Crop Progress and Condition

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For Week Ending: September 13, 2015 **Released: September 14, 2015**

ALASKA: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. Temperatures last week ranged from one degree below normal near Fairbanks to 4 degrees above normal on Kodiak and in Talkeetna. Precipitation fell over most of the major growing areas with southcentral receiving the most rain. **Wind and rain damage to crops** was reported as 98% none, 2% moderate. **Winter supplies of hay** were reported as 25% short, 75% adequate.

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **6.0 days was suitable for fieldwork.** First cutting **hay harvest** was reported as 98% complete; second cutting was 40% complete. **Barley** harvest was reported as 30% complete. Potato harvest was reported as 15% complete. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting barley, oat/pea forage, potatoes and other vegetables, baling hay and straw.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **4.5 days was suitable for fieldwork.** First cutting **hay harvest** was winding down while second cutting was 40% complete. Potato harvest was reported as 20% complete. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay, small grains, potatoes and other vegetables, hauling hay, general farm maintenance.

KENAI PENINSULA: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. First cutting **hay harvest** was reported as 100% complete. **Farm activities** for the week included hauling and storing hay, general farm maintenance and equipment repair.

Soil Moisture -- Alaska

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil Moisture – State	5	0	90	5
Tanana Valley	0	0	100	0
Matanuska Valley	15	5	75	5
Kenai Peninsula	0	0	100	0
Subsoil Moisture – State	5	5	90	0
Tanana Valley	0	0	100	0
Matanuska Valley	15	5	80	0
Kenai Peninsula	0	0	100	0

Soil Temperatures (F ^{0}) at 4 inch depth

	Grass			Fallow land			Temperature		Precipitation (inches)
	2015	2014	2013	2015	2014	2013	High	Low	
UAF-AFES, Trunk Rd	51	56	53	48	52	43	62	36	0.61
Sawmill Creek	43	50	46	na	na	na	65	21	0.00
Plant Materials Center	na	51	na	na	52	na	63	34	0.06

Pan Evaporation[1/] UAF-AFES, Matanuska Experiment Farm, Palmer: 0.358

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	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley Harvested	30	5	44	57
Oats Ripe	25	5	67	67
Potatoes Harvest	20	10	14	20
First Cutting Hay Harvested	99	98	99	99
Second Cutting Hay Harvested	40	25	33	51

na – not available

Crop Condition -- Alaska

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Oats	0	10	50	40	0
Potatoes	0	0	35	50	15
Hay	0	10	40	40	10
Range and pasture	0	20	50	30	0

Weekly Weather Statistics — Alaska: September 7 - September 13, 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	66	32	49	+2	0.07	1	6.75	+0.73	46	1,044	+102	2,299
Fairbanks-Eielson	65	29	48	-1	0.27	3	8.95	+1.34	54	818	-79	2,034
Nenana	65	30	48	+2	0.04	2	5.96	+0.11	46	1,007	+203	2,250
Fort Greely-Allen	63	28	48	+0	0.01	1	7.42	-1.14	46	860	+13	2,058
Healy River Airport	63	31	47	+0	0.36	6	9.36	+0.52	78	751	+81	1,960
Gulkana Airport	65	30	49	+3	0.07	3	6.42	+0.02	39	665	+182	1,863
Sutton	60	37	49	+2	1.46	7	10.74	+2.15	79	624	+118	1,861
Palmer	63	39	51	+2	0.54	6	4.52	-2.95	43	880	+216	2,187
Talkeetna	63	33	52	+4	2.03	6	10.81	-2.99	59	859	+201	2,132
Willow Airport	62	39	53	+3	1.23	7	9.10	+1.87	72	963	+306	2,271
Anchorage International	62	39	52	+2	2.08	6	7.27	-0.42	45	1,028	+358	2,323
Kenai	61	39	51	+3	1.34	6	7.20	-0.63	56	501	+111	1,679
Homer	59	36	51	+2	0.83	6	4.80	-2.38	49	632	+283	1,938
Kodiak	64	46	54	+4	0.98	4	16.09	-7.27	66	703	+322	1,927

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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