

# ALASKA CROP-WEATHER

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



NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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**RELEASED:** August 11, 2008

**GENERAL:** There were **3.5 days suitable for fieldwork** as cool rainy conditions continued across most growing areas. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 65% adequate, 35% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 100% adequate. **Barley** was 5% ripe, mostly in the Fairbanks area. **Oats** were reported as 40% in dough. Condition of the barley crop was 30% fair, 45% good, 25% excellent. Condition of the oat crop was 25% fair, 60% good, 15% excellent. **Potatoes** were reported as 30% in bloom. Condition of the potato crop was 5% fair, 85% good, 10% excellent. **Hay** harvest was 70% complete statewide. Hay condition was rated as 20% poor, 30% fair, 50% good. **Crop growth** was rated 30% slow, 70% moderate. **Wind or rain damage** to crops was reported as 80% none, 10% light, 10% moderate. The main **farm activities** for the week were mowing hay, harvesting grass seed, weed control, general maintenance.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY August 4 -August 10, 2008		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 3.5		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	0%	0%
ADEQUATE	65%	100%
SURPLUS	35%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 08/04 - 08/10 MAT AES SITE: 0.206		

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **2.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 50% adequate, 50% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 5% ripe, mostly around Fairbanks. **Oats** were reported as 50% in dough. Condition of the barley crop was 30% fair, 45% good, 25% excellent. Condition of the oat crop was 30% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent. **Potatoes** were 20% in bloom. **Hay** harvest was 85% complete. Condition of hay was rated as 25% poor, 25% fair, 50% good. **Crop growth** was rated 30% slow, 70% moderate. **Wind or rain damage** was reported as 75% none, 10% light, 15% moderate. **Farm activities** for the week included moving hay, harvesting grass seed and preparing for grain harvest.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Potatoes** were 30% in bloom. **Hay** harvest was 55% complete. Condition of hay was rated as 10% poor, 35% fair, 55% good. **Crop growth** was rated 30% slow, 70% moderate. **Wind or rain damage** was reported as 90% none, 10% light. Major **farm activities** during the week included weed control, cutting hay, harvesting native grass seed and vegetables, general maintenance.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork last week**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 10% short, 90% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were 75% in bloom. **Hay** harvest was 60% complete. Condition of hay was rated as 20% poor, 35% fair, 30% good, 15% excellent. **Crop growth** was rated 80% moderate, 20% rapid. **Wind or rain damage** was reported as 50% none, 30% light, 15% moderate, 5% severe. Major **farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, general maintenance.

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

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip</u>
	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	High	Low	(inches)
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	58	62	58	55	59	60	65	39	.78
Sawmill Creek	na	53	53	na	na	na	na	na	na
Plant Materials Center	na	56	54	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 August 4, 2008  
 To: Sunday August 10, 2008

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 08 - August 10, 08 GDD					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks Intl	58	43	50	-9	1.37	7	8.63	+4.25	50	685	-137	1637
Fairbanks/Eiels	57	42	49	-10	1.20	5	12.42	+6.89	55	479	-299	1374
Nenana Muni AM	57	38	49	-10	1.57	6	9.01	+4.81	46	494	-212	1389
Ftgreely/Allen	63	37	49	-9	0.52	6	10.68	+3.90	50	428	-285	1317
Healy River Air	57	39	46	-11	0.61	6	5.09	-1.49	57	323	-253	1133
Gulkana Arpt_A	67	32	50	-5	0.33	4	5.78	+1.18	38	248	-146	1046
Sutton	61	34	49	-8	0.51	7	5.57	+0.15	68	166	-234	951
Palmer Municipa	66	41	53	-5	0.90	6	3.51	-1.28	30	343	-182	1261
Talkeetna	65	39	53	-5	1.00	4	6.19	-2.55	38	346	-193	1204
Willow Airport	64	42	55	-4	0.49	7	5.46	+1.17	61	430	-90	1342
Anchorage Intl	66	42	55	-4	0.45	2	4.83	+0.45	31	296	-224	1153
Kenai Municipal	68	36	53	-3	0.00	0	2.77	-1.80	35	234	-53	1029
Homer	64	39	53	-2	0.42	4	4.49	+0.39	37	125	-121	851
Kodiak	69	40	54	-3	0.40	2	32.23	+15.29	56	152	-102	837

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