National Weather Service
Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

August 2005

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
TEXAS, South									
Hidalgo County									
Mc Cook	**31**	**1545CST**			**0**	**0**	**10K**		**Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)**
Willacy County									
Raymondville	**31**	**1550CST 1552CST**	**2**	**75**	**0**	**0**	**50K**		**Tornado (F0)**
Cameron County									
2 W Combes	**31**	**1612CST 1614CST**	**0.1**	**50**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**Tornado (F0)**
Cameron County									
Harlingen	**31**	**1630CST**			**0**	**0**			**Funnel Cloud**
Cameron County									
Harlingen	**31**	**1635CST**	**0.2**	**50**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**Tornado (F0)**
Hidalgo County									
Edinburg	**31**	**1713CST**			**0**	**0**	**10K**		**Thunderstorm Wind (EG65)**

Clusters of severe thunderstorms moved through the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas causing damage to numerous trees, utility poles, railroad equipment, and buildings extending from Raymondville to Harlingen to McCook and Edinburg.

The storms began to develop in the mid afternoon hours between 1 and 2 PM CST as the sea breeze boundary migrated westward from the Gulf of Mexico. Additional thunderstorms over northern Hidalgo and Starr counties began generating surface outflow boundaries near the original storm northeast of Raymondville. Of interesting note, several large dust devils had been observed by NWS meteorologists in Kenedy and Willacy counties in the early afternoon, suggesting that the surface air was quite unstable and sufficient rotation was available for tornadoes to form. As the outflow boundaries began to converge at Raymondville, the storm began producing severe wind gusts.

The tornado moved through Raymondville, Texas at 450 PM CDT, lasting about two minutes, while the entire storm lasted from 445 PM until about 530 PM. The tornado touched down near 6th Street and San Francisco moving southwest along the railroad track and Business 77. The director of emergency management in Raymondville was a witness to the tornado and relayed the report to the police department. The tornado dissipated at the southern end of town and appears to have been the only tornado to form out of this storm. Spotter reports and damage survey crews noted isolated damage along the path with several trees and buildings sustaining minor damage. Rail gate crossings were twisted and broken apart along with several utility poles that were snapped apart several feet above the ground.

Another tornado was reported just west of Combes, Texas. That tornado was short-lived and did not produce any damage. Elsewhere, reports of funnel clouds and a tornado were also received in Harlingen, Texas south of Raymondville. The tornado touched down in open farm land spinning up dust and some debris however no damage was reported with this twister.

Additional storms generated severe winds around McCook, TX where minor damage was sustained to barns and smaller structures. Several reports of broken trees (6-8 inches in diameter) were also noted. At the intersection of M Road and Schunior, in Edinburg, TX, a series of high tension power poles were snapped of 10 to 12 feet above the ground. Oddly, no other structures in the vicinity sustained damage and it appears that the damage was caused by straight line severe thunderstorm wind gusts.

Incidentally, several days prior to these severe thunderstorms, the Rio Grande Valley and northeast Mexico (state of Tamaulipas) had experienced record maximum temperatures ranging from 104 to 106 degrees Fahrenheit, due in large part to atmospheric subsidence caused by the effects of Hurricane Katrina.