

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: May 3, 2010

GENERAL: There were **5.5 days suitable for fieldwork** last week, however most farmers were waiting for warmer, drier conditions. High temperatures were generally in the 60's and lows were still below freezing. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as less than a week ahead of schedule in most areas. **Hay supplies** were rated as 5% short, 95% adequate. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 5% poor, 15% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent. The main **farm activities** for the week were spreading fertilizer on hay and pasture land, tilling dry fields, preparing machinery. Planting of barley was underway in the Fairbanks area. Many local greenhouses are now open for business.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY April 26 - May 2, 2010		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 5.5		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
VERY SHORT	0%	0%
SHORT	0%	10%
ADEQUATE	90%	90%
SURPLUS	10%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 04/26 - 05/02 MAT AES SITE: not available (na)		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 85% adequate, 15% surplus. **Subsoil moisture supplies** were 15% short, 85% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as a week ahead of schedule. **Hay supplies** were reported as 100% adequate. **Livestock condition** was listed as 10% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included spreading fertilizer on hay and pasture land, tilling on drier soils, preparing machinery for fieldwork. Planting of barley was underway around Fairbanks.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 90% adequate, 10% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as a few days ahead of schedule. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. Hay and pasture fields were beginning to green up in many areas. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% fair, 90% good, 5% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, tilling a few dry fields, fertilizing hay and pasture land, cleaning up fields.

KENAI PENINSULA: There were **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork last week**. **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>
	2010	2009	2008	2010	2009	2008	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	41	32	na	41	45	na	64	29	0.06
Sawmill Creek	29	33	28	na	na	na	66	30	0.59+
Plant Materials Center	na	40	na	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 April 26, 2010
 To: Sunday May 2, 2010

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 10 - May 2, 10					GDD BASE 40F
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	71	28	49	+10	0.30	3	0.25	+0.23	2	0	+0	9
Fairbanks/Eiels	68	21	47	+7	0.84	3	0.51	+0.49	2	0	+0	7
Nenana_Muni_AM	69	20	46	+8	0.30	2	0.30	+0.30	2	0	+1	7
Ftgreely/Allen	65	30	45	+6	0.80	3	0.78	+0.76	2	0	-2	2
Healy_River_Air	70	21	46	+9	0.21	3	0.16	+0.14	2	0	+0	1
Gulkana_Arpt_A	61	23	40	+3	0.17	2	0.17	+0.15	2	0	+0	0
Sutton	64	28	43	+3	0.45	5	0.05	+0.01	1	0	+0	1
Palmer_Municipa	65	34	47	+5	0.03	2	0.03	+0.01	2	0	+0	6
Talkeetna	62	27	43	+4	0.06	1	0.00	-0.08	0	0	+0	2
Willow_Airport	61	28	44	+4	0.37	5	0.04	+0.02	1	0	+0	3
Anchorage_Intl	61	33	44	+4	0.01	1	0.01	-0.03	1	0	+0	4
Kenai_Municipal	60	32	45	+6	0.02	2	0.00	-0.06	0	0	+0	2
Homer	51	30	40	+2	0.06	4	0.01	-0.07	1	0	+0	0
Kodiak	45	27	39	-2	3.33	6	0.11	-0.29	2	0	+0	0

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