

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2013

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

05/01/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
05/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

Little to no rain fell across the Rio Grande Valley and Deep South Texas during the first ten days of May. Widespread rains from late on the 10th through early on the 12th, with scattered rains through the 13th, would improve conditions by the May 14th Drought Monitor update.

The general lack of rainfall allowed for no improvement in drought conditions until then. However, the rainfall in late April prevented drought conditions from deteriorating across the region. Extreme (D3) to Exceptional (D4) drought conditions continued to blanket the area. Some areas, particularly extreme southeastern Starr through western Hidalgo County, and much of the Kenedy County King Ranch area, missed the significant rainfall and remained in Exceptional Drought through the entire month.

CAMERON COUNTY --- 4.7 WSW HARLINGEN [26.15, -97.77], 4.3 WSW HARLINGEN [26.16, -97.76]

05/11/13 03:30 CST	0	Heavy Rain
05/11/13 05:00 CST	0	Source: CoCoRaHS

Between 2.3 and 2.77 inches of rain fell in less than two hours on the west side of Harlingen, leaving ponded water in streets and fields and some nuisance urban flooding behind. The event, which occurred very early on a Saturday morning, had little impact with few people out.

WILLACY COUNTY --- 2.0 SSW RAYMONDVILLE [26.45, -97.79], 1.0 SSW RAYMONDVILLE [26.47, -97.79]

05/11/13 03:30 CST	0	Heavy Rain
05/11/13 05:00 CST	0	Source: CoCoRaHS

Around 2.5 inches of rain fell in less than two hours just southwest of Raymondville, leaving ponded water in streets and fields and some nuisance urban flooding behind. The event, which occurred very early on a Saturday morning, had little impact with few people out.

An upper level disturbance acted on unstable air across the Lower Rio Grande Valley, and resulted in redevelopment of a cluster of thunderstorms which earlier had dropped more than 1.5 inches of rain across the Rio Grande Plains. Between approximately 4 and 6 AM on May 11th, nearly 2.5 inches of rain fell near Raymondville, and nearly 3 inches fell on the west side of Harlingen.

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z252) STARR, (TX-Z254) WILLACY, (TX-Z255) CAMERON, (TX-Z256) COASTAL WILLACY, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

05/14/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
05/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

The combination of abundant low level moisture and a series of upper level disturbances moving across northern Mexico and Deep South Texas allowed for beneficial rains across the region. Areas of showers and thunderstorms affected the area from late on the 10th through the 15th. Rain activity ended as the upper level low pressure system tracked northeast, allowing drier air to filter into south Texas. Much of the area received rainfall amounts of 1 to 2 inches during the period, with heavier amounts of 2 to 4 inches occurring over portions of Zapata, Jim Hogg, coastal Kenedy and coastal Willacy counties. This rain provided much needed relief to ongoing Extreme to Exceptional drought conditions. Despite the rains, drought conditions improved only slightly. Drought conditions across Zapata and Jim Hogg counties were lessened one category from extreme to severe. Extreme Drought conditions extended across much of Starr, Brooks, Willacy, southeastern Hidalgo and Cameron counties. Exceptional drought continues across much of Hidalgo and Kenedy counties.

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z252) STARR

05/28/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
05/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

A few more rainfall events during the latter half of May allowed drought conditions continued to improve across the Rio Grande Valley and Deep South Texas through the end of the month. The most influential occurred on May 24th, when between 1 and 2.5 inches of rain fell near the Rio Grande in Starr through Zapata County, with a second stripe of 1 to 4 inches in much of Brooks County; some spots near Falfurrias 5 inches!

Drought conditions across Zapata and western Jim Hogg counties were lowered to Moderate (D1). Severe (D2) Drought conditions replaced Extreme (D3) levels across western Starr, eastern Jim Hogg and western Brooks counties. Extreme (D3) drought conditions covered eastern Brooks and replaced Exceptional (D4) levels there. Eastern Starr, and Cameron County also showed modest improvement.

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