



Crop Progress and Condition



National Agricultural Statistics Service

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For Week Ending: May 3, 2015

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ALASKA: There were **6.5 days suitable for fieldwork** last week although little fieldwork was actually done. Temperatures were generally above normal with only small amounts of precipitation in the major growing areas. **Progress of fieldwork** was reported as on schedule statewide. **Local hay supplies** were reported as 0% very short, 0% short, 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Condition of livestock** was reported as 0% very poor, 0% poor, 15% fair, 45% good, 40% excellent.

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Progress of fieldwork** was reported as on schedule. **Local hay supplies** were reported as 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Condition of livestock** was reported as 20% fair, 40% good, 40% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included fertilizing hay acreage in dry areas, cleaning seed grain, preparing equipment, fence repair, high tunnel and greenhouse planting/transplanting.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **6.5 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Progress of fieldwork** was reported as 1 day behind schedule. **Local hay supplies** were reported as 95% adequate, 5% surplus. **Condition of livestock** was reported as 10% fair, 40% good, 50% excellent. **Farm activities** for the week included preparing equipment, seed cleaning, fence repair, greenhouse and high tunnel work. A few small grain and vegetable fields were planted.

Soil Moisture -- Alaska

	Very short (percent)	Short (percent)	Adequate (percent)	Surplus (percent)
Topsoil Moisture – State	0	10	80	10
Tanana Valley.....	0	0	80	20
Matanuska Valley.....	0	20	70	10
Kenai Peninsula.....	na	na	na	na
Subsoil Moisture – State	0	10	80	10
Tanana Valley.....	0	0	80	20
Matanuska Valley.....	0	20	70	10
Kenai Peninsula.....	na	na	na	na

Soil Temperatures (F^o) at 4 inch depth

	Grass			Fallow land			Temperature		Precipitation (inches)
	2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd.....	37	32	31	42	42	34	61	31	0.22
Sawmill Creek.....	32	34	30	na	na	na	58	23	trace
Plant Materials Center.....	na	45	29	na	42	29	60	30	0.43

Pan Evaporation^{1/} UAF-AFES, Matanuska Experiment Farm, Palmer: 0.58 (4/29/15 – 5/3/15)

^{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: April 27 - May 3, 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.....	63	30	44	+4	0.00	0	0.00	-0.03	0	0	+0	10
Fairbanks-Eielson	62	23	41	-1	0.00	0	0.00	-0.03	0	0	+0	1
Nenana	62	23	41	+2	0.00	0	0.00	+0.00	0	0	+2	2
Fort Greely-Allen.....	56	27	41	+1	0.06	1	0.00	-0.03	0	0	-3	4
Healy River Airport.....	56	26	41	+3	0.11	3	0.07	+0.04	2	0	+1	2
Gulkana Airport.....	55	26	39	+2	0.05	2	0.01	-0.02	1	0	+0	2
Sutton	55	30	42	+2	0.23	4	0.02	-0.04	1	0	+0	5
Palmer	60	29	46	+4	0.14	3	0.02	-0.01	1	0	+0	18
Talkeetna.....	60	27	44	+4	0.29	4	0.12	+0.00	2	0	+0	12
Willow Airport.....	59	33	46	+5	0.18	5	0.04	+0.01	2	0	+0	16
Anchorage International	60	33	46	+5	0.05	2	0.00	-0.06	0	0	+0	14
Kenai	55	27	42	+3	0.27	1	0.00	-0.09	0	0	+0	2
Homer.....	56	33	45	+6	0.09	1	0.00	-0.12	0	0	+0	10
Kodiak.....	58	32	42	+3	1.74	5	0.61	+0.01	2	0	+0	1

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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