

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: September 22, 2008

GENERAL: There were **4.0 days suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 5% short, 95% adequate. **Barley** was 70% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 30% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 35% harvested. Second cutting **hay** was reported as 85% complete with most farms not getting a second cutting this year. **Winter supplies of hay** were reported as 45% short, 55% adequate statewide. **Range and pasture** condition was rated as 5% poor, 30% fair, 65% good. **Wind or rain damage** to crops was reported as 95% none, 5% light. The main **farm activities** for the week were harvesting small grains, potatoes, hay and vegetables and general maintenance.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY September 15 – September 21, 2008		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 4.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	0%	5%
ADEQUATE	95%	95%
SURPLUS	5%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 09/15 – 09/21 MAT AES SITE: -0.878		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 15% short, 85% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 70% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 35% harvested. **Potatoes** were reported as 50% harvested with lower than average yields being reported. Second cutting **hay** was reported as 95% complete; however, many farms will not get a second cutting. No **wind or rain damage** was reported. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting small grains, potatoes and hay, drying grain, baling straw and general maintenance.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **4.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were 25% harvested with lower than average yields being reported. Second cutting **hay** was reported as 80% complete, however, many farms will not get a second cutting this year. **Wind or rain damage** was reported as 90% none, 10% light. Major **farm activities** during the week included harvesting hay, native grass seeds, potatoes and vegetables and general maintenance.

KENAI PENINSULA: There were **4.0 days suitable for fieldwork last week**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were 10% harvested. Second cutting **hay** was 40% complete. **Wind or rain damage** was reported as 90% none, 10% light. Major **farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay and vegetables and 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	50	50	50	47	48	46	59	37	1.32
Sawmill Creek	na	na	43	na	na	na	na	na	na
Plant Materials Center	46	na	na	na	na	na	60	32	1.53

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 September 15, 2008
 To: Sunday September 21, 2008

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 08 - September 21, 08 GDD					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	60	31	46	+3	0.07	2	10.25	+3.91	62	871	-71	2216
Fairbanks/Eiels	60	32	44	+1	0.05	2	14.85	+6.89	70	573	-324	1832
Nenana_Muni_AM	57	30	43	+2	0.24	4	10.47	+4.39	61	621	-183	1882
Ftgreely/Allen	60	34	47	+5	0.00	0	11.10	+2.28	59	519	-336	1796
Healy_River_Air	54	30	43	+1	0.67	5	7.20	-2.08	79	410	-260	1578
Gulkana_Arpt_A	59	34	47	+5	0.24	4	7.99	+1.15	63	291	-194	1459
Sutton	55	36	47	+2	1.42	7	10.21	+0.68	105	230	-282	1387
Palmer_Municipa	60	37	49	+2	1.34	5	5.62	-2.64	52	509	-165	1833
Talkeetna	59	38	48	+4	1.27	6	11.09	-3.97	67	501	-161	1762
Willow_Airport	59	41	48	+2	1.52	7	10.22	+2.19	96	599	-58	1918
Anchorage_Intl	58	43	49	+3	1.51	5	9.88	+1.36	53	463	-218	1734
Kenai_Municipal	60	39	50	+5	1.25	5	6.71	-2.10	63	405	+6	1613
Homer	55	38	48	+2	1.34	6	8.89	+0.67	66	216	-142	1344
Kodiak	58	38	47	-2	1.33	6	46.68	+21.05	84	240	-150	1321

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