

## **Crop Progress and Condition**



Released: August 29, 2023

## **National Agricultural Statistics Service**

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250 Northwest Regional Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507 Alaska Field Office • 907-745-4272

www.nass.usda.gov/ak

For Week Ending: August 27, 2023

**ALASKA:** There were **4.2 days suitable for fieldwork** last week. Most potatoes have bloomed, and potato harvest preparations were in full swing. A strong weather system brought wind and rain to much of the state which caused flooding and wind that interrupted activities at the State Fair. Dry conditions were reported in Tanana Valley where the second cutting of hay was expected to be minimal due to slow regrowth from a prolonged dry and warm growing season.

**TANANA VALLEY:** An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork.** Crop wind damage was reported. Drought slowed regrowth of hay which is reducing the harvest of second cuttings. **Crop rate of growth** was 50% slow, and 50% moderate. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting barley, hay, and peas, baling grass seed straw, preparing for grain harvest, CRP maintenance, fence construction, and general farm maintenance.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY:** An average of **3.0 days was suitable for fieldwork. Crop rate of growth** was 50% moderate and 50% rapid. Several fields were prepared for potato harvest. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting vegetables, field preparation, farm maintenance, and preparing for harvest.

**KENAI:** An average of **4.0** days was suitable for fieldwork. Crop rate of growth was 30% slow, and 70% moderate. Wet conditions persisted in Kenai. Mild wind damage was reported. Surplus topsoil and subsoil moisture increased to 50% from 0% the week before.

## Soil Moisture -- Alaska

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Topsoil Moisture – State	0	25	60	15	
Tanana Valley	0	50	50	0	
Matanuska Valley	0	0	75	25	
Kenai	0	0	50	50	
Subsoil Moisture – State	0	25	60	15	
Tanana Valley	0	50	50	0	
Matanuska Valley	0	0	75	25	
Kenai	0	0	50	50	

Soil Temperatures (F 0) at 4 inch depth

		Grass		Fallow			Air Temperature		Precipitation
	2023	2021	2020	2023	2021	2020	High	Low	(inches)
Sawmill Creek	57	47	52	NA	NA	NA	75	40	0.06
UAF - Matanuska Experiment Farm	59	57	60	58	57	59	69	46	1.74

Pan evaporation <sup>1/</sup> UAF Matanuska Experiment Farm: 0.69

NA – not available.

Crop Progress -- Alaska

	Percent completed					
	This week	Last week	2021	5 year Average 1/		
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)		
Barley ripe	60	40	53	52		
Barley harvest	15	NA	<5	5		
Oats ripe	65	50	36	22		
Potato harvest	<5	NA	<5	6		

1/ excludes 2022

NA - not available.

Crop Condition -- Alaska

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley	0	15	20	55	10
Oats	0	10	25	60	5
Potatoes	0	5	10	80	5
Hay	5	25	20	50	0

## **Access to NASS Reports**

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS website: <a href="https://www.nass.usda.gov/">https://www.nass.usda.gov/</a>
- ➤ Both national and state specific report are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <a href="https://www.nass.usda.gov">https://www.nass.usda.gov</a>. Hover over the "Publications" drop down. Under "Receive reports by Email" section in the lower right corner, select the report(s) you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800)727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.ET, or e-mail nass@usda.gov