50	+3	0.16	2	0.18	-0.26	4	27	+18	214
Kenai_Municipal	68	30	47	+2	0.41	3	0.44	-0.22	4	1	+0	142
Homer	64	35	47	+4	0.06	2	0.20	-0.60	6	1	+1	170
Kodiak	62	38	48	+5	0.42	5	5.82	+1.31	16	5	+4	121

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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