



# Alaska Crop Weather

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**GENERAL:** There were **3.5 days suitable for fieldwork** last week as much of Southcentral Alaska saw heavy rains. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 20% short, 65% adequate, 15% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were listed as 20% short, 70% adequate, 10% surplus. **Barley** was reported as 100% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 90% harvested. **Second cutting hay** harvest was reported as 65% complete. **Potato** harvest was reported as 50% complete. **Winter supplies of hay** were rated 25% short, 65% adequate, 10% surplus. **Wind or rain damage** to crops was reported as 50% none, 20% light, 25% moderate, 5% severe. **Condition of range and pasture** was listed as 10% very poor, 15% poor, 30% fair, 45% good. The main **farm activities** for the week were harvesting hay, small grains, potatoes and vegetables, baling straw, equipment maintenance, preparing for winter.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY		
September 17 – September 23, 2012		
Days Suitable for Fieldwork: 3.5		
Crop	Topsoil Moisture	Subsoil Moisture
Very Short	0%	0%
Short	20%	20%
Adequate	65%	70%
Surplus	15%	10%
Pan Evaporation*, UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd		na

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 35% short, 65% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 40% short, 60% adequate. **Barley** was reported as 100% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 90% harvested. **Second cutting hay** was 97% complete. **Winter supplies of hay** were listed as 80% adequate, 20% surplus. **Potato** harvest was reported as 75% complete. **Wind or rain damage** to crops was reported as 30% none, 30% light, 30% moderate, 10% severe as hard wind caused damage to some crops. **Condition of range and pasture** was listed as 25% very poor, 25% poor, 30% fair, 20% good. **Farm activities** for the week included combining small grains, harvesting potatoes, baling straw and hay, baling and wrapping forage oats, equipment maintenance.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **2.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 75% adequate, 25% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Second cutting hay** harvest was 45% complete. **Potato** harvest was reported as 30% complete. **Wind or rain damage** to crops was reported as 85% none, 10% light, 5% moderate. **Winter supplies of hay** were listed as 30% short, 70% adequate. **Condition of range and pasture** was listed as 10% poor, 25% fair, 65% good. **Farm activities** for the week included waiting for the rain to stop; harvesting hay, small grains and vegetables; cleaning up after recent wind/rain storms; equipment maintenance.

**KENAI PENINSULA:** An average of **3.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported as 100% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was reported as 100% surplus. **Winter supplies of hay** were listed as 100% short. **Wind or rain damage** to crops was reported as 100% moderate. **Condition of range and pasture** was listed as 50% fair, 50% good. **Farm activities** for the week included waiting for the rain to stop, equipment maintenance.

## 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	na	51	52	na	50	50	na	na	na
Sawmill Creek	47	43	43	na	na	na	70	33	0.05
Plant Materials Center	50	48	46	46	46	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. na – not available.

Weather Summary For Alaska Agricultural Statistics Service  
 Prepared By AWIS.com from NWS preliminary data

For the Period: Monday September 17, 2012  
 To: Sunday September 23, 2012

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 12 - September 23, 12 GDD					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F		BASE	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
Fairbanks_Intl	67	29	49	+8	0.33	3	6.46	+0.06	51	956	+14	2207
Fairbanks/Eiels	69	27	50	+8	0.24	2	7.84	-0.20	55	784	-113	1991
Nenana_Muni_AM	66	30	50	+10	0.14	3	8.26	+2.14	50	806	+2	2039
Ftgreely/Allen	66	47	55	+14	0.09	1	6.60	-2.28	49	799	-58	2010
Healy_River_Air	64	35	48	+7	0.57	6	7.75	-1.63	77	574	-96	1765
Gulkana_Arpt_A	68	40	52	+12	0.25	3	6.62	-0.32	67	360	-125	1427
Sutton	60	41	48	+5	2.81	7	13.00	+3.27	97	300	-212	1467
Palmer_Municipa	64	42	52	+7	2.73	5	9.42	+1.00	64	555	-121	1835
Talkeetna	61	40	47	+4	6.23	7	18.50	+3.16	73	542	-120	1755
Willow_Airport	62	44	51	+5	3.15	7	12.97	+4.76	87	615	-42	1923
Anchorage_Intl	64	42	51	+6	3.19	7	10.73	+2.03	61	607	-76	1907
Kenai_Municipal	59	40	49	+5	4.72	7	13.06	+4.03	75	259	-141	1456
Homer	61	43	54	+8	2.96	7	10.36	+1.92	67	162	-198	1251
Kodiak	60	41	50	+3	4.27	7	19.95	-6.24	89	269	-122	1425

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