

Crop Progress and Condition



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National Agricultural Statistics Service

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For Week Ending: August 27, 2023

ALASKA: There were **4.2 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. Most potatoes have bloomed, and potato harvest preparations were in full swing. A strong weather system brought wind and rain to much of the state which caused flooding and wind that interrupted activities at the State Fair. Dry conditions were reported in Tanana Valley where the second cutting of hay was expected to be minimal due to slow regrowth from a prolonged dry and warm growing season.

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork.** Crop wind damage was reported. Drought slowed regrowth of hay which is reducing the harvest of second cuttings. **Crop rate of growth** was 50% slow, and 50% moderate. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting barley, hay, and peas, baling grass seed straw, preparing for grain harvest, CRP maintenance, fence construction, and general farm maintenance.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **3.0 days was suitable for fieldwork. Crop rate of growth** was 50% moderate and 50% rapid. Several fields were prepared for potato harvest. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting vegetables, field preparation, farm maintenance, and preparing for harvest.

KENAI: An average of **4.0** days was suitable for fieldwork. Crop rate of growth was 30% slow, and 70% moderate. Wet conditions persisted in Kenai. Mild wind damage was reported. Surplus topsoil and subsoil moisture increased to 50% from 0% the week before.

Soil Moisture -- Alaska

| | Very short | Short | Adequate | Surplus | |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | |
| Topsoil Moisture – State | 0 | 25 | 60 | 15 | |
| Tanana Valley | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | |
| Matanuska Valley | 0 | 0 | 75 | 25 | |
| Kenai | 0 | 0 | 50 | 50 | |
| Subsoil Moisture – State | 0 | 25 | 60 | 15 | |
| Tanana Valley | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | |
| Matanuska Valley | 0 | 0 | 75 | 25 | |
| Kenai | 0 | 0 | 50 | 50 | |

Soil Temperatures (F 0) at 4 inch depth

| | | Grass | | Fallow | | | Air Temperature | | Precipitation |
|---------------------------------|------|-------|------|--------|------|------|-----------------|-----|---------------|
| | 2023 | 2021 | 2020 | 2023 | 2021 | 2020 | High | Low | (inches) |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Sawmill Creek | 57 | 47 | 52 | NA | NA | NA | 75 | 40 | 0.06 |
| UAF - Matanuska Experiment Farm | 59 | 57 | 60 | 58 | 57 | 59 | 69 | 46 | 1.74 |

Pan evaporation ^{1/} UAF Matanuska Experiment Farm: 0.69

NA – not available.

Crop Progress -- Alaska

| | Percent completed | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|--|--|
| | This week | Last week | 2021 | 5 year Average 1/ | | |
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | | |
| Barley ripe | 60 | 40 | 53 | 52 | | |
| Barley harvest | 15 | NA | <5 | 5 | | |
| Oats ripe | 65 | 50 | 36 | 22 | | |
| Potato harvest | <5 | NA | <5 | 6 | | |

1/ excludes 2022

NA - not available.

Crop Condition -- Alaska

| | Very poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Barley | 0 | 15 | 20 | 55 | 10 |
| Oats | 0 | 10 | 25 | 60 | 5 |
| Potatoes | 0 | 5 | 10 | 80 | 5 |
| Hay | 5 | 25 | 20 | 50 | 0 |

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