



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



July 2006

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
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### TEXAS, South Panhandle

**TXZ021>026-029>032-035>038-041>044**     **Parmer - Castro - Swisher - Briscoe - Hall - Childress - Hale - Floyd - Motley - Cottle - Lubbock - Crosby - Dickens - King - Lynn - Garza - Kent - Stonewall**

<b>01</b>	<b>0000CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>135M</b>	<b>Drought</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>2359CST</b>					

Economical impacts from the long-term drought which began in late 2005 over the Southern Plains of the U.S. worsened over the extreme southern Texas Panhandle and the west Texas South Plains through the month of July. Extreme (D3) drought conditions were prevalent over the extreme southeastern panhandle by the end of the month, with severe (D2) drought conditions observed elsewhere east of the Interstate 27 corridor.

The agricultural portion of the region's economy was drastically impacted. Local farmers and agricultural officials reported increased losses in July, with 98% of the dryland cotton crops across the South Plains and southern Texas Panhandle failing to emerge. At least 670,000 acres of cotton were destroyed due to the lack of water during the month of July.

Additional cotton crops also were destroyed by drought related haboobs and other convectively triggered dust storms. At least 7,000 acres of drought-stressed crops were destroyed by a haboob on July 12th.

The drought also impacted many area ranchers. The lack of rain during the growing season resulted in poor hay crops. This caused the price of hay to exceed \$130 per ton; up from only \$80 per ton one year ago. Ranchers have had difficulty affording hay to feed the cattle, thus many head of cattle have been sold at very early ages resulting in lower selling prices.

#### **Terry County**

<b>10</b>	<b>1700CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>175K</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Thunderstorm Wind (EG57)</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>1730CST</b>					

**10 SSE Brownfield to  
15 SSE Brownfield**

Thunderstorms produced damaging winds near Union in southeastern Terry County during the early evening hours of the 10th. Severe gusts estimated up to at least 65 mph ripped the roof off of the Union School gymnasium, and scattered debris more than 125 yards downwind. Several irrigation pivot systems were overturned. A cotton module builder damaged heavy farm equipment when it was rolled over by the winds. A trailer house located at the intersection of Texas Highways 213 and 137 suffered severe roof damage. Damage estimates were \$175,000. No injuries were reported.

#### **Briscoe County**

<b>10</b>	<b>1750CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Thunderstorm Wind (MG51)</b>
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**7 ESE Silverton**

The University of Texas Tech West Texas Mesonet site near Silverton recorded a 59 mph wind gust as a severe thunderstorm propagated over eastern Briscoe County.

#### **Lamb County**

<b>10</b>	<b>1835CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Thunderstorm Wind (MG57)</b>
	<b>1840CST</b>					

**1 NE Amherst**

An isolated severe thunderstorm produced severe wind gusts up to at least 66 mph as measured by the University of Texas Tech West Texas Mesonet site near Amherst. The automated station was actually damaged and became inoperable during the storm, therefore the maximum wind gust is unknown.

July 10 Severe Thunderstorm Event Summary: Scattered thunderstorms developed over a large portion of the west Texas South Plains during the afternoon and evening hours of the 10th. The environment over the region was favorable for localized downbursts, and at least two such events were sampled by the University of Texas Tech West Texas Mesonet. A third damaging wind event resulted in approximately \$175,000 in damage in southeastern Terry County where two structures were heavily damaged.



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### TEXAS, South Panhandle

#### Dickens County

Spur

11      1924CST  
1935CST      0      2      300K      0      Thunderstorm Wind (MG83)



*Damage to buildings in downtown Spur following a destructive downburst that resulted in two injuries. Photo courtesy: Debbi Ball - Spur High School - provided by KAMC-TV.*

A severe thunderstorm produced extreme winds and resulted in extensive damage in Spur around 19:30 CST on the 11th. Local officials and media reported that "dozens" of homes and businesses were damaged, and that one family was left homeless and treated for injuries.

The Texas Spur newspaper reported that a mobile home was destroyed when the walls were "collapsed" by the winds. The family inside took shelter underneath a table inside the home, but two people present sustained injuries. The Spur Farmer's Co-Op Gin sustained extensive roof damage, and a gas pump canopy was blown a considerable distance downwind and caused secondary damage as the un-earthed skids accompanied the sailing debris.

The roof of a church suffered severe damage, and a city-owned maintenance barn was destroyed. Additionally, City Hall experienced damage, and a pivot irrigation system was destroyed.

Local officials and newspaper reports indicate that an automated weather station operated by a private utility company recorded a maximum wind gust of 91 mph at 19:24 CST.

#### Cottle County

1 NW Paducah

11      2010CST      0      0      25K      0      Thunderstorm Wind (EG57)

A severe storm near Paducah produced severe wind gusts that ripped an aluminum roof off of a structure and downed power lines and large trees. No injuries were reported.

July 11 Severe Thunderstorm Event Summary: A complex of severe thunderstorms resulted in damaging winds over the eastern South Plains and the Rolling Plains during the evening hours of the 11th. The most significant damage occurred in Spur (Dickens County) where numerous structures sustained serious damage and two persons were injured as extreme wind gusts were measured up to 91 mph. Another storm caused wind damage to a residence just northwest of Paducah (Cottle County). Additionally, minor structural damage was associated with storms in eastern Terry County late in the evening. Total damages across the area were estimated to be \$350,000 with at least three structures destroyed.



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### TEXAS, South Panhandle

TXZ021-037-040

**Parmer - Dickens - Terry**

11	2230CST				0	0	15K	0	<b>High Wind (MG63)</b>
12	0240CST								

Severe winds resulted in damage at an airfield east of Brownfield along U.S. Highway 380 during the late evening hours of the 11th. A hangar suffered moderate roof and structural damage from winds estimated to exceed 60 mph. Radar imagery suggested that the damaging winds were associated with a wake low that developed on the trailing edge of a linear convective complex.

The complex of previously severe thunderstorms decayed over the west Texas South Plains during the very early morning hours of the 12th. This dissipating convection resulted in at least two instances of heat bursts, as measured by the University of Texas Tech West Texas Mesonet. Severe gusts up to 72 mph were measured by the mesonet station near Spur (Dickens County). Another severe gust was recorded near Friona (Parmer County). Synonymous with wake low events, the winds were accompanied by a sharp rise in temperature and a drying of the surface dewpoint temperatures. No damage was reported.

TXZ034>035-040>042

**Hockley - Lubbock - Terry - Lynn - Garza**

12	1710CST				0	0	0	750K	<b>Dust Storm</b>
	1900CST								



*A classic haboob dust storm approaches a farm in southwestern Garza County. Photo courtesy of: Susan Cook - provided by KCBD-TV.*

**Hockley County**

6 NNW Ropesville

12	1725CST				0	0	0	0	<b>Thunderstorm Wind (EG52)</b>
	1730CST								

TXZ035

**Lubbock**

12	1730CST				0	0	0	0	<b>High Wind (MG62)</b>
	1755CST								

A complex of strong thunderstorms propagated southeastward over the southwestern South Plains region of west Texas during the late afternoon and early evening hours of the 12th. Strong outflow near these storms initially produced severe winds at Ropesville in southeastern Hockley County, as estimated by a Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet meteorologist. The outflow boundary, however, quickly evolved into a classic haboob dust storm and propagated eastward over a five county area south of Lubbock



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### TEXAS, South Panhandle

Wind gusts associated with the haboob reached severe levels at a number of Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet sites. The mesonet observation site near Wolfforth in southwestern Lubbock County recorded a gust to 71 mph. Radar, visual, and photographic observations suggested that the haboob became well separated from the parent convection

Local farmers and agricultural officials reported that while damage to cotton crops was extensive, it was notably less than that caused by the devastating haboob of June 22nd. This was attributed to the mature cotton plants in mid July that were resilient to the impact of wind-driven dust. Nonetheless, damage to the already drought-stricken cotton industry totaled at least \$750,000 with more than 7,000 acres lost.

**TXZ038**

**King**

<b>14</b>	<b>1600CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Wildfire</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>1000CST</b>					

Thunderstorms over drought-stricken land resulted in a lightning ignited wildfire that kept area fire departments fighting for nearly three days. A 3,500 acre wildfire began following a round of thunderstorms during the late afternoon and early evening hours of the 14th. The ongoing fire, fueled by triple digit heat and at least one instance of severe thunderstorm winds, raged through rangeland until it was extinguished by rain during the morning hours of the 17th. No property damage or injuries were reported.

**King County**

**10 WSW Guthrie**

<b>14</b>	<b>1725CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Thunderstorm Wind (MG50)</b>
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An isolated severe thunderstorm produced a microburst southwest of Guthrie. A Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site recorded a 58 mph wind gust. No damage was reported.

**TXZ026**

**Childress**

<b>22</b>	<b>1300CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Wildfire</b>
	<b>1900CST</b>					

A pair of large grass fires burned approximately 1,000 acres of rangeland across northeastern Childress County during the afternoon and evening hours of the 22nd. Dry air combined with triple digit heat, and the impact of the ongoing drought on fuel moistures, resulted in critical fire weather conditions. The fires threatened at least one building, but no damage or injuries were reported.

**Lubbock County**

**Lubbock Intl Arprt**

<b>28</b>	<b>1322CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Thunderstorm Wind (MG60)</b>
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An isolated severe thunderstorm developed south of Lubbock and moved north across the city. A 68 mph wind gust was recorded by the Automated Weather Observing System at the Lubbock International Airport. Wind speeds were likely less farther south, where only small limbs were broken off of trees in Lubbock. No significant damage was reported, but low visibilities in blowing dust made travel difficult for Lubbock motorists.

**Lynn County**

**Tahoka**

<b>28</b>	<b>1550CST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10K</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)</b>
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Another storm produced damaging winds and small hail in Tahoka. A local television station reported damage to video broadcast equipment and downed tents as severe thunderstorm wind gusts and dime size hail affected the community. The television network was preparing for a live broadcast when the storm struck. The winds were estimated to be in excess of 50 mph. No injuries were reported.

July 28 Severe Thunderstorm Event Summary: A pair of severe thunderstorms produced damaging wind gusts and small hail over the southern and central South Plains during the afternoon hours of the 28th. The most significant damage occurred in Tahoka (Lynn County) where a local television network was prepared for a live broadcast when the winds and hail struck. Damage was reported to broadcast video equipment, and several tents were destroyed.



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### TEXAS, South Panhandle

#### Hockley County

<b>Levelland</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1900CST 2100CST</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Flash Flood</b>
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Thunderstorms produced heavy downpours over parts of Hockley County during the evening hours of the 29th. Local newspaper reports indicated that rainfall totals ranged from a trace to more than 2.25 inches within an one hour period. The heavy rainfall rates and runoff resulted in flash flooding along Farm to Market Road 114 between College and Sherman Avenues. The driving surface became impassable and was temporarily closed by local officials. Event time is estimated

#### Terry County

<b>2 S Brownfield</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1835CST</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25K</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Thunderstorm Wind (MG57)</b>
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An isolated severe thunderstorm produced damaging winds near Brownfield during the evening of the 31st. A downburst resulted in 65 mph winds as measured by the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site near the city. At least three utility poles were snapped by the winds, and two circuits were damaged. Electrical service was knocked out to more than 125 customers through 03:00 CST on August 1st. A number of elderly residents were impacted by the power outage, and emergency officials provided generators to several who required oxygen breathing machines.