

ALASKA CROP-WEATHER

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension
Ag & Forestry Experiment Station



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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GENERAL: Temperatures, on average, were cooler than normal again last week. Planting of small grains and potatoes, as well as transplanting of vegetables was underway. There were **6.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 5% short, 85% 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 10% short, 90% adequate. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 5% poor, 15% fair, 50% good, 30% excellent. The main **farm activities** for the week were planting small grains, tilling fields, preparing machinery, fence repair, working cattle, ordering and spreading fertilizer. Many local greenhouses are now open for business.

| CROP WEATHER SUMMARY May 8 - May 14, 2006 | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 6.0 | | |
| CROP | TOPSOIL MOISTURE | SUBSOIL MOISTURE |
| SHORT | 5% | 0% |
| ADEQUATE | 85% | 100% |
| SURPLUS | 10% | 0% |
| PAN EVAPORATION FOR 05/08 - 05/14 MAT AES SITE: +0.852 | | |

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **7.0 days were suitable for fieldwork** last week. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 5% short, 80% adequate, 15% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 100% adequate. **Planting of barley** was reported as 20% complete. Planting of **oats** and **potatoes** has yet to begin. **Hay supplies** for cattle were reported as 100% adequate, with horse quality hay being 10% short, 90% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed as 5% poor, 25% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included planting barley, fertilizing hay ground, baling straw and preparing machinery. Frost is still reported in some fields in the Delta Junction area.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture** were reported at 100% adequate. **Planting of small grains and potatoes** was underway. Vegetables continued to be transplanted into fields. **Hay supplies** were reported as 5% short, 95% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% fair, 50% good, 45% excellent. Major **farm activities** during the week included fertilizing hay fields, preparing equipment, fence repair, cleaning up and tilling fields. Transplanting of vegetables continued and a few fields have been planted to small grains.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **3.0 days were suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Hay supplies** were reported as 45% short, 50% adequate, 5% surplus. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% poor, 15% fair, 50% good, 30% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, working cattle, applying fertilizer and waiting for fields to dry out.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

| | <u>Grass</u> | | | <u>Fallow land</u> | | | <u>Temperature</u> | | <u>Precip</u> <u>(inches)</u> |
|------------------------|--------------|------|------|--------------------|------|------|--------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | High | Low | |
| UAF-AFES, Trunk Road | 36 | 36 | 40 | 46 | 46 | 46 | 63 | 31 | 0.00 |
| Sawmill Creek | 37 | na | 36 | na | na | na | 68 | 23 | 0.15 |
| Plant Materials Center | na | 46 | 44 | na | 40 | 46 | 61 | 29 | 0.02 |

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 8, 2006
 To: Sunday May 14, 2006

| STATION | LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY | | | | | | May 1, 06 - May 14, 06 | | | | | GDD |
|-----------------|---------------------------|----|-----|---------------|-------|------|------------------------|-------|------|--------------|-----|------|
| | TEMPERATURE | | | PRECIPITATION | | | PRECIPITATION | | | GDD BASE 50F | | BASE |
| | HI | LO | AVG | DFN | TOTAL | DAYS | TOTAL | DFN | DAYS | TOTAL | DFN | TOT |
| Fairbanks_Intl | 64 | 31 | 46 | -1 | 0.01 | 1 | 0.06 | -0.12 | 2 | 0 | -2 | 63 |
| Fairbanks/Eiels | 63 | 32 | 47 | +1 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.01 | -0.18 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 95 |
| Nenana_Muni_AM | 64 | 27 | 44 | -2 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.08 | 0 | 0 | +2 | 46 |
| Ftgreely/Allen | 58 | 28 | 44 | -3 | 0.05 | 4 | 0.06 | -0.12 | 5 | 0 | -16 | 49 |
| Healy_River_Air | 61 | 34 | 45 | +2 | 0.10 | 1 | 0.13 | -0.06 | 2 | 0 | +3 | 63 |
| Gulkana_Arpt_A | 59 | 24 | 39 | -4 | 0.11 | 3 | 0.15 | -0.01 | 5 | 0 | +0 | 5 |
| Sutton | 59 | 27 | 42 | -2 | 0.30 | 6 | 0.81 | +0.53 | 12 | 0 | +0 | 34 |
| Palmer_Municipa | 62 | 32 | 45 | -3 | 0.03 | 1 | 0.03 | -0.22 | 1 | 0 | -5 | 53 |
| Talkeetna | 62 | 27 | 43 | -2 | 0.05 | 2 | 0.37 | -0.30 | 5 | 0 | +2 | 35 |
| Willow_Airport | 60 | 32 | 44 | -2 | 0.21 | 5 | 0.68 | +0.43 | 11 | 0 | +0 | 49 |
| Anchorage_Intl | 59 | 30 | 44 | -2 | 0.02 | 2 | 0.18 | -0.10 | 3 | 0 | -1 | 50 |
| Kenai_Municipal | 60 | 30 | 42 | -2 | 0.01 | 1 | 0.28 | -0.14 | 4 | 0 | +0 | 32 |
| Homer | 60 | 28 | 42 | -1 | 0.13 | 3 | 0.36 | -0.20 | 8 | 0 | +0 | 29 |
| Kodiak | 56 | 29 | 40 | -3 | 1.29 | 4 | 3.53 | +0.70 | 11 | 0 | +0 | 13 |

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