



Crop Progress and Condition



National Agricultural Statistics Service

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Released: September 2, 2014

ALASKA: There were 4.0 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture supplies were reported as 85% adequate, 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were reported as 100% adequate. Barley was reported as <5% harvested. Last year at this time 35% of the barley crop was harvested; the 5 year average is 25%. Oats were also reported as <5% harvested. First cutting of hay was 97% complete; second cutting was 10% 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 5% poor, 30% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Condition of potatoes was reported 55% good, 45% excellent. Condition of pasture was reported 5% poor, 15% fair, 65% good, 15% excellent. Wind and rain damage to crops was reported as 80% none, 5% light, 15% moderate. The main farm activities for the week were harvesting hay, forage oats and vegetables, weed control, preparing for grain and potato harvest, farm maintenance.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY

August 25 – August 31, 2014

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: 4.0

Crop	Topsoil Moisture	Subsoil Moisture
Very Short	0%	0%
Short	0%	0%
Adequate	85%	100%
Surplus	15%	0%
Pan Evaporation ^{1/} UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd		0.44

TANANA VALLEY: An average of 3.0 days was suitable for fieldwork. Continued cool, wet conditions are hampering hay harvest and slowing grain development. Topsoil moisture supplies were reported as 75% adequate, 25% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were reported as 100% adequate. Barley was reported as < 5% harvested. Oats were reported as 20% turning color. First cutting of hay was 98% complete; second cutting was 20% 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% poor, 30% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. Condition of potatoes was reported 50% good, 50% excellent. Condition of pasture was reported 10% poor, 30% fair, 40% good, 20% excellent. Wind and rain damage to crops was reported as 75% none, 25% moderate. Farm activities for the week included harvesting hay, forage oats and vegetables, preparing for grain and potato harvest.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of 5.5 days was suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture supplies were reported as 100% adequate. Subsoil moisture supplies were also reported as 100% adequate. First cutting of hay was 95% complete; second cutting was 5% complete. Small grain harvest was underway. Condition of all hay was reported as 35% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Condition of potatoes was reported 60% good, 40% excellent. Condition of pasture was reported 5% fair, 85% good, 10% excellent. Wind and rain damage to crops was reported as 90% none, 5% light, 5% moderate. Farm activities for the week included harvesting hay, vegetables, small grains and grass seed; killing potato vines, weed control, farm maintenance.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of 4.0 days was suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil and subsoil moisture were both reported as 100% adequate. First cutting of hay was reported as 100% complete. Condition of all hay was reported as 100% good. Condition of pasture was reported 10% fair, 90% 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	55	na	55	51	na	49	62	33	1.06
Sawmill Creek	49	51	51	na	na	na	67	26	0.28
Plant Materials Center	53	57	51	54	55	49	64	34	1.07

^{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 25 - August 31, 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.....	74	33	54	+2	0.36	5	11.53	+6.06	43	953	+31	2,123
Fairbanks-Eielson	73	30	52	-2	0.56	6	10.79	+3.85	38	668	-209	1,764
Nenana	72	32	52	+0	0.76	5	12.89	+7.51	46	759	-30	1,876
Fort Greely-Allen	64	33	50	-3	0.66	4	9.29	+1.26	49	667	-149	1,777
Healy River Airport	66	33	50	-2	0.58	6	7.61	-0.49	63	546	-108	1,652
Gulkana Airport	63	35	50	+0	0.32	2	5.98	+0.23	37	400	-65	1,535
Sutton	60	37	50	-3	1.45	7	11.28	+4.09	72	435	-48	1,587
Palmer	64	36	52	-2	1.02	5	6.25	-0.07	42	702	+72	1,909
Talkeetna	61	33	50	-3	1.38	5	9.02	-2.80	47	665	+31	1,836
Willow Airport	63	39	54	-1	1.52	6	10.56	+4.52	65	771	+136	1,982
Anchorage International	63	43	55	+2	1.71	6	9.18	+2.79	47	821	+187	2,033
Kenai.....	61	36	53	+1	1.48	6	9.82	+3.41	55	447	+82	1,542
Homer.....	64	42	57	+5	1.25	3	7.00	+1.24	51	582	+262	1,764
Kodiak.....	66	45	54	+1	0.64	3	16.88	-3.41	50	514	+165	1,652

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.

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