



# Alaska Crop Weather

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RELEASED: May 29, 2012

**GENERAL:** There were **6.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 10% short, 85% adequate, 5% surplus. **Barley** was reported as 95% planted; 55% emerged. **Oats** were reported as 80% planted; 30% emerged. **Potatoes** were reported as 70% planted. **Winter freeze damage** to grass fields was reported as 75% none, 20% light, 5% moderate. **Pasture and range condition** was listed as 10% poor, 35% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. **Condition of livestock** was listed as 10% fair, 70% good, 20% excellent. The main **farm activities** for the week were seeding barley, oats and potatoes, spreading fertilizer on hay and pasture, cultivating fields, equipment repair.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY		
May 21 – May 27, 2012		
Days Suitable for Fieldwork: 6.0		
Crop	Topsoil Moisture	Subsoil Moisture
Very Short	0%	0%
Short	5%	10%
Adequate	90%	85%
Surplus	5%	5%
Pan Evaporation*, UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd		0.118

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported at 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. **Barley** was reported as 95% planted; 55% emerged. **Oats** were reported as 80% planted; 40% emerged. **Potato** planting was 50% complete. **Pasture and range condition** was listed as 10% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. **Livestock condition** was listed as 10% fair, 50% good, 40% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included seeding barley, oats and potatoes, spraying for weeds, equipment repair.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 10% short, 90% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported at 20% short, 80% adequate. **Potato** planting was 85% complete. **Pasture and range condition** was listed as 5% poor, 35% fair, 60% good. **Livestock conditions** were listed at 5% fair, 80% good, 15% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included planting potatoes, small grains and vegetables, weed control, irrigation, equipment repair.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 25% short, 75% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported at 10% short, 90% adequate. **Pasture and range condition** was listed as 50% fair, 50% good. **Farm activities** for the week included fertilizing, spreading lime, seeding new areas, equipment conditioning.

### Soil Temperatures ( F<sup>0</sup> ) at 4 inch depth

	Grass			Fallow land			Temperature		Precip. (inches)
	2012	2011	2010	2012	2011	2010	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd	48	45	50	64	na	52	65	39	0.30
Sawmill Creek	41	34	39	na	na	na	69	28	0.49
Plant Materials Center	48	40	na	52	42	na	66	39	0.47

**\*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.

**Coming soon – NASS’s annual June surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of June, NASS will survey about 140,000 U.S. producers and visit 42,000 tracts of farm land to collect information. Responses to these surveys provide the foundation for estimates in the upcoming growing year and will first be released in the *Acres* and other reports on June 29. Watch for the survey and be sure to respond. Your information matters!**

Prepared By AWIS.com from NWS preliminary data

For the Period: Monday May 21, 2012  
 To: Sunday May 27, 2012

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 12 - May 27, 12 GDD					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	71	40	54	+1	0.58	3	0.59	+0.09	4	38	+4	197
Fairbanks/Eiels	71	33	53	+1	0.53	3	0.57	+0.02	5	27	-7	162
Nenana_Muni_AM	73	35	53	+2	0.24	1	0.28	+0.02	3	25	+2	163
Ftgreely/Allen	67	37	53	+2	0.57	3	0.74	+0.13	5	21	-32	148
Healy_River_Air	66	36	52	+2	0.26	3	0.42	-0.17	8	16	+4	129
Gulkana_Arpt_A	69	30	48	+1	0.23	5	1.21	+0.73	14	2	-7	77
Sutton	61	38	48	+0	0.14	4	2.15	+1.47	16	2	-9	89
Palmer_Municipa	66	40	51	+2	0.15	1	0.21	-0.35	4	15	-11	153
Talkeetna	67	36	52	+4	0.11	2	0.29	-1.12	8	16	+5	138
Willow_Airport	65	42	52	+3	0.12	2	1.53	+1.01	10	17	+10	165
Anchorage_Intl	63	43	51	+3	0.19	2	0.19	-0.40	2	15	-4	156
Kenai_Municipal	60	39	49	+3	0.11	4	0.36	-0.46	9	2	-5	95
Homer	54	36	46	+0	0.19	4	0.81	-0.13	9	0	-4	48
Kodiak	61	39	47	+2	0.88	6	4.09	-1.42	18	1	-6	73

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**Special Note**

**Coming soon - NASS's annual June surveys on crops and livestock.** In the first two weeks of June, NASS will survey about 140,000 United States producers and will visit 42,000 tracts of farm land to collect information. One of USDA's largest survey efforts, the responses will provide the foundation for estimates in the upcoming growing year. With both data collection and data release taking place over a span of only four weeks, the results will be available beginning on June 29 in the *Acreage* and other reports. **Farmers should watch for their survey and be sure to respond. Your information matters!**