

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2013

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
----------	-----------	-------------------	---------------------	------------------------

TEXAS, South

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z251) KENEDY, (TX-Z252) STARR, (TX-Z253) HIDALGO, (TX-Z254) WILLACY, (TX-Z255) CAMERON, (TX-Z256) COASTAL WILLACY, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

01/01/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
01/14/13 23:59 CST	0	

For the first half of January, southwesterly flow above the earth's surface across Texas combined with colder air diving southward closer to the earth's surface to help produce prolonged cloud cover and a few rain events. A strong cold front moved through Deep South Texas on the first of the year, bringing cold temperatures and welcome rains to the drought stricken area. A developing low pressure formed just off the coast and allowed the below normal temperatures and light precipitation to continue through much of the first week of the month. The rain provided little relief to the extreme to exceptional drought conditions over Deep South Texas. Weekly rainfall indicated widespread amounts of a quarter to half an inch, with some areas receiving heavier amounts. An upper level disturbance moved through northern Mexico and into southern Texas on the 8th and 9th. The instability and moisture with this feature allowed for welcome rain to fall across portions of the Valley.

Two pronounced rain bands, one across Starr, Jim Hogg, and Brooks counties, and another across Cameron and Willacy counties, produced upwards of 1 1/2 inches of rain. For some locations, this was the average monthly rainfall, in just a couple of days. Unfortunately, Hidalgo and Zapata County missed most of the welcome rainfall during this period.

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z251) KENEDY, (TX-Z252) STARR, (TX-Z253) HIDALGO, (TX-Z254) WILLACY, (TX-Z255) CAMERON, (TX-Z256) COASTAL WILLACY, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

01/15/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
01/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

Dry conditions returned to Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley during the latter half of January as the pattern shifted from subtropical and tropical moisture overriding cooler surface air to a west-to-east pattern of drier air, and warmer temperatures, from the southern Rockies and Mexican mountain ranges. Along with dry conditions above normal temperatures prevailed across the region.

By month's end, rainfall was more than an inch above average across the Lower Valley, a trifle below average in the mid Valley, and a trifle above average in the upper Valley and ranchlands. A stripe of much below average fell across the Rio Grande Plains in western Zapata County, which missed nearly all of the action. Nearly all of the rain fell by January 14th.

(TX-Z255) CAMERON

01/29/13 12:17 CST	1K	Strong Wind (MAX 42 kt)
01/29/13 12:17 CST	0	

Strong winds buffeted all of the Rio Grande Valley and Deep South Texas behind a cold front that surged through early in the morning. Strong and gusty northwest winds peaked from mid-morning through shortly after 12 noon. The highest wind gust recorded over land was 48 mph, recorded in Brownsville at 1217 pm, by the Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) at the Brownsville/South Padre Island International Airport, and in Harlingen at 1052 am, by the ASOS at the Valley International Airport.