



# Alaska Crop Weather

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RELEASED: May 21, 2012

**GENERAL:** There were **6.5 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. High temperatures were generally in the 60's and lows were still below freezing. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 15% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as on schedule. **Barley** was reported as 55% planted. **Oats** were reported as 15% planted. **Potatoes** were reported as 15% planted. **Hay supplies** were rated as 5% very short, 10% short, 80% adequate, 5% surplus. **Pasture and range condition** was listed as 50% poor, 15% fair, 35% good. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 10% fair, 65% good, 25% excellent. The main **farm activities** for the week were seeding barley, oats and potatoes, spreading fertilizer on hay and pasture, tilling fields, equipment repair.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY		
May 14 – May 20, 2012		
Days Suitable for Fieldwork: 6.5		
Crop	Topsoil Moisture	Subsoil Moisture
Very Short	0%	0%
Short	15%	10%
Adequate	80%	85%
Surplus	5%	5%
Pan Evaporation*, UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd		1.423

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture** were both reported at 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. **Barley** was reported as 55% planted. **Oats** were reported as 15% planted. **Potato** planting was underway. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as on schedule. **Hay supplies** were reported as 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Livestock condition** was listed as 10% fair, 50% good, 40% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included spreading manure, seeding barley, oats and potatoes, spraying for weeds, managing new calf crop, equipment repair.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil and subsoil moisture** were both reported at 20% short, 80% adequate. Seeding of small grains was underway. **Potato** planting was 20% complete. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as on schedule. **Hay supplies** were reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 10% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included planting potatoes, spreading fertilizer, field preparation, irrigation.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** An average of **0.0 days was suitable for fieldwork last week** as farmers continue to wait for fields to dry out. **Topsoil moisture and subsoil moisture** were both reported at 100% adequate. **Fieldwork progress** was reported as on schedule. **Hay supplies** were reported as 60% very short, 30% short, 10% adequate. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, planning fieldwork.

### Soil Temperatures ( F<sup>o</sup> ) at 4 inch depth

	Grass			Fallow land			Temperature		Precip. (inches)
	2012	2011	2010	2012	2011	2010	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd	42	41	45	58	44	48	64	28	0.00
Sawmill Creek	35	32	33	na	na	na	66	22	0.00
Plant Materials Center	42	41	na	48	44	na	64	28	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 May 14, 2012  
 To: Sunday May 20, 2012

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 12 - May 20, 12					GDD
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F		BASE	40F TOT
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	
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Fairbanks Intl	67	29	47	-4	0.00	0	0.01	-0.30	1	6	-6	98
Fairbanks/Eiels	67	27	45	-6	0.01	1	0.04	-0.29	2	0	-12	68
Nenana Muni AM	67	27	45	-5	0.00	0	0.04	-0.11	2	1	-5	71
Ftgreely/Allen	63	29	44	-5	0.03	1	0.17	-0.18	2	0	-30	59
Healy River Air	63	28	43	-5	0.05	1	0.16	-0.18	5	0	-1	45
Gulkana Arpt A	61	25	41	-4	0.02	2	0.98	+0.69	9	0	-2	22
Sutton	58	30	42	-5	0.17	3	2.01	+1.54	12	0	-4	29
Palmer Municipa	64	30	45	-4	0.00	0	0.06	-0.32	3	1	-11	72
Talkeetna	63	28	45	-3	0.02	1	0.18	-0.81	6	0	-1	53
Willow Airport	62	33	46	-3	0.12	2	1.41	+1.03	8	0	+0	79
Anchorage Intl	61	32	45	-3	0.00	0	0.00	-0.40	0	0	-8	74
Kenai Municipal	57	29	42	-3	0.03	1	0.25	-0.35	5	0	+0	31
Homer	53	28	40	-5	0.00	0	0.62	-0.11	5	0	+0	8
Kodiak	53	29	40	-4	1.73	4	3.21	-0.89	12	0	+0	23

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