



Crop Progress and Condition



National Agricultural Statistics Service

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250
Northwest Regional Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507
Alaska Field Office • Palmer, AK 99645
1-800-478-6079 • www.nass.usda.gov/ak

Released: August 18, 2014

ALASKA: There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture supplies were reported as 100% adequate. Subsoil moisture supplies were also reported as 100% adequate. Barley was reported as 40% turning color. Oats were reported as 5% turning color. First cutting of hay was 95% complete; second cutting was 5% complete. Condition of barley was reported 20% fair, 40% good, 40% excellent. Condition of oats was reported as 35% fair, 40% good, 25% excellent. Condition of all hay was reported 20% fair, 55% good, 25% excellent. Condition of potatoes was reported 65% good, 35% excellent. Condition of pasture was reported 15% fair, 70% good, 15% excellent. Wind and rain damage to crops was reported as 95% none, 5% light. The main farm activities for the week were harvesting hay and vegetables, weed control, preparing for grain harvest, farm maintenance.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY

August 11 – August 17, 2014

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: 5.5

Crop	Topsoil Moisture	Subsoil Moisture
Very Short	0%	0%
Short	0%	0%
Adequate	100%	100%
Surplus	0%	0%
Pan Evaporation ^{1/} UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd		0.87

TANANA VALLEY: An average of 5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were both reported as 100% adequate. Barley was reported as 40% turning color. Oats were reported as 80% in dough. First cutting of hay was 95% complete; second cutting was 15% complete. Condition of barley was reported 20% fair, 40% good, 40% excellent. Condition of oats was reported 30% fair, 40% good, 30% excellent. Condition of all hay was reported as 10% fair, 50% good, 40% excellent. Condition of potatoes was reported 60% good, 40% excellent. Condition of pasture was reported 5% poor, 25% fair, 50% good, 20% excellent. Wind and rain damage to crops was reported as 95% none, 5% light. Farm activities for the week included harvesting hay and vegetables, baling forage oats, preparing for grain harvest.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of 6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were both reported as 100% adequate. First cutting of hay was 90% complete. Condition of all hay was reported as 35% fair, 55% good, 10% excellent. Condition of potatoes was reported 70% good, 30% excellent. Condition of pasture was reported 10% fair, 80% good, 10% excellent. Wind and rain damage to crops was reported as 95% none, 5% light. Farm activities for the week included harvesting hay and vegetables, weed control, irrigation, farm maintenance.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of 5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil and subsoil moisture were both reported as 100% adequate. First cutting of hay was reported as 97% complete. Condition of all hay was reported as 100% good. Condition of pasture was reported 100% good. Wind and rain damage to crops was reported as 95% none, 5% light. Farm activities for the week included harvesting hay, farm maintenance.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

	Grass			Fallow land			Temperature		Precipitation (inches)
	2014	2013	2012	2014	2013	2012	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd	58	58	na	56	55	na	71	50	0.19
Sawmill Creek	56	54	55	na	na	na	78	34	0.70
Plant Materials Center	54	61	54	52	57	56	na	na	na

^{1/} 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.

Weekly Weather Statistics — Alaska: August 11 - August 17, 2014

Weather station	Air temperature				Last week precipitation		Season cumulative precipitation			Growing degree days		
	Hi	Low	AVG	DFN	Total inches	Days	Total inches	DFN	Days	Base 50		Base 40
										Total	DFN	Total
Fairbanks International.....	80	44	63	+7	0.15	2	11.11	+6.36	37	866	+4	1,903
Fairbanks-Eielson	78	41	60	+4	0.24	2	9.45	+3.45	27	609	-208	1,577
Nenana	77	45	62	+7	0.00	0	12.01	+7.41	37	682	-58	1,674
Fort Greely-Allen	75	46	60	+5	0.32	3	7.41	+0.20	41	606	-146	1,590
Healy River Airport	74	47	58	+4	0.18	3	6.68	-0.39	53	495	-112	1,474
Gulkana Airport	75	41	55	+2	0.20	5	4.86	-0.11	34	376	-45	1,378
Sutton	68	48	56	+1	1.40	7	9.55	+3.63	62	394	-36	1,410
Palmer	71	49	58	+3	0.16	5	5.12	-0.10	34	629	+67	1,698
Talkeetna	76	43	58	+2	0.61	3	7.63	-2.04	41	604	+29	1,641
Willow Airport	71	51	59	+2	1.01	7	8.94	+4.16	57	686	+122	1,757
Anchorage International	69	52	60	+4	0.53	6	7.46	+2.47	40	723	+162	1,795
Kenai.....	71	49	59	+6	1.13	5	8.22	+3.13	45	396	+81	1,353
Homer.....	69	52	60	+7	0.99	6	5.54	+0.98	47	488	+218	1,530
Kodiak.....	64	49	57	+2	3.08	7	15.44	-2.50	45	442	+155	1,440

Summary based on NWS data.

DFN=Departure from normal.

Precipitation days=Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Season cumulative precipitation total starts May 1, 2014.

For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

Copyright 2014: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc.

All rights reserved.

To receive this report via email each week subscribe at:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Alaska/Subscribe_to_AK_Reports/index.asp

If you would like to be taken off the mail list send an email to: suzan.benz@nass.usda.gov

USDA/NASS/Alaska Field Office
PO Box 799
Palmer, AK 99645