

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
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RELEASED: August 25, 2008

GENERAL: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were also listed as 100% adequate. **Barley** was 5% ripe, with harvest underway in the Fairbanks area. **Oats** were reported as 60% turning color. 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 50% in bloom. Condition of the potato crop was 20% fair, 80% good. **Hay** harvest was 90% complete statewide; second cutting was just underway. Hay condition was rated as 20% poor, 30% fair, 50% good. **Crop growth** was rated 35% slow, 65% moderate. Most crops remain two or more weeks behind normal. **Wind or rain damage** to crops was reported as 85% none, 10% light, 5% moderate. The main **farm activities** for the week were harvesting hay and vegetables, weed control, preparing for small grain harvest, general maintenance.

| CROP WEATHER SUMMARY August 18 - August 24, 2008 | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.0 | | |
| CROP | TOPSOIL MOISTURE | SUBSOIL MOISTURE |
| SHORT | 0% | 0% |
| ADEQUATE | 100% | 100% |
| SURPLUS | 0% | 0% |
| PAN EVAPORATION FOR 08/18 - 08/24 MAT AES SITE: -0.454 | | |

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was also reported as 100% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 5% ripe, with harvest just beginning around Fairbanks. **Oats** were reported as 65% turning color. Condition of the barley crop was 30% fair, 45% good, 25% excellent. Condition of the oat crop was 30% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent. **Hay** harvest was 95% complete; second cutting was just underway on a limited basis. Condition of hay was rated as 25% poor, 25% fair, 50% good. **Crop growth** was rated 35% slow, 65% moderate. **Wind or rain damage** was reported as 90% none, 10% moderate. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay and preparing for grain harvest.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was also reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were 60% in bloom. **Hay** harvest was 80% complete. Condition of hay was rated as 15% poor, 35% fair, 50% good. **Crop growth** was rated 30% slow, 70% moderate. **Wind or rain damage** was reported as 95% none, 5% light. Major **farm activities** during the week included weed control, general maintenance; harvesting hay, native grass seeds and vegetables.

KENAI PENINSULA: There were **3.0 days suitable for fieldwork last week**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was also reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were 90% in bloom. **Hay** harvest was 80% complete. Condition of hay was rated as 25% poor, 35% fair, 25% good, 15% excellent. **Crop growth** was rated 75% slow, 25% moderate. Major **farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay and vegetables, general maintenance.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) 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 | 59 | 59 | 52 | 55 | 57 | 50 | 66 | 40 | .10 |
| Sawmill Creek | 49 | na | 50 | na | na | na | 67 | 32 | .33 |
| Plant Materials Center | 53 | 55 | 51 | na | na | na | 65 | 38 | .26 |

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 18, 2008

To: Sunday August 24, 2008

| STATION | LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY | | | | | | May 1, 08 - August 24, 08 | | | | | | GDD BASE 40F |
|-----------------|---------------------------|----|-----|---------------|-------|------|---------------------------|--------|------|--------------|------|------|--------------------|
| | TEMPERATURE | | | PRECIPITATION | | | PRECIPITATION | | | GDD BASE 50F | | | |
| | HI | LO | AVG | DFN | TOTAL | DAYS | TOTAL | DFN | DAYS | TOTAL | DFN | TOT | |
| Fairbanks_Intl | 70 | 42 | 57 | +3 | 0.35 | 1 | 9.73 | +4.57 | 54 | 797 | -105 | 1889 | |
| Fairbanks/Eiels | 69 | 38 | 54 | -1 | 0.14 | 2 | 13.48 | +6.93 | 62 | 554 | -303 | 1586 | |
| Nenana_Muni_AM | 68 | 37 | 54 | +1 | 0.04 | 1 | 9.64 | +4.56 | 52 | 580 | -193 | 1615 | |
| Ftgreely/Allen | 64 | 37 | 52 | -2 | 0.15 | 3 | 10.92 | +3.22 | 55 | 480 | -312 | 1506 | |
| Healy_River_Air | 64 | 34 | 50 | -5 | 0.10 | 2 | 5.59 | -2.08 | 64 | 362 | -276 | 1300 | |
| Gulkana_Arpt_A | 66 | 34 | 52 | -1 | 0.47 | 5 | 6.35 | +0.91 | 46 | 273 | -176 | 1209 | |
| Sutton | 64 | 39 | 52 | -2 | 0.24 | 3 | 6.42 | -0.18 | 78 | 206 | -258 | 1129 | |
| Palmer_Municipa | 65 | 42 | 55 | +0 | 0.14 | 2 | 3.74 | -2.09 | 36 | 427 | -178 | 1485 | |
| Talkeetna | 67 | 42 | 55 | +0 | 0.70 | 3 | 7.77 | -3.06 | 46 | 425 | -188 | 1423 | |
| Willow_Airport | 64 | 45 | 55 | -1 | 0.29 | 3 | 6.42 | +0.93 | 70 | 517 | -94 | 1569 | |
| Anchorage_Intl | 66 | 47 | 56 | +2 | 0.84 | 2 | 6.96 | +1.19 | 36 | 388 | -219 | 1385 | |
| Kenai_Municipal | 70 | 40 | 56 | +3 | 0.13 | 4 | 3.42 | -2.36 | 44 | 316 | -31 | 1251 | |
| Homer | 59 | 39 | 52 | -2 | 0.51 | 6 | 5.63 | +0.47 | 48 | 160 | -142 | 1024 | |
| Kodiak | 65 | 45 | 54 | -2 | 3.61 | 5 | 38.34 | +19.36 | 65 | 202 | -124 | 1027 | |

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