



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



August 2003

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

01	0000CST	0	0	Drought
31	2300CST			

After receiving nearly twice the normal monthly rainfall for the month of June, most of the South Plains, extreme southern Texas Panhandle, and Rolling Plains experienced very dry conditions during the months of July and August. Based on cooperative observer reports across the region, rainfall deficits for the two month period were generally between 3.5 and 5.5 inches.

Although significant rainfall did finally fall on the last couple days of August, the previous days were almost completely devoid of significant rainfall. On August 22nd, the Lubbock International Airport received 0.12 inches of rain, which ended a stretch of 56 days without measurable precipitation. While the 56-day streak went down in the records as tying the 11th longest dry period in Lubbock since 1911, it was the longest such period during the summer months. Even with heavy rainfall in many areas on the 30th and 31st, the average rainfall for all stations was well below 50 percent of the normal monthly total.

In addition to the persistent dry weather pattern, West Texas also endured daytime temperatures that routinely soared well above seasonal averages during July and August. The daily high temperature measured near Paducah exceeded 100 degrees on 35 days during the two-month period and was as high as 113 degrees on August 8th. The monthly average temperature for the Lubbock International Airport in July was 2.7 degrees above normal and was 3.4 degrees above normal in August.

The combination of prolonged heat and lack of rain significantly stressed agriculture across the South Plains, extreme southern Panhandle, and Rolling Plains with dryland crops suffering the most. Much of the dryland cotton crop across the region was lost. More details, including rough estimates of crop damage, will be included in later months after the extent of the drought is better determined.

Lynn County
5 NE Wilson

22	1623CST	0	0	250K Hail(1.50)
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Bailey County
2 S Muleshoe

29	1725CST 1730CST	0	0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG52)
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The West Texas Mesonet station south of town measured a 60 mph thunderstorm wind gust.