

ALASKA'S 2005 CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW

January & February – Temperatures were near to above normal across most of the state. Precipitation varied by location. January saw above normal snowfall in the Tanana Valley, but below normal in South Central. February had below normal precipitation in the Tanana Valley but above normal in South Central.

March – Warm weather dominated the state with average monthly temperatures being 3 to 9 degrees warmer than normal. Precipitation again varied by location, with the Tanana Valley reporting near normal precipitation but South Central reporting a 50% increase in precipitation.

April - The month started with lower than normal temperatures, had near normal temperatures by mid-month, then saw temperatures well above normal by month's end. Several record temperatures were set the last week of April with temperatures reaching into the seventies in both the Tanana and Mat-Su Valleys. Precipitation was below normal for much of the state.

May – Temperatures remained warm with mean monthly temperatures ranging from 2 to 7 degrees above normal across the state. Precipitation levels were above normal in the Tanana Valley and slightly below normal in South Central and on the Kenai Peninsula. By month's end the barley and oat crops were planted and were reported as 90% and 85% emerged, respectively. Potatoes were 65% planted and vegetables were being transplanted in the major growing areas.

June – Most the state experienced temperatures slightly above normal in June. Precipitation was close to normal South Central, Kenai and Delta Junction, but was above normal in the Fairbanks area. By month's end barley was reported as 20% headed, while oats were 60% in-boot. Potatoes were 65% emerged and the first cutting of hay was reported as only 15% complete.

July – The weather in July varied by location with the Tanana Valley reporting slightly cooler than normal temperatures and higher than normal

precipitation and South Central reporting above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. Barley was reported as 5% ripe by month's end; oats were 5% turning color and potatoes were 45% in bloom. First cutting of the hay harvest was nearly complete, with the second cutting already underway in the Fairbanks area.

August – Temperatures averaged above normal across most of the state. Conditions were dry in the Interior, which helped in the spread of wild fires to over 3.5 million acres by month's end. Precipitation finally came to the Interior during the latter part of the month. South Central experienced a higher than normal level of precipitation, particularly during the latter part of the month. Late Blight was reported in potatoes in the Mat-Su Valley during the second week of August. It spread to many fields in the area but did not harm potatoes in the Tanana Valley or on the Kenai Peninsula. A hard frost in the Delta Junction area the last week of the month killed many of the potato vines. By month's end 10% of the potato crop was harvested. Barley was 50% harvested and oats were 30% harvested. The second cutting of hay was reported as 60% complete.

September – Weather conditions were generally wetter and warmer than normal. The wet weather hampered the hay harvest across the state. By the end of the month the second cutting of hay was 70% complete. State wide the winter supplies of hay were reported as 5% short, 90% adequate and 5% surplus, with surplus supplies reported in the Delta Junction area. Barley was 95% harvested, while oats were 90% harvested. Potatoes were 60% harvested at month's end.

October, November & December - October was warmer and drier than normal for most growing areas. November, however, was generally colder than normal. Precipitation was slightly higher than normal in the Tanana Valley but lower than normal in South Central. December was generally warmer than normal across the state. Precipitation varied by location with the Interior and South Central being drier than normal.

ALASKA PRECIPITATION DATA (Inches)

Station	2005 Precipitation							2005 Snow	Average Precipitation 1/						
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
TANANA VALLEY															
Fairbanks Ap.	0.18	1.26	1.93	3.44	0.24	1.72	11.80	57	0.28	0.59	1.30	1.90	1.83	1.07	10.56
University Exp. Sta.	0.41	1.13	2.64	2.75	0.30	2.18	12.37	50	0.25	0.69	1.57	2.11	2.29	1.27	12.25
Eielson Field	0.34	1.15	3.69	3.49	0.77	2.13	na	35	0.34	0.75	1.71	2.49	2.28	1.40	13.01
Big Delta Ap.	0.02	0.95	2.64	2.18	1.16	1.42	9.71	na	0.24	0.88	2.31	2.64	1.98	1.09	11.37
MATANUSKA VALLEY															
Anchorage Ap.	0.16	0.29	0.81	1.03	3.44	4.57	15.91	62	0.53	0.66	1.01	1.87	2.66	2.72	15.79
Lazy Mountain	0.06	0.94	3.06	3.74	3.59	5.27	22.45	55	0.43	0.95	1.36	2.09	3.08	3.09	19.02
Matanuska Exp. Sta.	0.04	0.69	1.75	3.62	2.91	4.09	18.45	30	0.45	0.72	1.37	2.21	2.57	2.47	15.41
Sutton 2 E	2/	1.28	2.50	4.67	3.49	6.76	27.70	na	0.49	0.92	1.45	2.51	2.79	3.19	18.23
KENAI PENINSULA															
Homer Ap.	1.07	0.37	1.09	0.80	1.16	5.21	18.32	na	1.20	1.00	0.98	1.56	2.48	3.06	24.90
Kenai Ap.	1.76	0.56	1.58	1.15	1.40	6.04	18.68	na	0.76	0.92	1.21	1.91	2.62	3.33	19.33
OTHER AREAS															
Kodiak Ap.	4.36	7.29	5.64	2.94	5.56	4.00	74.73	40	5.40	5.69	5.64	4.16	4.56	7.53	77.38
Nome Ap.	0.32	1.06	0.86	1.63	2.92	4.85	16.53	73	0.69	0.72	1.08	2.16	3.33	2.48	16.03
McGrath Ap.	0.20	1.80	1.30	1.31	2.12	5.28	19.73	119	0.69	0.93	1.55	2.27	2.91	2.33	17.39
Juneau Ap.	2.94	0.89	3.00	5.25	6.58	9.92	74.02	79	2.89	3.45	3.11	4.34	5.36	7.38	57.23
Cold Bay Ap.	1.40	2.47	2.04	1.98	2.25	5.31	36.87	45	2.12	2.54	2.44	2.45	3.74	4.31	38.81

1/ Averages based on Historical records from 50 or more years of data, if available.

Source: Climatological Data Annual Summary (Alaska) published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

2/ More than five days data missing.

ALASKA TEMPERATURE DATA

Station	2005 Averages					Historical Averages 1/					Average No. of Freeze Free days 2/	Elevation in Feet
	Year	Jan	Apr	Jul	Sep	Year	Jan	Apr	Jul	Sep		
	Degrees										Days	Feet
TANANA VALLEY												
Fairbanks Ap.	29	-9	32	62	46	27	-10	31	62	45	115	436
University Exp. Sta.	28	-5	34	62	46	28	-7	31	61	45	94	475
Eielson Field	37	-10	35	63	48	26	-10	31	61	45	109	547
Big Delta Ap.	32	-1	35	60	47	28	-3	31	60	44	106	1,268
MATANUSKA VALLEY												
Anchorage Ap.	39	19	40	61	51	36	15	36	59	48	138	114
Lazy Mountain	38	18	38	58	47	35	16	35	57	45	105	728
Matanuska Exp. Sta.	39	17	41	61	50	36	13	37	58	48	111	150
Sutton 2 E	38	18	41	59	48	36	16	37	57	46	84	550
KENAI PENINSULA												
Homer Ap.	41	29	40	58	51	38	23	36	54	48	117	89
Kenai Ap.	38	17	38	50	58	34	12	34	55	47	101	86
OTHER AREAS												
Kodiak Ap.	42	37	40	57	50	41	31	38	55	50	140	111
Nome Ap.	28	12	15	52	45	27	6	19	51	42	79	13
McGrath Ap.	28	-8	26	62	48	26	-8	28	59	44	106	344
Juneau Ap.	43	25	44	56	51	41	24	40	56	50	140	12
Cold Bay Ap.	40	34	34	52	49	38	28	34	51	48	131	90

1/ Averages based on Historical records from 50 or more years of data, if available.

2/ Average based on historical records, number of years used varies by location from 18 to 85 years.

Source: Climatological Data Annual Summary (Alaska) published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

WEEKLY PAN EVAPORATION AND PRECIPITATION, 2002 - 2005 GROWING SEASON

Month/Week

	2002				2003				2004				2005			
	Evap	Total	Precip	Total												
May-Week 1	0.60	0.60	0.06	0.06	1.21	1.21	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.16	0.01	0.01	na	0.00	0.20	0.00
Week 2	0.09	0.69	0.33	0.39	0.16	1.37	0.35	0.35	1.12	1.28	0.01	0.02	0.93	0.93	0.20	0.40
Week 3	0.97	1.66	0.15	0.54	0.22	1.59	0.52	0.87	0.56	1.84	0.14	0.16	0.28	1.21	0.01	0.41
Week 4	1.30	2.96	0.00	0.54	0.75	2.34	0.02	0.89	0.77	2.61	0.20	0.36	0.54	1.75	0.36	0.77
June-Week 1	0.70	3.66	0.30	0.84	1.10	3.44	0.00	0.89	0.28	2.89	0.32	0.68	0.70	2.45	0.22	0.99
Week 2	0.54	4.20	0.26	1.10	1.31	4.75	0.01	0.90	0.99	3.88	0.07	0.75	0.54	2.99	0.58	1.57
Week 3	1.00	5.20	0.01	1.11	0.41	5.16	0.00	0.90	0.92	4.81	0.00	0.75	0.24	3.23	0.71	2.28
Week 4	0.74	5.94	0.17	1.28	0.62	5.78	0.10	1.00	0.52	5.32	0.15	0.90	0.98	4.21	0.36	2.64
Week 5	1.14	7.08	0.17	1.45	0.91	6.69	0.00	1.00	1.30	6.62	0.00	0.90	0.97	5.18	0.05	2.69
July-Week 1	0.54	7.62	0.18	1.63	1.09	7.78	1.09	2.09	0.38	7.00	0.11	1.01	0.63	5.81	0.48	3.17
Week 2	1.09	8.71	0.00	1.63	1.27	9.05	0.00	2.09	1.38	8.38	0.00	1.01	0.19	6.00	0.16	3.33
Week 3	1.20	9.91	0.38	2.01	1.22	10.27	0.00	2.09	1.46	9.84	0.00	1.01	1.14	7.14	0.01	3.34
Week 4	-0.30	9.61	0.81	2.82	0.12	10.39	0.58	2.67	0.75	10.59	0.39	1.40	0.19	7.33	1.04	4.38
August-Week 1	1.25	10.86	0.00	2.82	0.56	10.95	0.44	3.11	0.36	10.95	0.45	1.85	-1.02	6.31	1.94	6.32
Week 2	-1.38	9.48	1.93	4.75	1.04	11.99	0.05	3.16	na	10.95	0.00	1.85	0.47	6.78	0.31	6.63
Week 3	0.03	9.51	1.04	5.79	-0.70	11.29	1.08	4.24	1.07	12.02	0.00	1.85	0.91	7.69	0.00	6.63
Week 4	-1.26	8.25	1.45	7.24	0.16	11.45	0.58	4.82	1.05	13.07	0.74	2.59	0.03	7.72	0.02	6.65
Sept-Week 1	-0.10	8.15	1.06	8.30	0.17	11.62	0.28	5.10	0.03	13.04	1.63	4.22	-1.39	6.33	1.88	8.53
Week 2	-0.34	7.81	0.30	8.60	-0.30	11.32	0.01	5.11	0.19	13.23	0.28	4.50	-0.48	5.85	0.97	9.50
Week 3	0.07	7.88	0.18	8.78	0.02	11.34	0.61	5.72	0.47	13.70	0.00	4.50	1.02	6.87	2.03	11.53
Week 4	0.14	8.02	1.30	10.08	-0.60	10.74	0.02	5.74	0.43	14.13	0.34	4.84	-0.07	6.80	0.45	11.98
Week 5	-1.16	6.86	0.00	10.08	-0.50	10.24	0.41	6.15	-0.77	13.36	0.93	5.77	-0.61	6.19	0.95	12.93
Seasonal Totals		6.86		10.08		10.24		6.15		13.36		5.77		6.19		12.93

NOTE: Weekly evaporation and precipitation (in inches) data is collected and provided by UAF, Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, located on Trunk Road in Palmer, Alaska.