

## **National Weather Service** Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



**Drought** 

November 2000 Time Local/ Path Length Path Width Number of Estimated Persons Damage

## **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

01 30

Average to above average precipitation continued across the South Plains, the extreme southern Panhandle, and the Rolling Plains in November resulting in improving soil moisture conditions during the month. 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 across the Texas South Plains area may have been about \$515 million due to the drought in 2000. This figure is based on the total cash value of all crops in 2000, compared to the average of the same figure from 1998 and 1999.

Cotton is the dominant crop in this region of the state, and not surprisingly, it accounted for roughly 70 percent (\$365 million) of the losses this year. Significant losses were also suffered in the wheat (\$75 million), grain sorghum (\$40 million), and corn (\$15 million) crops. Added irrigation costs that were directly related to the drought were estimated at an additional \$20 million across the South Plains area this year.

TXZ021>024-027>030-032>036-039-041-043>044 Parmer - Castro - Swisher - Briscoe - Bailey - Lamb - Hale - Floyd - Cottle - Cochran - Hockley - Lubbock - Crosby -

Yoakum - Lynn - Kent - Stonewall

2300CST

1000CST **Heavy Snow** 1900CST

A strong cold front moved through much of West Texas on the 6th. An area of high pressure settled across the area behind the cold front on the 7th as an upper level disturbance moved into the southern Rocky Mountains. Ahead of this disturbance, warm and moist air was lifted over the shallow cold air mass that was already in place, resulting in widespread cloudiness and precipitation. The precipitation quickly changed to snow early in the morning on the 7th over the South Plains and the extreme southern Panhandle. Moderate to heavy snow continued through the day and eventually developed into the Low Rolling Plains during the afternoon and evening hours.

Widespread snowfall accumulations of four to six inches were reported across the extreme southern Panhandle and the South Plains. As much as eight inches of snow fell across portions of Swisher and Lamb Counties. Heavy snow also fell in a few locations east of the Caprock with four to five inches of snow reported in portions of Stonewall, Kent, and Cottle Counties. A prolonged period of warm weather prior to this event helped minimize the problems that are typically associated with such heavy snowfall as much of it melted on the warm road surfaces and thus caused few travel problems.