

ALASKA CROP-WEATHER

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

USDA, NASS, Alaska Field Office
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GENERAL: Cool spring weather has kept field work to a minimum in most fields across the State. Planting of small grains, as well as most other crops, are on hold until soil temperatures and conditions improve. While there were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** little actual work was done. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 0% short, 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 100% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as zero to ten days behind normal. **Hay supplies** were rated as 15% short, 85% adequate. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 15% fair, 40% good, 45% excellent. The main **farm activities** for the week were preparing machinery, fence repair, ordering and spreading fertilizer. Many local greenhouses are now open for business.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY May 1 - May 7, 2006		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	0%	0%
ADEQUATE	90%	100%
SURPLUS	10%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 05/01 - 05/07 MAT AES SITE: +0.98		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **5.5 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 85% adequate, 15% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 100% adequate. **Hay supplies** for cattle were reported as 100% adequate, with horse quality hay being 10% short, 90% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 25% fair, 50% good, 25% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing machinery for fieldwork, fertilizing hay ground and waiting for conditions to improve.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. Hay fields were just beginning to green up. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% fair, 35% good, 60% excellent. Major **farm activities** during the week included preparing equipment and fertilizing hay fields. A few fields have had vegetables transplanted into them and a few fallow fields have been tilled. Many local greenhouses are open for business.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **3.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies** were reported at 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Hay supplies** were reported as 55% short, 45% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 20% fair, 50% good, 30% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, moving livestock to summer ranges and ordering fertilizer. A small amount of tillage and transplanting of vegetables also occurred in the Homer area.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip</u> (inches)
	2006	2005	2004	2006	2005	2004	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	32	32	39	41	43	41	57	29	0.00
Sawmill Creek	30	32	34	na	na	na	58	18	0.00
Plant Materials Center	34	40	38	na	35	39	54	29	0.00

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.com from NWS preliminary data

For the Period: Monday May 1, 2006
 To: Sunday May 7, 2006

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 06 - May 7, 06					GDD
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	58	25	42	-2	0.05	1	0.05	-0.02	1	0	+0	16
Fairbanks/Eiels	61	25	45	+3	0.01	1	0.01	-0.06	1	1	+1	40
Nenana_Muni_AM	58	19	41	-1	0.00	0	0.00	-0.01	0	0	+2	16
Ftgreely/Allen	55	24	42	-2	0.01	1	0.01	-0.06	1	0	-7	19
Healy_River_Air	52	21	42	+2	0.03	1	0.03	-0.04	1	0	+3	27
Gulkana_Arpt_A	52	19	38	-2	0.04	2	0.04	-0.03	2	0	+0	2
Sutton	54	23	41	-2	0.51	6	0.51	+0.37	6	0	+0	13
Palmer_Municipa	55	30	42	-2	0.00	0	0.00	-0.11	0	0	+0	18
Talkeetna	54	29	42	+0	0.32	3	0.32	+0.00	3	0	+2	15
Willow_Airport	54	30	42	-2	0.47	6	0.47	+0.36	6	0	+0	17
Anchorage_Intl	53	28	42	-2	0.16	1	0.16	+0.02	1	0	+0	18
Kenai_Municipal	54	25	41	-1	0.27	3	0.27	+0.06	3	0	+0	9
Homer	51	29	41	+0	0.23	5	0.23	-0.05	5	0	+0	10
Kodiak	46	27	39	-3	2.24	7	2.24	+0.84	7	0	+0	4

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