

May 2009 Operations Report

May 12, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Glasscock (5) and Reagan Counties. 20 flares were burned within 2 clouds. An upper level impulse and dryline produced thunderstorms west of the target mid afternoon.

May 16, 2009 - A seeding operation was attempted over Tom Green (2) with a reconnaissance over Reagan Counties. 2 flares were burned within 1 small cloud. An upper level trough and cold front produced less than marginal seedable clouds over the target.

May 22, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Irion (9), Reagan (4), Schleicher (15), and Sutton (10) Counties. 38 flares were burned within 7 clouds. A shear axis centered over the target area produced showers and thunderstorms.

May 23, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Crockett (20), Irion (29), Reagan (24), Schleicher (17), Sterling (6), Sutton (12), and Tom Green (4) Counties. 112 flares were burned within 10 clouds. A shear axis centered over the target area produced showers and thunderstorms.

May 24, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Irion (8), Schleicher (8), Sterling (7), Sutton (2), and Tom Green (20) Counties. 45 flares were burned within 11 clouds. A shear axis centered over the target area and sufficient surface heating produced showers and thunderstorms.

May 25, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Glascock (8), Reagan (8), and Sterling (7) Counties. 42 flares were burned within 3 clouds. A surface trough over West Texas and sufficient surface heating produced a thunderstorm over Reagan County, traveling northeast.

May 26, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Glascock (93), Sterling (23), and Tom Green (17) Counties. 133 flares were burned within 8 clouds with multiple cells, which merged into one large cloud system. A surface trough, dryline, and upper level trough produced thunderstorms over the northern target.

May 28, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Crockett (6), Glascock (23), Irion (23), Reagan (3), Schleicher (15), Sterling (14), and Tom Green (14) Counties. 98 flares were burned within 9 clouds with multiple cells, many of which merged into a large cloud system. An upper level trough and surface heating produced seedable thunderstorms over the target.

May 30, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Crockett (22), Schleicher (4), and Sutton (13) Counties. 39 flares were burned within 9 clouds, some of which merged into one. Mainly surface heating, in combination with a surface perturbation caused seedable storms to develop along the southern border.

May 31, 2009 - Seeding operations were conducted over Glasscock (25), Reagan (26), and the Tom Green Panhandle (2). 53 flares were burned within 3 clouds, part of a large cloud system with multiple convective cells. Surface heating and a shortwave trough produced seedable storms over the western target. This is the tenth day for seeding in May and 14th day for seeding during the season.

The month of May contained 10 days of operations

Date	Flares	Counties seeded
12	20	Glasscock, Reagan
16	2	Tom Green
22	38	Irion, Reagan, Schleicher, Sutton
23	112	Crockett, Irion, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Tom Green
24	45	Irion, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Tom green
25	42	Glasscock, Reagan, Sterling
26	133	Glasscock, Sterling, Tom Green
28	98	Crockett, Glasscock, Irion, Reagan, Schleicher, Sterling, Tom Green
30	39	Crockett, Schleicher, Sutton
31	53	Glasscock, Reagan, Tom Green Panhandle
Total Flares: 582		

May 2009 began with a strong ridge presiding over Texas and the southern Plains with hot temperatures and dry conditions prevailing. A couple of seeding days during the middle of the month was normal while a period of rainy conditions during the memorial weekend kept pilots busy. A shear axis centered over central Texas on the 22nd of the month produced afternoon thunderstorms throughout the Memorial Weekend. A surface trough and sufficient surface heating continued to promote thunderstorms into the following week. A frontal boundary glided across Texas on the 26th enhancing the potential for seedable thunderstorms during the active week. Aforementioned frontal boundary surpassed the target overnight into the 27th leaving the target dry and a weak surface trough developed on the 28th providing another fair seeding day. Mother nature allowed for a dry day over the target on the 29th then a surface trough and surface heating combined with a developing low over the Desert Southwest during the last weekend in may giving two more very good seeding days.

Rainfall in May was very good over parts of the target area. Mathis Field in San Angelo received. Midland, Abilene, and San Angelo remain below annual normal. Thunderstorms veered away from San Angelo during the month. The number of seeding days was above normal this month. San Angelo received 0.12 inches in May and 7.00 this year. Midland received .45 inches in May, 1.56 inches for the year. Abilene received 3.28, 6.23 inches this month. Annual departures from normal are: Abilene -1.78, San Angelo -0.68, and Midland -2.49.

Monthly rain gauge measurements from nearest locations inside and out of the target area recorded either by the National Weather Service, Weatherbug Sites, Wunderground or Mesowest sites are provided.

NWS

0.12 Mathis Field
 3.28 Abilene
 2.55 Junction
 0.45 Midland
 0.75 Big Spring
 1.04 Sonora

Utah Mesonet

1.86 Barnhart
 1.28 Cox Ranch
 6.91 Ozona (15mi SSW)
 1.02 Iraan

Wunderground

4.75 Sterling City
 1.26 Mertzon

CocoRaHS

2.30 Eldorado
 2.07 Knickerbocker
 0.81 Ozona
 1.26 Iraan
 2.96 Garden City

Other

0.62 San Angelo (7NW)
 0.87 St. Lawrence
 1.25 Mertzon