



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 2006

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Crops	Character of Storm
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------	---------------------------------	-------	--------------------

TEXAS, South Panhandle

TXZ024>026-030>032-036>038-042>044 **Briscoe - Hall - Childress - Floyd - Motley - Cottle - Crosby - Dickens - King - Garza - Kent - Stonewall**

01	0000CST								
05	2359CST				0	0	0	9.4M	Drought

The severe to extreme long-term drought conditions that began in late 2005 over much of the Southern Plains of the U.S. were alleviated during the first week of September over the west Texas region. Severe (D2) drought conditions were observed during the first weeks of September over the far eastern South Plains, the extreme southeastern panhandle, and the Rolling Plains regions of west Texas. Widespread rains associated with the remnants of the Eastern Pacific Hurricane "John" during the Labor Day weekend (September 1st through the 3rd), however, provided enough soaking rains to downgrade long-term drought conditions to Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate (D1) across the entire region per the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Local farmers and agricultural officials, however, continued to note losses through early September. Many area newspapers reported that an estimated 70,000 acres of cotton crops were lost through the early days of the month. These losses were generally from acreage classified as having a low-yield potential due to hardships suffered through the growing season. Milo, peanut, and pumpkin crops also were notably stressed, but the timing of recent rains was thought to be beneficial for these sectors of the local agricultural industry.

Many area ranchers continued to sell cattle pre-maturely due to continued drought-related hardships. 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.

The impact of the long-term drought on the local economy in 2006 has been estimated to exceed \$230 million. Drought event end-time was estimated based on updates from the U.S. Drought Monitor and the occurrence of widespread rainfall.

Hockley County
4 S Levelland to
Anton

02	0130CST								
	1300CST				0	0	50K	0	Flash Flood

Widespread rains affected much of the South Plains region of west Texas during the Labor Day weekend, when elevated moisture streamed northeastward from the remnants of Hurricane "John" in the Eastern Pacific. A cold front also pushed south across the region, and provided for prolonged rains in a moist upglide regime. Storm total rainfall amounts through the weekend over Hockley County ranged from 6.75 inches at Anton, 8.00 inches at Whitharral, and 3.80 inches at Ropesville. Although most of the rainfall was light to moderate, runoff was aggravated by a swath of locally heavy rainfall that resulted in flash flooding over portions of central and northern Hockley County early on the 2nd.

The Levelland & Hockley County News-Press reported that the Texas Department of Transportation closed numerous roadways across the northern half of the county during the early morning hours of the 2nd. Barricades were erected along stretches of U.S. Highway 385 south of Levelland due to flowing flood waters. In addition, portions of Texas Highway 114, and Farm to Market Roads 2130, 168, and 1490 were inundated by flood waters.

Reports indicated that no motorists were threatened by the flooding, but several secondary roadways were washed out by flowing water.

Lamb County
5 S Olton to
1 W Spade

05	1600CST								
	1625CST				0	0	0	650K	Hail(0.88)

A swath of large hail, likely wind-driven, resulted in extensive agricultural damage over eastern Lamb County during the late



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 2006

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Crops	Character of Storm
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------	---------------------------------	-------	--------------------

TEXAS, South Panhandle

afternoon hours of the 5th. The initial reports of hail were received at 16:00 CST, when nickel sized hailstones accompanied damaging thunderstorm winds five miles south of Olton. The hail reportedly accumulated on the ground at that location.

Local newspapers and agricultural agents reported that the swath of hail damaged cotton and milo crops along the storm's southward path from south of Olton to near Spade, generally along Farm to Market Road 168. Crops in the vicinity of Hart Camp were hardest hit, with all leaves and bolls stripped from plants across a three mile wide stretch. The damages incurred by local farmers from the storm were described as "devastating", with more than 5,000 acres likely destroyed

Lamb County

5 S Olton to
6 S Olton

05	1602CST 1607CST	0	0	0	0				Thunderstorm Wind (MG56)
----	--------------------	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	---------------------------------



Severe thunderstorm winds uprooted twenty-one large evergreen trees along Farm to Market Road 168 south of Olton on the afternoon of the 5th. Photo courtesy: Martin Hernandez - Olton Community News.

A severe thunderstorm wind gust up to 64 mph was recorded at the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site six miles south of Olton. A National Weather Service cooperative observer and the local newspaper reported that the winds uprooted twenty-one large evergreen trees approximately five miles south of the city. The damaging winds were accompanied by large hail. No property damage was reported.

Lamb County

2 NNW Spade

05	1625CST	0	0	75K	0				Thunderstorm Wind (EG57)
----	---------	---	---	-----	---	--	--	--	---------------------------------

An irrigation center pivot was destroyed by severe thunderstorm winds just northwest of Spade

Hockley County

3 WNW Anton

05	1646CST	0	0	0	0				Hail(1.00)
----	---------	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	-------------------

A storm chaser reported quarter size hail along U.S. Highway 84. No damage was reported.

Hockley County

Anton

05	1648CST	0	0	10K	0				Thunderstorm Wind (EG50)
----	---------	---	---	-----	---	--	--	--	---------------------------------

Local officials reported that severe thunderstorm winds downed utility poles in Anton. No structural damage was reported.

Hockley County

6 E Levelland

05	1730CST	0	0	100K	0				Thunderstorm Wind (EG65)
----	---------	---	---	------	---	--	--	--	---------------------------------

Law enforcement officials reported that severe thunderstorm winds destroyed a 20 x 40 foot horse barn east of Levelland. No injuries were reported.



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 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
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

TEXAS, South Panhandle

September 5 Severe Thunderstorm Event Summary: An isolated supercell thunderstorm developed over the extreme southwestern Texas Panhandle, and tracked southward over the northwestern South Plains during the afternoon hours of the 5th. The storm resulted in damaging hail and winds. Hail damage to area cotton and milo crops was extensive, with at least 5,000 acres destroyed. Localized winds likely exceeded 75 mph, with at least one large structure destroyed. Total damages were estimated at \$835,000.

Cottle County

10 SW Paducah	10	1420CST 1430CST			0	0	0	0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG58)
----------------------	-----------	----------------------------	--	--	----------	----------	----------	----------	---------------------------------

The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site located ten miles southwest of Paducah measured a 67 mph thunderstorm wind gust as a severe storm affected portions of southwestern Cottle County. The severe winds were accompanied by large hail. The storm remained over rural portions of the county, however, and no damage was reported.

Cottle County

10 SW Paducah to 6 S Paducah	10	1429CST 1436CST			0	0	0	0	Hail(1.75)
---	-----------	----------------------------	--	--	----------	----------	----------	----------	-------------------

Numerous reports of large hail were received from rural areas of southwestern Cottle County around 14:30 CST on the 10th. Initial reports indicated that large hail that ranged in size from quarters to golfballs accompanied severe thunderstorm winds ten miles south of Paducah at 14:29 CST. The swath of hail continued along the storm's path to near U.S. Highway 83 south of Paducah, where penny size hail was reported at 14:36 CST. No significant damage was reported.

Cottle County

5 SW Paducah to 7 SSW Paducah	10	1532CST 1730CST			0	0	75K	0	Flash Flood
--	-----------	----------------------------	--	--	----------	----------	------------	----------	--------------------

Flash flooding was reported over parts of southwestern Cottle County, where very intense downpours associated with a slow moving high-precipitation supercell and runoff caused high water to flow over several highways. Flood waters were initially reported at 15:32 CST, when high water inundated the intersection of Farm to Market Road 2278 and County Road 233 five miles southwest of Paducah. By 16:15 CST, flood waters flowed over a stretch of U.S. Highway 83 seven miles south-southwest of Paducah. A stretch of that major highway, several hundred yards in length, was closed due to flood waters. A portion of the highway was under construction, and some damage occurred to the temporary driving surfaces. Initial reports that a bridge had been washed out were false. No injuries were reported.

September 10 Severe Thunderstorm Event Summary: An isolated high-precipitation supercell thunderstorm developed near a cold front and surface trough triple-point over the extreme southeastern Texas Panhandle. The storm tracked southeastward across portions of rural Cottle County, and produced large wind-driven hail up to the size of golfballs. A wind gust up to 67 mph also was recorded by a Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet station. Exceptionally heavy rainfall from the slow moving storm resulted in flash flooding along several major roadways, including U.S. Highway 83 south of Paducah.

Yoakum County

12 E Plains to 14 ENE Plains	11	1855CST 1905CST			0	0	0	150K	Hail(1.00)
---	-----------	----------------------------	--	--	----------	----------	----------	-------------	-------------------

Local farmers reported that large hail up to the size of quarters damaged cotton crops along a swath from U.S. Highway 82/380 east of Plains to the Yoakum and Terry County line northwest of Tokio. Newspaper articles reported that the hail knocked leaves off of many cotton plants.

Terry County

5 NNW Tokio to 5 N Tokio	11	1900CST 1915CST			0	0	0	100K	Hail(1.00)
-------------------------------------	-----------	----------------------------	--	--	----------	----------	----------	-------------	-------------------

A severe thunderstorm propagated eastward out of Yoakum County around 19:00 CST. Local farmers reported that large hail up to the size of quarters damaged cotton crops along a swath from the Yoakum and Terry County line northwest of Tokio, to five miles north of Tokio. Newspaper articles reported that the hail knocked leaves off of many cotton plants.



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 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
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

TEXAS, South Panhandle

Bailey County

3 S Needmore to
Needmore

11	1925CST 1930CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(1.00)
----	--------------------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

Multiple reports of large hail that ranged in size from nickels to quarters were received from the Needmore vicinity just before 19:30 CST. The severe storm that impacted the Needmore area was a left-moving (anticyclonic) supercell. Although reports indicated that motorists along Texas Highway 214 encountered hail, no damage was reported.

September 11 Severe Thunderstorm Event Summary: At least two severe hail storms affected parts of the western South Plains of west Texas during the early evening hours of the 11th. These storms produced hail up to the size of quarters. Some area cotton crops were damaged.

Lamb County

5 S Springlake to
Olton

14	1610CST 1644CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(1.00)
----	--------------------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

A severe thunderstorm tracked northeastward from near Springlake to Olton. Multiple reports of large hail that ranged from penny to quarter size were received along the storm's path. Nickel size hail was initially reported five miles south of Springlake along U.S. Highway 385 at 16:10 CST. A motorist on U.S. Highway 70 reported quarter size hail west of Olton at 16:30 CST. Hail up to the size of pennies was reported in Olton at 16:44 as the main core of the storm passed just northwest of the city. No significant property or agricultural damage was reported.

Castro County

4 SSW Hart

14	1720CST 1725CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(0.88)
----	--------------------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

Local farmers reported that a second severe storm produced nickel size hail along the Castro and Lamb County line between Hart and Olton shortly before 17:30 CST. No significant damage was reported.

Lamb County

8 N Olton

14	1720CST 1725CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(0.88)
----	--------------------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

Local farmers reported that a second severe storm produced nickel size hail along the Castro and Lamb County line between Hart and Olton shortly before 17:30 CST. No significant damage was reported.

September 14 Severe Thunderstorm Event Summary: Scattered thunderstorms affected the western South Plains and the extreme southern Texas Panhandle during the late afternoon hours of the 14th. At least two storms became severe, and produced large hail up to the size of quarters. No damage was reported.

Hale County

6 N Plainview

15	1800CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(1.00)
----	---------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

Motorists along Interstate 27 north of Plainview encountered quarter size hail. The report was relayed by the local broadcast media

Swisher County

16 ENE Tulia

15	1820CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(0.88)
----	---------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

The public reported nickel size hail in rural portions of northeastern Swisher County.

Hockley County

4 SE Anton

15	1842CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(0.88)
----	---------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

A severe thunderstorm occurred over central Hockley County during the 18:00 CST hour. Skywarn Spotters reported nickel size hail along U.S. Highway 84 just southeast of Anton as the left-moving (anticyclonic) member of a storm-split moved north-northeastward.

Hale County

Abernathy to
4 W Petersburg

15	1938CST 2010CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(1.00)
----	--------------------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

The right-moving (cyclonic) member of the Hockley County storm produced large hail up to the size of quarters as it moved



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 2006

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

eastward over northern Lubbock County and southern Hale County.

Lubbock County
2 N New Deal to
7 N New Deal

15	1938CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(1.00)
----	---------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

The right-moving (cyclonic) member of the former Hockley County storm produced hail ranging in size from pennies to quarters as it moved eastward over northern Lubbock County and southern Hale County.

Terry County
4 W Wellman

15	2055CST 2100CST				0	0	0	0	Hail(0.75)
----	--------------------	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	------------

A local broadcast media storm chaser reported three-quarter inch diameter hail along a one half-mile stretch of Farm to Market Road 213 west of Wellman.

September 15 Severe Thunderstorm Event Summary: Scattered thunderstorms developed over the extreme southern panhandle and the South Plains of west Texas during the late afternoon and evening hours of the 15th. Several of these storms became severe and produced large hail. No significant property or agricultural damage was reported.