



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 1998

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

### TEXAS, South Panhandle

TXZ021>044

**Parmer - Castro - Swisher - Briscoe - Hall - Childress - Bailey - Lamb - Hale - Floyd - Motley - Cottle - Cochran - Hockley - Lubbock - Crosby - Dickens - King - Yoakum - Terry - Lynn - Garza - Kent - Stonewall**

<b>01</b>	<b>0000CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>450M</b>	<b>Drought</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>2359CST</b>				

Near-average precipitation returned to the South Plains area in December. However, the effects of this year's drought became better understood after year-end agricultural reports were completed. These reports, compiled by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M University, indicated that total crop damage may have been about \$450 million due to the drought across the Texas South Plains area in 1998. This figure is based on the total cash value of all crops in 1998, compared to the average of the same figure from 1996 and 1997.

Cotton is the dominant crop in this region, and not surprisingly, accounted for roughly 75% ( \$330 million) of the losses this year. Significant losses were also suffered in the corn (\$58 million), wheat (\$35 million), sorghum (\$18 million), and soybean (\$18 million) crops.