

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: August 29, 2005

GENERAL: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 35% short, 65% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 30% short, 70% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 50% harvested. Last year 80% of the crop was harvested at this time, the 5 year average is 20% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 30% harvested. Last year 40% of the crop was harvested at this time, the 5 year average is 25%. **Potatoes** were reported as 10% harvested. Late blight has been reported in several more fields in the Mat-Su Valley. Second cutting of hay was reported as 60% complete statewide, however rain has hampered harvest in many areas. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting barley, oats, hay, potatoes and vegetables, weed control, baling straw, equipment repair, and preparing for grain harvest.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY August 22 – August 28, 2005		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	35%	30%
ADEQUATE	65%	70%
SURPLUS	0%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 08/22-08/29 MAT AES SITE: - 1.386		

TANANA VALLEY: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. **Topsoil and subsoil moistures** were both reported as 50% short, 50% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 50% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 30% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 5% harvested. A hard frost in the Delta Junction areas has killed many of the vines. Second cutting **hay** was reported as 75% complete. Rain late in the week hampered the hay harvest. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, oats, barley and vegetables, baling straw, weed control and equipment repair.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** as rains fell intermittently during the week. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 5% short, 95% adequate. **Small grain** harvest continues. **Potato** harvest was reported as 10% complete. Late blight was reported to have spread to more fields in the Valley; growers continue to spray or have harvested early to try and contain the disease. Second cutting **hay** remained at 25% harvested as rain fell throughout the week. **Farm activities** during the week included weed control, irrigation, cleaning seed, attending the State Fair and harvesting hay, potatoes, small grains and vegetables.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **5.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moistures** were both reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were reported as 10% harvested. Second cutting **hay** harvest was 80% complete. Some damage to the second cutting by rain was reported in the Homer area. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, potatoes and vegetables, as well as equipment maintenance.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) 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	52	59	56	53	57	54	69	39	1.88
Sawmill Creek	na	56	46	na	na	na	na	na	na
Plant Materials Center	56	na	51	51	na	54	na	na	na

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 August 22, 2005
 To: Sunday August 28, 2005

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 05 - August 28, 05			GDD		
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	67	39	53	-2	0.01	1	6.74	+1.42	46	1138	+225	2318
Fairbanks/Eiels	70	43	54	+0	0.17	2	7.10	+0.34	51	1226	+358	2421
Nenana_Muni_AM	71	39	53	+1	0.23	3	5.49	+0.26	44	1017	+235	2196
Ftgreely/Allen	67	36	53	-1	0.21	4	6.34	-1.54	47	923	+118	2076
Healy_River_Air	63	43	52	-2	0.45	7	9.16	+1.27	70	846	+199	1982
Gulkana_Arpt_A	66	29	50	-2	0.21	3	7.05	+1.45	49	577	+119	1645
Sutton	63	36	51	-3	1.30	6	11.07	+4.18	87	508	+34	1616
Palmer_Municipa	68	40	54	-1	1.26	6	8.56	+2.48	49	835	+217	2015
Talkeetna	68	35	53	-1	2.36	6	7.56	-3.78	60	962	+337	2113
Willow_Airport	66	42	56	+1	1.33	6	9.43	+3.66	83	1006	+382	2183
Anchorage_Intl	65	42	55	+1	1.42	6	4.59	-1.50	42	834	+212	1997
Kenai_Municipal	68	34	52	-1	0.60	5	4.62	-1.49	45	442	+86	1510
Homer	69	41	54	+2	0.16	6	3.25	-2.22	62	539	+228	1675
Kodiak	68	43	55	+1	0.10	3	21.78	+2.07	66	455	+117	1512

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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