

# ALASKA CROP-WEATHER



NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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

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

**RELEASED:** August 24, 2009

**GENERAL:** There were **4.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 30% short, 70% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 15% harvested. **Oats** were 40% ripe. Condition of the barley crop was rated as 5% fair, 60% good, 35% excellent. Condition of the oat crop was rated as 10% fair, 60% good, 30% excellent. **Potatoes** were reported as 80% in bloom. Condition of the potato crop was 15% fair, 55% good, 30% excellent. **Second cutting of hay** was 15% complete. Condition of the hay crop was rated as 20% poor, 35% fair, 45% good. **Range and pasture** condition was reported as 20% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, 10% excellent. **Rate of crop growth** was reported as 60% slow, 40% moderate. **Wind or rain damage** was 95% none, 5% light. The main **farm activities** were harvesting hay, barley and vegetables, drying grain, and machinery maintenance

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY August 17 - August 24, 2009		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 4.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	10%	30%
ADEQUATE	90%	70%
SURPLUS	0%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 08/17 - 08/24 MAT AES SITE: 0.431		

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **3.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 15% short, 85% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 40% short, 60% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 15% harvested. **Oats** were 40% ripe. **Condition of the barley crop** was rated as 5% fair, 60% good, 35% excellent. **Condition of the oat crop** was rated as 10% fair, 50% good, 40% excellent. **Second cutting of hay** was 10% complete. **Condition of the hay crop** was listed as 20% poor, 40% fair, 40% good. **Rate of crop growth** was 75% slow, 25% moderate. **Wind or rain damage** was 95% none, 5% light. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay and grain, drying grain, baling straw, disking stubble.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 5% short, 95% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Potatoes** were reported as 80% in bloom. **Second cutting of hay** was 10% complete. **Condition of the hay crop** was listed at 25% poor, 25% fair, 50% good. **Rate of crop growth** was reported as 35% slow, 65% moderate. **Wind or rain damage** was 95% none, 5% light. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing for potato harvest, weed control, harvesting hay, grass seed and vegetables.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture** were both reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were 90% in bloom. **First cutting of hay** was 95% complete, second cutting was 70% complete. **Condition of the hay crop** was listed as 20% poor, 35% fair, 30% good, 15% excellent. **Rate of crop growth** was reported as 15% slow, 70% moderate, 15% rapid. No **wind or rain damage** was reported. **Farm activities** for the week were harvesting hay and vegetables, equipment maintenance.

## 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>
	2009	2008	2007	2009	2008	2007	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	57	59	59	56	55	57	66	38	0.35
Sawmill Creek	50	49	na	na	na	na	68	28	0.55
Plant Materials Center	na	53	55	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 17, 2009  
 To: Sunday August 23, 2009

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 09 - August 23, 09						GDD
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT	
Fairbanks_Intl	66	33	51	-5	0.14	2	3.30	-1.77	24	1056	+162	2121	
Fairbanks/Eiels	64	28	49	-7	0.48	3	5.98	-0.44	36	812	-37	1814	
Nenana_Muni_AM	66	32	49	-6	0.33	3	4.92	-0.04	31	852	+86	1879	
Ftgreely/Allen	65	31	50	-5	0.38	2	6.22	-1.37	33	855	+71	1878	
Healy_River_Air	63	30	49	-6	0.43	3	6.13	-1.41	54	689	+57	1680	
Gulkana_Arpt_A	66	36	51	-2	1.20	4	5.14	-0.19	41	571	+128	1576	
Sutton	63	39	52	-3	0.53	4	8.08	+1.64	62	396	-60	1397	
Palmer_Municipa	65	39	54	-3	0.19	4	1.62	-4.06	18	665	+70	1768	
Talkeetna	69	37	55	+0	0.22	3	7.46	-3.11	38	720	+115	1770	
Willow_Airport	64	39	56	-1	0.19	4	6.27	+0.95	54	899	+298	2013	
Anchorage_Intl	65	44	56	-1	0.02	2	3.50	-2.09	32	591	-6	1652	
Kenai_Municipal	69	36	53	-1	0.06	1	4.08	-1.55	30	434	+95	1463	
Homer	66	38	51	-3	0.13	1	3.57	-1.46	33	230	-64	1142	
Kodiak	66	44	55	+1	0.02	1	19.41	+0.56	52	297	-20	1219	

For more weather information visit [www.awis.com](http://www.awis.com)  
 or call 1-888-798-9955.

Copyright 2009: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc.  
 All rights reserved.

Alaska Agricultural Statistics Service  
 PO Box 799  
 Palmer, AK 99645