

September 2008 Operations Report

September 23, 2008 - Seeding operations were attempted over Crockett (6) and Sutton (2) Counties. 8 flares were burned within 4 small clouds. Surface heating and a weak upper trough produced showers over the southern target.

September 24, 2008 - Seeding operations were attempted over Crockett (9) County. 9 flares were burned within 3 small clouds. Surface heating and a weak upper trough produced showers over the southern target. This is the second day for seeding in September and 38th day for seeding during the season.

The month of September contained 2 days of operations

Date	Flares	Counties seeded
23	8	Crockett, Sutton
24	9	Crockett
Total Flares: 17		

The general weather pattern for September began with high dominating West Texas. Subsidence was prominent over the region with drier air associated with northerly flow from remnant Hurricane Gustav. The second week began with a broad trough digging into the Plains and a second trough digging deeper into the western Rockies. Significant amounts of Gulf moisture were injected into West Texas during the second week with very good rainfall throughout the area; conditions were not seedable given typically low-stratiform cloud cover. Hurricane Ike moved into the western Gulf during the second week and made landfall at Galveston. Pacific Tropical Storm Lowell made landfall over Central Baja before Ike and dissipated over northern Mexico but continued to provide moisture for Texas. A strong cold front dove into Texas following Ike with limited rain but with very cool fall-like temperatures with high pressure retaining control for the following week. Surface high pressure and a ridge aloft continued to provide mostly sunny conditions through the last full week of the month while troughs moved over the northern Rockies and Plains. A brief increase and moisture and weak shortwave provided just enough instability to promote very marginal clouds during the last full week. A strong ridge over the Plains and Rockies persisted through the end of the month.

Totals at Midland and San Angelo rose above the monthly normal. The majority of rain occurred over one period of time around the 11th and 12th. Abilene remained above normal for the year receiving 21.10 through September, 2.79 inches above normal. San Angelo received 16.92 inches thus far, .62 inches below normal. Midland received 8.40 inches this year, 3.33 inches below normal.

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.

0.52	Grape Creek	2.01	Garden City	4.69	Sterling City
1.09	Eldorado	1.52	Sonora		
0.85	Eldorado	1.74	Big Spring		
2.03	McCamey	3.08	Ozona (15mi SSW)		
3.29	Barnhart	4.13	Iraan		
3.99	Mathis Field	7.09	Cox Ranch		
0.46	Junction	1.53	Mertzon		
2.51	Abilene	2.32	Mertzon		
2.16	Midland	1.97	Knickerbocker		