

# ALASKA CROP-WEATHER

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



NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

USDA, NASS, Alaska Field Office  
P.O. Box 799  
Palmer, AK 99645

**RELEASED:** May 19, 2008

**GENERAL:** There were **5.5 days suitable for fieldwork**, as fields dry up and planting is underway in many areas. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 50% planted; **oats** were reported as 30% planted. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as zero to ten days behind normal. **Hay supplies** were rated as 15% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. **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 and potatoes, transplanting vegetables, preparing machinery and spreading fertilizer.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY May 12 - May 18, 2008		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.5		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	0%	10%
ADEQUATE	100%	90%
SURPLUS	0%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 05/12 - 05/18 MAT AES SITE: -1.30		

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **6.5 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 10% short, 90% adequate. **Small grains** and canola were reported as over 50% planted. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short, 80% adequate, 10% surplus; with the surplus in good quality large round bales. **Livestock condition** was listed as 5% poor, 35% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included planting small grains and canola, field preparation and spreading fertilizer.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 5% short, 95% adequate. Planting of small grains and potatoes was underway. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% fair, 50% good, 45% excellent. Major **farm activities** during the week included planting small grains and potatoes, transplanting vegetables and spreading fertilizer.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** There were **no days was suitable for fieldwork last week** as farmers continued waiting for the ground to thaw and dry up. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was also reported as 100% adequate. **Hay supplies** were reported as 40% short, 60% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 10% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, 20% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, waiting to get into fields and ordering fertilizer.

## 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>
	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	37	41	40	47	47	47	59	31	0.00
Sawmill Creek	na	38	39	na	na	na	na	na	na
Plant Materials Center	na	43	41	na	na	na	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.com from NWS preliminary data

For the Period: Monday May 12, 2008  
 To: Sunday May 18, 2008

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 08 - May 18, 08 GDD					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F		BASE	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	68	31	49	+1	0.22	3	0.63	+0.36	8	13	+5	146
Fairbanks/Eiels	67	29	47	-3	0.06	1	0.62	+0.34	6	1	-7	100
Nenana_Muni_AM	66	33	49	+1	0.00	0	0.37	+0.24	4	3	+0	107
Ftgreely/Allen	62	32	47	-2	0.02	1	0.33	+0.04	5	1	-24	99
Healy_River_Air	60	34	47	+0	0.03	1	0.20	-0.08	5	3	+4	85
Gulkana_Arpt_A	59	24	42	-3	0.01	1	0.04	-0.21	2	0	+0	38
Sutton	61	30	44	-2	0.85	5	1.14	+0.73	11	0	-2	57
Palmer_Municipa	60	35	47	-2	0.00	0	0.00	-0.34	0	0	-10	94
Talkeetna	61	27	44	-3	0.07	1	0.14	-0.74	3	0	+1	62
Willow_Airport	57	34	47	+0	0.74	5	1.02	+0.68	11	0	+0	88
Anchorage_Intl	54	31	44	-3	0.04	1	0.13	-0.23	3	0	-6	62
Kenai_Municipal	59	32	44	-2	0.08	1	0.14	-0.40	3	0	+0	59
Homer	50	29	42	-2	0.86	5	0.89	+0.22	7	0	+0	45
Kodiak	51	29	40	-4	2.79	4	12.20	+8.52	15	0	+0	10

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Alaska Agricultural Statistics Service  
 PO Box 799  
 Palmer, AK 99645