



Crop Progress and Condition



National Agricultural Statistics Service

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For Week Ending: September 27, 2015

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ALASKA: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. Temperatures last week ranged from two to eight degrees below normal and dipped into the teens in some locations. Most of the major growing areas had 2 to 3 days of precipitation. Snow fell across the Tanana Valley. **Wind and rain damage to crops** was reported as 96% none, 2% light, 2% moderate. **Winter supplies of hay** were reported as 30% short, 70% adequate.

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Barley** harvest was reported as 95% complete. Second cutting **hay harvest** was reported as 75% complete. Potato harvest was reported as 80% complete. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting barley and potatoes; baling straw, baling and wrapping haylage.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **4.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. Second cutting **hay harvest** was 60% complete. Potato harvest was reported as 80% complete. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, potatoes and other vegetables, hauling hay, working with cattle, general farm maintenance.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Farm activities** for the week included hauling hay, general farm maintenance and equipment repair.

Soil Moisture -- Alaska

	Very short (percent)	Short (percent)	Adequate (percent)	Surplus (percent)
Topsoil Moisture – State.....	0	0	95	5
Tanana Valley.....	0	0	100	0
Matanuska Valley.....	0	5	90	5
Kenai Peninsula.....	0	0	100	0
Subsoil Moisture – State	5	5	90	0
Tanana Valley.....	0	0	100	0
Matanuska Valley.....	10	10	80	0
Kenai Peninsula.....	0	0	100	0

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

	Grass			Fallow land			Temperature		Precipitation (inches)
	2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd.....	45	46	46	46	39	37	55	20	0.81
Sawmill Creek.....	38	na	na	na	na	na	43	18	0.15
Plant Materials Center.....	na	na	46	na	na	46	55	19	0.76

Pan Evaporation^{1/} UAF-AFES, Matanuska Experiment Farm, Palmer: 0.376

^{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.

Crop Progress -- Alaska

	Percent completed			
	This week (percent)	Last week (percent)	Last year (percent)	5 year average (percent)
Barley Harvested.....	95	na	95	97
Oats Ripe	55	na	95	93
Potatoes Harvest.....	75	na	84	76
Second Cutting Hay Harvested.....	65	na	72	82

na – not available

Weekly Weather Statistics — Alaska: September 21 - September 27, 2015

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.....	46	20	33	-7	0.61	2	8.79	+2.29	54	1,044	+104	2,317
Fairbanks-Eielson	47	16	33	-8	0.28	2	10.33	+2.17	62	818	-78	2,050
Nenana	44	21	36	-4	0.59	3	8.73	+2.55	54	1,007	+205	2,261
Fort Greely-Allen	43	23	34	-7	0.04	1	7.61	-1.37	51	860	+1	2,068
Healy River Airport	45	19	33	-7	0.40	2	10.77	+1.23	86	751	+81	1,965
Gulkana Airport	52	16	34	-6	0.06	1	6.69	-0.38	44	665	+180	1,880
Sutton	50	22	37	-7	0.28	3	12.51	+2.48	88	624	+112	1,877
Palmer	54	21	39	-6	0.84	2	6.63	-2.04	51	880	+203	2,218
Talkeetna	53	25	38	-6	0.21	2	12.32	-3.46	66	859	+197	2,157
Willow Airport	53	24	40	-6	0.32	2	11.19	+2.70	81	963	+306	2,313
Anchorage International	54	28	41	-5	0.34	2	9.70	+0.71	52	1,028	+344	2,367
Kenai.....	53	21	39	-5	0.14	2	8.92	-0.47	64	501	+101	1,720
Homer	54	27	42	-5	0.08	2	6.08	-2.73	57	632	+269	1,981
Kodiak.....	60	29	46	-2	0.03	2	16.38	10.88	71	722	+331	2,035

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, 2015.

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

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This will be the last Crop Weather Report for the year. The next report will be issued in May 2016.

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