

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - June 2009

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

06/01/09 00:00 CST	0	Drought
06/30/09 23:59 CST	0	

Welcome rains around and just after Memorial Day (May 27 and 28) helped begin the process to improve drought conditions across portions of Deep South Texas, beginning in early June and continuing through mid to late June. However, an area bounded by Brooks, Kenedy, and northern Willacy County saw limited rainfall and thus no relief, as Exceptional (D4) drought conditions held in these areas. Farther west, The June 2nd Drought monitor would drop Zapata County back to moderate (D1) levels, which would persist through the end of June before deteriorating later in the summer.

Impacts began to be felt by the end of the month across much of the region; these would intensify through the remainder of summer (August). Estimated dollar damages will be available with the August, 2009 Storm Data Drought summary.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 0.6 E HIDALGO [26.10, -98.26], 1.0 E (MFE) MILLER INTL ARP [26.17, -98.21]

06/01/09 13:25 CST	0	Hail (0.75 in)
06/01/09 13:40 CST	0	Source: County Official

Hidalgo County and McAllen City officials each reported penny size hail in southern Hidalgo County. The initial report, estimated around 225 PM CDT, was in the City of Hidalgo near the Rio Grande River; the second was near the McAllen/Miller Airport between 235 and 240 PM. The same cell produced a 52 mph (45 knot) wind gust at McAllen/Miller airport at 237 PM CDT.

Pea to dime size hail would continue in the vicinity of the McAllen Country Club, less than 2 miles east of Miller Airport, through at least 250 PM and perhaps until 300 PM as the parent thunderstorm stretched out along and just south of Federal Highway 83.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 2.1 SW SAN CARLOS [26.26, -98.11]

06/01/09 14:00 CST	0	Hail (0.88 in)
06/01/09 14:05 CST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

The Hidalgo County Emergency Manager reported penny to nickel size hail fell along East Wisconsin Road during another severe thunderstorm on June 1.

CAMERON COUNTY --- 6.3 NNE SANTA ROSA [26.33, -97.79]

06/01/09 14:16 CST	1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 53 kt)
06/01/09 14:19 CST	0	Source: Public

The public reported strong winds occurred during thunderstorms and blew down trees just south of Sebastian in extreme northern Cameron County.

CAMERON COUNTY --- SANTA ROSA [26.25, -97.83], HARLINGEN [26.18, -97.70]

06/01/09 14:30 CST	0	Heavy Rain
06/01/09 15:30 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

Clusters of thunderstorms dumped heavy rainfall across western Cameron County during the mid to late afternoon on June 1st. Measured rainfall between 2 and more than 4 inches fell at several locations, including 2.03 inches in Palm Valley and 2.33 inches near Harlingen. An unconfirmed report of nearly 4 1/2 inches was reported by local media near Santa Rosa, and 4 to 5 inches of standing water were reported along Harrison and Tyler in downtown Harlingen.

WILLACY COUNTY --- 3.4 WSW SAN PERLITA [26.48, -97.70], 4.0 NW SAN PERLITA [26.53, -97.70]

06/01/09 15:00 CST	0	Hail (1.75 in)
06/01/09 15:05 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

A trained spotter reported hail up to golf ball size in diameter during a thunderstorm which moved north between Raymondville and Perlita during the afternoon of June first.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 3.0 E WESLACO [26.17, -97.93]

06/01/09 16:30 CST	0	Hail (0.75 in)
06/01/09 16:33 CST	0	Source: Public

The public reported three quarters inch hail occurred during a rapidly developing thunderstorm during the early evening, just east of Weslaco.

The combination of weak upper level energy, abundant moisture, an unstable atmosphere, and the afternoon Gulf Coast sea breeze

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produced strong to severe thunderstorms across the Lower Rio Grande Valley on June 1st. Locally heavy rainfall and hail were reported in some areas.

(TX-Z255) CAMERON, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

06/02/09 00:00 CST	0	Drought
06/30/09 23:59 CST	0	

Rainfall from scattered to numerous thunderstorms across the Lower Rio Grande Valley between June 1st and June 3rd increased the soil moisture a little bit across Cameron County, resulting in a slight decrease in drought intensity for nearly all of June. Despite the early rains, dry weather through most of the month (except June 24th) along with strong winds maintained extreme (D3) drought across most of the county, with some slight improvement on the 30th west of Federal Highway 77.

BROOKS COUNTY --- 0.4 SE FALFURRIAS [27.23, -98.15], 2.7 W FALFURRIAS [27.22, -98.19]

06/03/09 16:30 CST	0	Heavy Rain
06/03/09 17:15 CST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

Minor flooding, with up to a foot of standing water, was reported by the Brooks County Emergency Management Coordinator during a slow moving thunderstorm that dumped torrential rain and large hail. The NWS Cooperative observer at the Hollywood Hunting Camp, just west of Falfurrias, reported 2.52 inches of rain with the storm.

BROOKS COUNTY --- 3.9 ENE FALFURRIAS ARPT [27.22, -98.06]

06/03/09 16:55 CST	5K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 53 kt)
06/03/09 16:55 CST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

The Brooks County Emergency Manager reported a roof blown off a house located approximately 5 miles east of Falfurrias from severe thunderstorm winds.

BROOKS COUNTY --- 1.1 ESE FALFURRIAS [27.23, -98.13]

06/03/09 16:59 CST	0	Hail (0.88 in)
06/03/09 17:05 CST	0	Source: Other Federal Agency

A border patrol reported nickel size hail one mile east of Falfurrias.

STARR COUNTY --- 3.2 WNW RINCON [26.53, -98.63], 2.1 NW RINCON [26.54, -98.61]

06/03/09 18:30 CST	0	Tornado (EF0, L: 1.43 mi , W: 30 yd)
06/03/09 18:33 CST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

The Starr County Emergency Manager reported seeing a funnel cloud touchdown briefly near the intersection of 755 and 490 just east of 755 and approximately 1/4 mile north of 490 near the city of Rincon. The Emergency Manager estimated the tornado was approximately 100 feet wide and touched down in the open on ranch land. No damages occurred during this event.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 5.2 ESE MC COOK [26.45, -98.32], 1.6 NNW LINDSAY GARDENS [26.30, -98.33]

06/03/09 19:10 CST	0	Funnel Cloud
06/03/09 19:22 CST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

The Edinburg Police Department reported that there were numerous reports from the public of funnel clouds from residents near Edinburg. Several photographs of shelf and mammatus clouds were sent to the NWS office, including an apparent wall cloud looking west from Edinburg.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 4.8 N LINDSAY GARDENS [26.35, -98.33]

06/03/09 19:20 CST	10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 53 kt)
06/03/09 19:22 CST	0	Source: County Official

A Hidalgo County official reported a roof blow off a small home at the intersection of 9 Mile Road and Moorefield Drive. Several Trees and power lines were down in the same area.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 2.1 NNW SHAYLAND [26.25, -98.30], 2.5 S SHAYLAND [26.18, -98.28]

06/03/09 19:27 CST	2K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 54 kt)
06/03/09 19:42 CST	0	Source: Public

The public reported two separate wind gusts of 52 and 54 knots when a mini supercell raced south southeast through the Palmhurst/Mission/Sharyland area during the evening of June 3rd. The wind gusts knocked down numerous live oak and other trees and large limbs as the storm passed through.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 3.1 ENE CHIHUAHUA [26.23, -98.37], 0.7 S MISSION [26.21, -98.32]

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	06/03/09 19:27 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	06/03/09 19:42 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media

Channel 12 (McAllen Cable Access Television) reported quarter size and perhaps larger hail fell during a thunderstorm in the city of Mission during the evening. Nickel size hail was reported a bit earlier by a resident 1 mile north of Palmview, as well as several large limbs being knocked down. The mini supercell raced south southeast, likely producing additional hail southeast of Mission. Most reports were received between 927 and 930 PM CDT.

HIDALGO COUNTY --- 0.7 S MISSION [26.21, -98.32], 1.2 SW SHAYLAND [26.21, -98.29]

06/03/09 19:42 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
06/03/09 19:45 CST		0	Source: Public

The public reported hail of approximately one inch in diameter continued falling as a severe thunderstorm raced through western Hidalgo County.

The combination of upper level energy diving southeast from the central Plains into the northwestern Gulf region with a dissipating front moving toward Deep South Texas triggered strong to severe thunderstorms across Brooks County, which quickly raced southward into Hidalgo and Starr County. These storms produced a combination of strong, locally damaging winds, hail, frequent lightning, and brief torrential rains during the early to mid evening hours. Funnel clouds and one tornado were noted.

One storm, a mini-supercell, showed significant rotation while moving into rural southwestern Brooks County. This storm evolved into a bow shaped event as it reached the populated portion of Hidalgo County from west of Edinburg through Mission. While it was possible that minor damage reported near Alton (north of McAllen) may have been from a small tornado touchdown, there were no visual confirmations at the time.

(TX-Z255) CAMERON

06/12/09 14:00 CST	1	0	Heat
06/12/09 16:00 CST		0	

Strong high pressure above the surface, combined with a weak front approaching North Texas, helped import higher than average surface dew points into the Lower Rio Grande Valley, along with air temperatures a few degrees above normal. Heat index values rose to 107 at the Harlingen/Valley Airport and 112 at McAllen/Miller Airport. While the value of 107 is just under local advisory criteria, conditions where a fatality occurred may have been closer to the 111 benchmark.

Direct Fatalities: M49OU

(TX-Z253) HIDALGO

06/23/09 00:00 CST		0	Drought
06/30/09 23:59 CST		0	

Locally heavy rains that affected Hidalgo and Starr County between May 24th and 28th, and again in June on the 1st and 3rd, knocked drought out of severe (D2) to extreme (D3) range and into moderate (D1) for the vast balance of the month. However, the intensifying heat, wind, and evaporation rates began to intensify drought once again across northern and eastern Hidalgo County toward the end of the month.

(TX-Z249) JIM HOGG

06/30/09 00:00 CST		0	Drought
06/30/09 23:59 CST		0	

Lack of significant rainfall since late May, combined with ample sunshine, gusty winds, lowering afternoon humidity, and high sun angle began increasing drought impacts once again across Deep South Texas. By June 30th, Exceptional Drought (D4) had spread into the eastern third of Jim Hogg County. Increasing drought levels would spread south and west across all of Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley through July and August.