

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 4, 2009

GENERAL: There were **6.0 days suitable for fieldwork**, however little to no fieldwork was done due to soil moisture conditions and soil temperatures. Temperatures reached into the 70's in many locations last week and little precipitation was reported. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 5% short, 80% adequate, 15% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 5% short, 95% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as on schedule as warm temperatures helped to dry out and warm up fields. **Hay supplies** were rated as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 5% poor, 20% fair, 70% good, 5% excellent. The main **farm activities** for the week were preparing machinery, spreading fertilizer on dry fields, cleaning up hay fields, tilling a few fields. Many local greenhouses are now open for business.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY April 27 - May 3, 2009		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 6.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	5%	5%
ADEQUATE	80%	95%
SURPLUS	15%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 04/27 - 05/03 MAT AES SITE: 0.769		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**, although little field work was reported as farmers wait for fields to dry and thaw out. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 5% short, 70% adequate, 25% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 5% short, 95% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as on schedule. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Livestock condition** was listed as 5% poor, 35% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing machinery for fieldwork, cleaning seed and spreading fertilizer.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **6.5 days was suitable for fieldwork**, although little fieldwork was actually done. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as on schedule. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. Hay fields were beginning to green up in many areas. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 15% fair, 80% good, 5% excellent. Major **farm activities** during the week included preparing equipment, spraying fields and cleaning up hay fields. A few fields were tilled. Many local greenhouses are open for business.

KENAI PENINSULA: There were **2.0 days was suitable for fieldwork last week** as farmers were waiting for fields to dry out. **Topsoil moisture and subsoil moisture** were both reported at 100% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as on schedule. Major **farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment and ordering fertilizer.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

	<u>Grass</u>			<u>Fallow land</u>			<u>Temperature</u>		<u>Precip</u> <u>(inches)</u>
	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	32	na	34	45	na	45	71	28	0.10
Sawmill Creek	33	28	31	na	na	na	75	27	0.00
Plant Materials Center	40	na	37	na	na	na	72	27	0.00

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 April 27, 2009
 To: Sunday May 3, 2009

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 09 - May 3, 09					GDD BASE 40F
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	76	31	52	+12	0.00	0	0.00	-0.03	0	21	+21	51
Fairbanks/Eiels	75	31	51	+11	0.02	1	0.00	-0.03	0	12	+12	42
Nenana_Muni_AM	74	30	51	+12	0.00	0	0.00	+0.00	0	10	+12	40
Ftgreely/Allen	73	33	52	+12	0.01	1	0.00	-0.03	0	17	+14	47
Healy_River_Air	70	32	50	+12	0.05	1	0.00	-0.03	0	2	+3	31
Gulkana_Arpt_A	69	26	46	+9	0.00	0	0.00	-0.03	0	0	+0	25
Sutton	66	27	44	+4	0.03	1	0.00	-0.06	0	0	+0	25
Palmer_Municipa	73	31	48	+6	0.01	1	0.00	-0.03	0	8	+8	38
Talkeetna	68	27	44	+4	0.18	1	0.00	-0.12	0	0	+0	24
Willow_Airport	69	32	47	+6	0.06	2	0.00	-0.03	0	3	+3	33
Anchorage_Intl	66	33	46	+5	0.02	1	0.00	-0.06	0	1	+1	23
Kenai_Municipal	72	32	47	+8	0.04	2	0.00	-0.09	0	2	+2	29
Homer	57	28	42	+3	0.01	1	0.00	-0.12	0	0	+0	4
Kodiak	59	27	41	+0	0.02	1	0.00	-0.60	0	0	+0	3

For more weather information visit www.awis.com
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Alaska Agricultural Statistics Service
 PO Box 799
 Palmer, AK 99645

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