

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - April 2007

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

TEXAS, South Panhandle

PARMER (TX-Z021), SWISHER (TX-Z023), HALL (TX-Z025), BAILEY (TX-Z027), LAMB (TX-Z028), FLOYD (TX-Z030), COTTLE (TX-Z032), COCHRAN (TX-Z033), HOCKLEY (TX-Z034), LUBBOCK (TX-Z035), CROSBY (TX-Z036), DICKENS (TX-Z037), LYNN (TX-Z041), GARZA (TX-Z042)

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|--------------------|-------|----------------|
| 04/07/07 05:00 CST | 0.30M | Winter Weather |
| 04/07/07 18:00 CST | 0 | |

STONEWALL (TX-Z044)

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------------|
| 04/07/07 05:00 CST | 0 | Heavy Snow |
| 04/07/07 18:00 CST | 0 | |

A late season snowstorm struck the South Plains region of west Texas during Easter weekend. Snow accumulations ranged from a trace up to four inches across the region, with fifteen counties receiving at least one inch snow depths.

More than sixty vehicular accidents were attributed to the snowstorm in Lubbock, including a thirteen car pile-up on west Loop 289. At least eight additional accidents occurred in the surrounding areas. No serious injuries were reported.

A list of reported snow accumulations follows:

- 4 inches at Aspermont (Stonewall County)
- 3 inches at Dickens (Dickens County)
- 3 inches at Happy (Swisher County)
- 3 inches at Levelland (Hockley County)
- 3 inches at Littlefield (Lamb County)
- 3 inches at Lubbock (Lubbock County)
- 2 inches at Farwell (Parmer County)
- 2 inches at Paducah (Cottle County)
- 1 inch at Floydada (Floyd County)
- 1 inch at Memphis (Hall County)
- 1 inch at Muleshoe (Bailey County)
- 1 inch at Morton (Cochran County)
- 1 inch at Post (Garza County)
- 1 inch at Tahoka (Lynn County)

PARMER (TX-Z021), CASTRO (TX-Z022), LAMB (TX-Z028)

| | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 04/10/07 14:00 CST | 0 | High Wind (MAX 55 kt) |
| 04/10/07 16:50 CST | 0 | |

A surface low pressure intensified over the Southern Plains on the 10th, as a strong storm system propagated eastward from the Rocky Mountains. The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet recorded four severe wind gusts during the afternoon hours. Additionally, blowing dust restricted visibilities, but no serious weather related accidents or damages were reported.

A list of measured severe wind gusts follows:

- 63 mph at Friona (Parmer County)
- 60 mph at Hart (Castro County)
- 59 mph at Olton (Lamb County)
- 58 mph at Dimmitt (Castro County)

SWISHER COUNTY

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|---------------|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| TULIA | 04/12/07 17:20 CST | 0 | Hail (1.00 in) |
| 10.0 NE TULIA | 04/12/07 17:42 CST | 0 | 34.53N, 101.77W ~ 34.6322N, 101.646W |

An isolated severe thunderstorm produced large hail along a swath through central and northeastern Swisher County. Law enforcement and storm chasers reported hail up to the size of quarters from Tulia northeastward toward Vigo Park.

SWISHER COUNTY

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|----------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| 12.0 ESE TULIA | 04/12/07 18:28 CST | 0 | Hail (0.75 in) |
| | 04/12/07 18:28 CST | 0 | 34.4636N, 101.576W |

A second severe storm produced penny size hail in southeastern Swisher County near the intersection of Texas Highway 86 and Farm to Market Road 2301.

BRISCOE COUNTY

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|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1.0 E QUITAQUE | 04/12/07 20:45 CST | | 0 | Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt) |
| | 04/12/07 20:45 CST | | 0 | 34.37N, 101.033W |

Local officials reported that severe thunderstorm winds downed large tree limbs just east of Quitaque.

HALL COUNTY

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|----------------|--------------------|--|---|------------------------------|
| 2.0 WSW TURKEY | 04/12/07 20:50 CST | | 0 | Thunderstorm Wind (MG 53 kt) |
| | 04/12/07 20:50 CST | | 0 | 34.3889N, 100.912W |

The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet recorded a severe thunderstorm wind gust of 61 mph near Turkey. No damage was reported by local officials.

FLOYD COUNTY

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|----------|--------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| FLOYDADA | 04/12/07 20:59 CST | | 0 | Hail (0.75 in) |
| | 04/12/07 21:05 CST | | 0 | 33.98N, 101.33W |

The Floydada Fire Department reported penny size hail in Floydada.

CHILDRESS COUNTY

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|------------------|--------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| 5.0 SW CHILDRESS | 04/12/07 23:05 CST | | 0 | Hail (0.75 in) |
| | 04/12/07 23:08 CST | | 0 | 34.3689N, 100.262W ~ 34.42N, 100.2W |

The Childress County Sheriff's Office reported hail up to three-quarters of an inch in diameter that fell just southwest of Childress.

HALE COUNTY

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|------------------|--------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 2.0 NE PLAINVIEW | 04/13/07 00:04 CST | | 0 | Hail (0.88 in) |
| | 04/13/07 00:10 CST | | 0 | 34.2204N, 101.675W ~ 34.22N, 101.68W |

Local officials reported large hail up the size of nickels from just east of Plainview to Seth Ward.

Scattered thunderstorms developed over the northern South Plains and the extreme southeastern Panhandle during the evening hours of the 12th, and persisted beyond midnight CST. These storms produced large hail up to the size of quarters and damaging wind gusts. No significant damage was reported.

LUBBOCK COUNTY

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|----------------|--------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 6.0 SW LUBBOCK | 04/13/07 09:25 CST | | 0 | Hail (0.75 in) |
| | 04/13/07 09:31 CST | | 0 | 33.5187N, 101.924W ~ 33.58N, 101.85W |

Multiple reports of hail were received across the city around 09:30 CST. Most reports indicated that the hail remained small, generally around one half inch in diameter. A Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet meteorologist reported penny size hail near the intersection of Spur 327 and Loop 289 in southwest Lubbock.

KING (TX-Z038), YOAKUM (TX-Z039), LYNN (TX-Z041), GARZA (TX-Z042)

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|--|--------------------|--|---|-----------------------|
| | 04/13/07 11:10 CST | | 0 | High Wind (MAX 53 kt) |
| | 04/13/07 15:00 CST | | 0 | |

STONEWALL COUNTY

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|-----------|--------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| OLD GLORY | 04/13/07 12:23 CST | | 0 | Hail (0.75 in) |
| | 04/13/07 12:25 CST | | 0 | 33.13N, 100.05W |

Postal workers at Old Glory reported pea to penny size hail that was accompanied by 50 mph wind gusts.

HOCKLEY COUNTY

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|--------------------|--------------------|--|---|------------------------------|
| 6.0 NNW ROPESVILLE | 04/13/07 17:36 CST | | 0 | Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt) |
| | 04/13/07 17:36 CST | | 0 | 33.5001N, 102.19W |

A Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet meteorologist estimated 60 mph thunderstorm wind gusts in rural areas of southeastern Hockley County. No damage was reported.

A potent upper level storm system passed over west Texas on the 13th and resulted in strong westerly gradient winds and a few severe thunderstorms. A line of strong to severe storms swept eastward over the region in advance of a dryline early in the day. A few storms became severe and produced large hail in Lubbock and Stonewall Counties. The squall line was followed by increasing westerly gradient winds and areas of blowing dust. By early evening, high-based showers and thunderstorms under the upper level cold pool generated at least one isolated severe wind gust in southeastern Hockley County. No damage was reported throughout the event.

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|----------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
|----------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|

Severe westerly gradient winds that were recorded by the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet were as follows:

- 61 mph at Denver City (Yoakum County)
- 58 mph at Guthrie (King County)
- 58 mph at Post (Garza County)
- 58 mph at Tahoka (Lynn County)

HALE COUNTY

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| 3.0 NE PLAINVIEW | 04/17/07 10:50 CST | 0 | Funnel Cloud |
| | 04/17/07 11:05 CST | 0 | 34.2307N, 101.663W |

Numerous local officials and members of the public reported a funnel cloud northeast of Plainview. The funnel persisted for at least fifteen minutes. Despite the well-developed nature of the funnel as seen in photographs and its duration, no evidence of a circulation at the ground was found and no damage was reported.

LUBBOCK COUNTY

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| 6.0 NW SHALLOWATER | 04/17/07 12:25 CST | 0 | Tornado (EF0, L: 2.50 mi , W: 70 yd) |
| 7.0 NNW SHALLOWATER | 04/17/07 12:35 CST | 0 | 33.7413N, 102.054W ~ 33.7735N, 102.027W |

Multiple public reports were received of a tornado between Shallowater and Roundup around 12:30 CST. A local farmer described observing the tornado at close range as it moved across his fields, and indicated that no damage occurred. The tornadic circulation was apparently intermittent at the ground, with a continuous funnel that visibly extended from the base of the storm for approximately ten minutes.

LUBBOCK COUNTY

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|----------------|--------------------|---|---|
| 2.0 WNW SLATON | 04/17/07 12:40 CST | 0 | Tornado (EF0, L: 1.25 mi , W: 50 yd) |
| 3.0 NW SLATON | 04/17/07 12:50 CST | 0 | 33.4411N, 101.682W ~ 33.4607N, 101.687W |

A local broadcast media affiliate (KAMC-TV) photographed a tornado spawned by a rapidly developing thunderstorm along an outflow boundary just northwest of Slaton. The tornado was small, but video documentation of the event suggested a very tight low-level circulation with a well-developed dust column that extended upward to a narrow rotating cloud base. The tornado remained over open country, and no damage was reported.

LUBBOCK COUNTY

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|----------------|--------------------|---|---|
| 8.0 SW LUBBOCK | 04/17/07 12:40 CST | 0 | Hail (1.00 in) |
| 4.0 SW LUBBOCK | 04/17/07 12:50 CST | 0 | 33.4982N, 101.948W ~ 33.5391N, 101.899W |

Multiple reports of hail that ranged in size from pennies to quarters were received around 12:45 CST across southwest Lubbock. The hail covered the ground and many roof-tops, and remained until it melted several hours later. No damage was reported.

LUBBOCK COUNTY

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|--------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
| IDALOU | 04/17/07 12:40 CST | 0 | Hail (1.50 in) |
| | 04/17/07 12:40 CST | 0 | 33.67N, 101.68W |

The Idalou Fire Department reported ping pong ball size hail in Idalou as a second severe storm impacted northeastern Lubbock County.

LUBBOCK COUNTY

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|---------------|--------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| LUBBOCK | 04/17/07 12:40 CST | 10K | Heavy Rain |
| 3.0 S LUBBOCK | 04/17/07 13:15 CST | 0 | 33.58N, 101.85W ~ 33.5366N, 101.85W |

Heavy rainfall over Lubbock caused the bar-ditches to fill and minor flooding of some city streets. A car hydroplaned off of the south Loop 289 service road near Quaker Avenue and became submerged in the water-filled bar-ditch. The driver the vehicle was aided to dry ground by rescue personnel and no injuries were reported.

HALE COUNTY

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|----------------------|--------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|
| 2.0 SW COTTON CENTER | 04/17/07 12:57 CST | 35K | Tornado (EF1, L: 2.00 mi , W: 100 yd) |
| 3.0 S COTTON CENTER | 04/17/07 13:03 CST | 0 | 33.9796N, 102.025W ~ 33.9566N, 102W |

A farmstead was damaged by an apparent tornado that moved southeastward across portions of western Hale County. The tornado uprooted two large trees and destroyed a center pivot irrigation system. No structural damage or injuries were reported. The damage and reports from local residents corresponds to a strong low-level circulation in Doppler radar velocities.

LUBBOCK COUNTY

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|-----------------|--------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|
| 2.5 WSW LUBBOCK | 04/17/07 13:00 CST | 75K | Tornado (EF0, L: 0.75 mi , W: 40 yd) |
| 2.0 W LUBBOCK | 04/17/07 13:03 CST | 0 | 33.5662N, 101.89W ~ 33.58N, 101.885W |

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|---|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| <p>A brief tornado was observed to cause damage in the west part of Lubbock between 13:00 and 13:03 CST. A local man photographed a condensation funnel extending a short distance out of the parent cloud base. Meanwhile, an automotive business sustained damage as the tornadic circulation broke tree limbs and ripped sheet metal from a few structures near the intersections of U.S. Highway 84 and Quaker Avenue and University and Kent. No injuries were reported.</p> | | | | |
| PARMER COUNTY | | | | |
| 6.0 SSW FRIONA | 04/17/07 13:00 CST | | 0 | Tornado (EF0, L: 2.75 mi , W: 50 yd) |
| 7.0 S FRIONA | 04/17/07 13:15 CST | | 0 | 34.5499N, 102.77W ~ 34.5288N, 102.73W |
| <p>Reports from law enforcement officials and the public indicated that a tornado intermittently touched down south of Friona around 13:00 CST. The tornado was photographed as it remained over open farm land, and no damage was reported.</p> | | | | |
| LUBBOCK COUNTY | | | | |
| 3.0 ESE (LBB)LUBBOCK INTL AR | 04/17/07 13:03 CST | | 0 | Tornado (EF0, L: 0.25 mi , W: 50 yd) |
| 3.3 ESE (LBB)LUBBOCK INTL AR | 04/17/07 13:04 CST | | 0 | 33.6534N, 101.772W ~ 33.652N, 101.768W |
| <p>A Texas Department of Public Safety officer witnessed a brief tornado as it developed over open fields just south of the intersection of U.S. Highway 62/82 and Farm to Market Road 1729. The tornado resulted in no damage.</p> | | | | |
| GARZA COUNTY | | | | |
| 7.0 NW POST | 04/17/07 13:21 CST | | 5K | Hail (0.88 in) |
| 12.0 N POST | 04/17/07 13:42 CST | | 0 | 33.2516N, 101.466W ~ 33.3535N, 101.38W |
| <p>A severe thunderstorm produced a swath of hail up to the size of nickels across northwestern Garza County. Hail accumulated five inches deep on U.S. Highway 84 by 13:30 CST. Snow-plows were used to remove the hail from the driving surface. Residents of northern Garza County continued to report large hail as the storm moved east of the highway.</p> <p>A potent middle and upper atmospheric storm system moved eastward over the west Texas South Plains on the 17th. This system resulted in the development of numerous thunderstorms across the region. With abundant sunshine and heating that occurred early in the day beneath very cold mid-level temperatures aloft, steep vertical temperature lapse rates developed. With strong instability in place, thunderstorms developed rapidly around midday in the vicinity of a stalled frontal boundary that stretched from northwest to southeast across the region.</p> <p>Thunderstorm updrafts were enhanced by the cold mid-level temperatures, and this made them efficient for stretching small circulations along the frontal boundary. This process, combined with complex storm interactions and multi-cell storm mergers, resulted in the development of at least six tornadoes across the South Plains region. All of the tornadoes were weak, but some damage did occur in Hale and Lubbock Counties, including within the city of Lubbock. The storms also produced large hail up to the size of ping pong balls.</p> | | | | |
| SWISHER COUNTY | | | | |
| 12.0 W KRESS | 04/20/07 18:15 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.50 in) |
| 6.0 N TULIA | 04/20/07 19:10 CST | | 0 | 34.37N, 101.96W ~ 34.6167N, 101.77W |
| <p>An isolated low precipitation supercell initiated along the dryline over the extreme northern South Plains of west Texas during the late afternoon and evening hours of the 20th. The storm moved north-northeast across Swisher County, where it produced large hail between quarter and ping pong ball size along a swath from southwestern Swisher County to north of Tulia.</p> | | | | |
| LAMB COUNTY | | | | |
| 6.0 W LITTLEFIELD | 04/21/07 17:20 CST | | 0 | Tornado (EF0, L: 2.00 mi , W: 200 yd) |
| 5.8 WNW LITTLEFIELD | 04/21/07 17:24 CST | | 0 | 33.92N, 102.424W ~ 33.9518N, 102.413W |
| <p>A weak tornado developed over open fields in southwestern Lamb County just west of Littlefield. The tornado remained south of U.S. Highway 84 and was photographed by at least two storm chasers. The tornado appeared as a slowly rotating dust whirl with no evidence of a visible condensation funnel. No reports of damage were received. This was the first in a family of five tornadoes that were observed in association with this cyclic supercell storm.</p> | | | | |
| LAMB COUNTY | | | | |
| SUDAN | 04/21/07 17:20 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.75 in) |
| OLTON | 04/21/07 18:05 CST | | 25K | 34.07N, 102.53W ~ 34.18N, 102.13W |
| <p>Many reports of large hail were received as a supercell thunderstorm evolved from a complex of high-based convection over Lamb County during the early evening of the 21st. Quarter size hail was initially reported at 17:20 CST in Sudan, and then in nearby Amherst by 17:25 CST. The reported hail sizes increased as the storm continued to intensify and track northeastward. By 18:01 CST golf ball size hail was reported in Olton. Young cotton crops in the affected area sustained minor damage. This storm ultimately produced a family of significant tornadoes.</p> | | | | |

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|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| LAMB COUNTY | | | | |
| 1.8 N FIELDTON | 04/21/07 17:57 CST | | 0.81M | Tornado (EF2, L: 15.00 mi , W: 1230 yd) |
| 5.6 NE OLTON | 04/21/07 18:10 CST | 1 | 50K | 34.0553N, 102.22W ~ 34.2372N, 102.061W |

A large and long-tracked tornado cut a path of damage twenty-nine miles in length and at times nearly three-quarters of a mile wide across portions of Lamb, Hale, Castro and Swisher Counties between 17:57 and 18:36 CST on the 21st. Total damages from the tornado were estimated to exceed \$1.2 million, and one person was injured.

The development of this significant tornado was witnessed by storm chasers between Fieldton and Olton at 17:57 CST. A National Weather Service damage survey team noted that the first damages to occur as a result of the tornado included five medium voltage power poles downed just east of the intersection of Farm to Market Road 168 and County Road 162. Just east of this location, the tops of five power poles were blown off to the north and two center pivot irrigation systems were overturned. One irrigation system was blown toward the west and another toward the northeast.

Farther to the northeast along the tornado's path, along County Road 152 just east of Farm to Market Road 168, two power poles were sheared off above the ground. At this location, a historic multi-story house that was originally constructed in 1913 suffered severe roof damage. A portion of the roof was blown off of the structure toward the southeast. The owners of the home were within days of completing a two year-long renovation. In addition, the skirting was removed from a mobile home across the street from the historic home. Several outbuildings near the residence also sustained minor damage.

The tornado continued northeastward and destroyed several more center pivot irrigation systems and snapped utility poles three to five feet above the ground along County Road 321. The tornado's damage path was measured at seven-tenths of a mile wide in this area.

As the tornadic circulation crossed U.S. Highway 70 two miles east of Olton, four homes were heavily damaged. Two well-built brick structures suffered total roof losses. The resident of one home, an elderly woman, suffered minor injuries while seeking shelter under a kitchen table. A number of light-weight metal structures were destroyed, along with three vehicles and several pieces of farm equipment. One family pet, a dog, was killed at one of the residences.

The tornado killed an unknown number of live-stock as it continued northeast of U.S. Highway 70. The damaging tornado crossed the Lamb and Hale County line at 18:10 CST.

The damages sustained by two of the well-built single-family residences, light-weight metal structures, and numerous utility poles support an EF-2 rating. Winds were estimated between 110 and 120 mph.

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| LAMB COUNTY | | | | |
| OLTON | 04/21/07 18:02 CST | | 25K | Hail (2.75 in) |
| 3.0 E OLTON | 04/21/07 18:05 CST | | 0.10M | 34.18N, 102.13W ~ 34.18N, 102.078W |

A swath of very large hail up to the size of baseballs began in the Olton vicinity, and damaged roofs, windows and vehicles east of Olton along U.S. Highway 70. Several storm chasers received damage to their vehicles near the Lamb and Hale County line as they observed a developing tornado to their southwest. In addition, moderate agricultural losses were caused by damage to young cotton crops.

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|--------------------|--------------------|--|-----|--------------------------------------|
| HALE COUNTY | | | | |
| 7.0 W HALFWAY | 04/21/07 18:04 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.75 in) |
| 3.0 N HALFWAY | 04/21/07 18:10 CST | | 25K | 34.18N, 102.072W ~ 34.2234N, 101.95W |

Skywarn spotters and storm chasers continued to encounter large hail up to the size of golf balls from near the Lamb and Hale County line along U.S. Highway 70, and then north of Halfway. Minor damage to young cotton crops also was reported.

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|--------------------|--------------------|--|-----|-------------------------------------|
| HALE COUNTY | | | | |
| 7.0 W HALFWAY | 04/21/07 18:04 CST | | 25K | Hail (2.75 in) |
| 5.0 W HALFWAY | 04/21/07 18:06 CST | | 25K | 34.18N, 102.072W ~ 34.18N, 102.037W |

The swath of very large hail that began near Olton continued along with the parent supercell into extreme western Hale County west of Halfway. Several storm chasers received damage to their vehicles near the Lamb and Hale County line as they observed a developing tornado to their southwest. In addition, some agricultural losses were attributed to hail-damaged cotton crops.

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|--------------------|--------------------|--|-------|---|
| HALE COUNTY | | | | |
| 8.8 WNW HALFWAY | 04/21/07 18:10 CST | | 0.20M | Tornado (EF2, L: 4.50 mi , W: 1230 yd) |
| 8.8 WNW EDMONSON | 04/21/07 18:18 CST | | 0 | 34.2284N, 102.091W ~ 34.3284N, 102.042W |

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| <p>A large and long-tracked tornado cut a path of damage twenty-nine miles in length and at times nearly three-quarters of a mile wide across portions of Lamb, Hale, Castro and Swisher Counties between 17:57 and 18:36 CST on the 21st. Total damages from the tornado were estimated to exceed \$1.2 million, and one person was injured.</p> <p>The large tornado tracked across northwestern Hale County between 18:10 and 18:18 CST. Local newspaper reports indicate that the most notable damage along the tornado's path in northwestern Hale County occurred to numerous center pivot irrigation systems. At least ten irrigation systems were reportedly destroyed in fields west and northwest of Halfway.</p> <p>Damage caused by the tornado east of Olton (Lamb County) supported an EF-2 rating with winds estimated between 110 and 120 mph.</p> | | | | |
| CASTRO COUNTY | | | | |
| 4.8 SSE HART | 04/21/07 18:18 CST | | 0.20M | Tornado (EF2, L: 8.25 mi , W: 1230 yd) |
| 7.0 ENE HART | 04/21/07 18:33 CST | | 0 | 34.3166N, 102.088W ~ 34.4187N, 102.007W |
| <p>A large and long-tracked tornado cut a path of damage twenty-nine miles in length and at times nearly three-quarters of a mile wide across portions of Lamb, Hale, Castro and Swisher Counties between 17:57 and 18:36 CST on the 21st. Total damages from the tornado were estimated to exceed \$1.2 million, and one person was injured.</p> <p>The large tornado caused damage to center pivot irrigation systems and utility lines as it tracked over southeastern Castro County between 18:18 and 18:33 CST. Local newspapers reported that numerous irrigation systems were destroyed, and utility poles were downed along Texas Highway 194 and Farm to Market Road 145 southeast and east of Hart.</p> <p>Damage caused by the tornado east of Olton (Lamb County) supported an EF-2 rating with winds estimated between 110 and 120 mph.</p> | | | | |
| SWISHER COUNTY | | | | |
| 15.0 WNW KRESS | 04/21/07 18:33 CST | | 30K | Tornado (EF2, L: 1.00 mi , W: 1230 yd) |
| 14.0 WNW KRESS | 04/21/07 18:36 CST | | 0 | 34.453N, 101.993W ~ 34.4475N, 101.977W |
| <p>A large and long-tracked tornado cut a path of damage twenty-nine miles in length and at times nearly three-quarters of a mile wide across portions of Lamb, Hale, Castro and Swisher Counties between 17:57 and 18:36 CST on the 21st. Total damages from the tornado were estimated to exceed \$1.2 million, and one person was injured.</p> <p>The tornado was in the final stages of its life cycle as it crossed into extreme southwestern Swisher County at 18:33 CST. Storm chasers documented an extended rope-out phase before the tornado finally dissipated over cotton fields in southwestern Swisher County at 18:36 CST.</p> <p>Reports in local newspapers indicated that at least one center pivot irrigation system was heavily damaged west of Kress.</p> <p>Damage caused by the tornado east of Olton (Lamb County) supported an EF-2 rating with winds estimated between 110 and 120 mph.</p> | | | | |
| SWISHER COUNTY | | | | |
| 2.0 N TULIA | 04/21/07 18:50 CST | | 30K | Hail (2.50 in) |
| | 04/21/07 18:50 CST | | 25K | 34.5589N, 101.77W |
| <p>Skywarn spotters reported very large hail up to the size of tennis balls along Interstate 27 just north-northwest of Tulia. Several vehicles traveling along the interstate were damaged. Also, minor agricultural damage was sustained by young cotton crops.</p> | | | | |
| LAMB COUNTY | | | | |
| 4.5 W OLTON | 04/21/07 18:56 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.75 in) |
| | 04/21/07 18:56 CST | | 15K | 34.18N, 102.209W |
| <p>Skywarn spotters reported golf ball size hail west of Olton along U.S. Highway 70. Minor damage to young cotton crops was reported.</p> | | | | |
| SWISHER COUNTY | | | | |
| 0.8 WSW TULIA | 04/21/07 18:57 CST | | 2M | Tornado (EF2, L: 3.00 mi , W: 200 yd) |
| 2.8 NNW TULIA | 04/21/07 19:01 CST | 3 | 0 | 34.5259N, 101.782W ~ 34.5667N, 101.789W |

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| Location | Date/Time | Deaths & Injuries | Property & Crop Dmg | Event Type and Details |
|--|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| <p>A strong tornado delivered a crippling impact on the local economy of Tulia, Texas, when it devastated industrial and residential sections of the small community of 5,000 residents around 19:00 CST on the 21st. A two block wide swath of damage paralleled U.S. Highway 87 in west Tulia for fifteen blocks. Three persons were treated at area hospitals for injuries, almost thirty homes sustained damage or were destroyed along with twenty businesses, and approximately five hundred people were displaced or made homeless.</p> <p>Local officials and newspaper accounts indicated that several of the businesses that were heavily damaged during the tornado served as staples to the Tulia economy prior to the storm. U.S. President George W. Bush declared Swisher County a federal disaster area on May 1, 2007.</p> <p>This destructive tornado developed near a power plant at the intersection of Broadway Street and U.S. Highway 87 in west Tulia at 18:57 CST. The tornado moved north and caused extensive damage to a local supermarket at the intersection of U.S. Highway 87 and Sixth Street. A large portion of the roof was removed on the east side of the structure, and one exterior wall collapsed inward. Smaller sections of two additional exterior walls additionally collapsed.</p> <p>A local auto dealership, located near the supermarket, also sustained a large amount of structural and inventory damage. Forty-one vehicles were damaged by flying debris, and a motor home on the property was overturned. A large overhead door on the east side of the structure's show room failed, resulting in the failure of the west wall. A large storage container was blown into the southwest corner of the building and caused the partial collapse of the roof.</p> <p>Several large metal industrial-style buildings sustained major damage due to the failure of large overhead doors and buckling of roof purlins on the south side of the buildings. One such structure collapsed onto a collection of classic cars, and resulted in a \$250,000 loss.</p> <p>Two storm chasers escaped injuries when they were struck by the tornado along the industrial stretch of U.S. Highway 87. Their vehicle was blown into a brick building, and then a tractor-trailer was blown broadside against the chase vehicle.</p> <p>Damage also was observed to the north and northeast of the industrial area, with severe damage in residential areas including a mobile home community between Eighth and Ninth Streets just west of Highland Elementary School. Five mobile homes were damaged, with two others completely destroyed.</p> <p>The most significant residential damage occurred in a subdivision along Northwest Ninth Street through Northwest Eleventh Street. Across this area, a number of homes suffered roof losses. Roofs were totally removed from at least two single-family homes on Tenth Street near Airport Road, with partial exterior wall collapses also noted.</p> <p>The tornado dissipated near the Tulia Municipal Airport at 19:01 CST.</p> <p>Meteorologists from the National Weather Service in Lubbock, Texas, Texas Tech University, and engineers from numerous private and governmental agencies surveyed the Tulia damage. All indications suggest that the maximum winds with the Tulia tornado were between 125 and 135 mph. This makes the Tulia tornado an EF-2 tornado on the Enhanced Fujita scale for tornado intensity. The total economic loss is estimated at \$2.0 million.</p> | | | | |

SWISHER COUNTY

| | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|--|-----|-------------------|
| 3.0 NNW TULIA | 04/21/07 19:00 CST | | 30K | Hail (3.00 in) |
| | 04/21/07 19:00 CST | | 25K | 34.5701N, 101.79W |

Meteorologists from the National Severe Storms Laboratory reported three inch diameter hail along Interstate 27 north-northwest of Tulia. Very large hail in the Tulia area resulted in damage to vehicles traveling along Interstate 27. In addition, minor damage to young cotton crops was reported.

CASTRO COUNTY

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|------|--------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| HART | 04/21/07 19:08 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.00 in) |
| | 04/21/07 19:08 CST | | 0 | 34.38N, 102.12W |

A National Weather Service cooperative observer reported quarter size hail in Hart.

SWISHER COUNTY

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|----------------|--------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 8.5 N TULIA | 04/21/07 19:11 CST | | 0 | Tornado (EF1, L: 4.00 mi , W: 300 yd) |
| 12.5 NNE TULIA | 04/21/07 19:16 CST | | 0 | 34.6529N, 101.77W ~ 34.697N, 101.686W |

The fourth tornado in the Olton-Edmonson-Tulia family occurred in north-central Swisher County. The tornado reportedly appeared visually as a large cone-shaped tornado that persisted for five minutes as it impacted mainly rural areas northeast of Tulia and west of Vigo Park. One large barn was heavily damaged by the tornado in the vicinity of Farm to Market Road 2698/146.

SWISHER COUNTY

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|--------------|--------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 15.0 E HAPPY | 04/21/07 19:20 CST | | 0 | Tornado (EF0, L: 1.00 mi , W: 500 yd) |
| 15.5 E HAPPY | 04/21/07 19:24 CST | | 0 | 34.73N, 101.586W ~ 34.73N, 101.577W |

Storm chasers, including a meteorologist from the National Weather Service Warning Decision Training Branch, observed a large tornado that moved east-northeast just south of the Swisher and Armstrong County line approximately fifteen miles east of Happy. The tornado remained over open country and no damage was reported.

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - April 2007

| Location | Date/Time | Deaths & Injuries | Property & Crop Dmg | Event Type and Details |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| FLOYD COUNTY | | | | |
| 2.0 NNE FLOYDADA | 04/21/07 21:00 CST | | 0 | Thunderstorm Wind (MG 56 kt) |
| | 04/21/07 21:00 CST | | 0 | 34.0067N, 101.317W |
| A severe thunderstorm wind gust of 64 mph was measured by the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet near Floydada. No damage was reported. | | | | |
| CROSBY COUNTY | | | | |
| 1.0 SE RALLS | 04/21/07 21:05 CST | | 0 | Thunderstorm Wind (MG 57 kt) |
| | 04/21/07 21:05 CST | | 0 | 33.6698N, 101.368W |
| The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site near Ralls recorded a peak thunderstorm wind gust of 66 mph. No damage was reported. | | | | |
| An outbreak of severe weather impacted much of the central U.S. from Minnesota to Texas during the late afternoon and evening hours of the 21st. The west Texas South Plains and the extreme southern Texas Panhandle were affected by a series of significant tornadoes. At least five tornadoes were spawned by a single cyclic supercell thunderstorm that resulted in more than \$3.5 million in damages. | | | | |
| The most severely impacted communities included Olton (Lamb County) and Tulia (Swisher County). Both of these west Texas towns were impacted by EF-2 tornadoes that destroyed property and injured four people, and more than 14,000 customers were without electrical power throughout the night. | | | | |
| The tornado outbreak was caused by a potent storm system that progressed east over the Four Corners region of the western U.S. on the 21st. A potent upper level jet stream spread over the Southern Plains of the U.S., and helped to create a favorable environment for supercell thunderstorms and tornadoes along a dryline that was stretched across west Texas. | | | | |
| GARZA COUNTY | | | | |
| JUSTICEBURG | 04/23/07 18:12 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.75 in) |
| | 04/23/07 18:12 CST | | 0 | 33.03N, 101.2W |
| Golfball size hail was reported in Justiceburg. No damage was reported. | | | | |
| GARZA COUNTY | | | | |
| 10.0 NE POST | 04/23/07 19:48 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.00 in) |
| | 04/23/07 19:48 CST | | 0 | 33.2822N, 101.258W |
| The Garza County Sheriff's Office reported quarter size hail northeast of Post along Farm to Market Road 651. | | | | |
| GARZA COUNTY | | | | |
| 2.0 SW POST | 04/23/07 20:11 CST | | 20K | Hail (1.75 in) |
| 10.0 ENE POST | 04/23/07 20:47 CST | | 0 | 33.1596N, 101.404W ~ 33.2353N, 101.22W |
| The Garza County Sheriff's Office reported a wide swath of large hail that ranged in size from pennies to golfballs from just southwest of Post to east-northeast of the city. Golfball size hail was reported at 20:14 CST along U.S. Highway 380 at the Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos River approximately seven miles east of Post. In addition, golfball size hail also was reported along Farm to Market Road 2008 in northeastern Garza County, near the community of Verbena, at 20:40 CST. Reports of damage were limited. | | | | |
| GARZA COUNTY | | | | |
| 10.0 NE POST | 04/23/07 21:00 CST | | 5K | Hail (2.50 in) |
| | 04/23/07 21:00 CST | | 0 | 33.2822N, 101.258W |
| Local officials reported tennis ball size hail near Farm to Market Road 2008 in northeastern Garza County. Reports of damage were limited. | | | | |
| KENT COUNTY | | | | |
| GIRARD | 04/23/07 21:22 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.00 in) |
| | 04/23/07 21:22 CST | | 0 | 33.35N, 100.67W |
| Law enforcement officials reported quarter size hail in Girard. | | | | |
| DICKENS COUNTY | | | | |
| 2.0 N SPUR | 04/23/07 22:30 CST | | 0 | Hail (1.00 in) |
| | 04/23/07 22:30 CST | | 0 | 33.5089N, 100.85W |
| The Dickens County Sheriff's Office reported that nickel to quarter size hail covered portions of Farm to Market Road 1868 just north of Spur. | | | | |
| A cluster of severe storms brought large hail to portions of the South Plains region during the evening hours of the 23rd. Reports | | | | |

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - April 2007

| Location | Date/Time | Deaths & Injuries | Property & Crop Dmg | Event Type and Details |
|--|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| generally indicated between nickel and golfball size hail over Dickens, Garza, and Kent Counties. One report of very large hail, however, was received from northeastern Garza County. Damage was not reported to have been significant with any of the hail reports. | | | | |

CASTRO COUNTY

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|------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|
| 15.0 SSW DIMMITT | 04/30/07 11:20 CST | 0 | 0 | Tornado (EF0, L: 0.20 mi , W: 50 yd) |
| 15.2 SSW DIMMITT | 04/30/07 11:23 CST | 0 | 0 | 34.3497N, 102.421W ~ 34.347N, 102.422W |

The public reported that a tornado developed in open country near the community of Flagg. Reports indicate that the tornado's condensation funnel extended downward and had the visual appearance of a "rope", and that a dust filled debris cloud rose up to meet the funnel from the ground. No damage was reported.

HALL COUNTY

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|----------------|--------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| 2.0 SSW TURKEY | 04/30/07 20:45 CST | 0 | 0 | Thunderstorm Wind (MG 50 kt) |
| | 04/30/07 20:45 CST | 0 | 0 | 34.3733N, 100.893W |

The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site near Turkey measured a severe thunderstorm wind gust of 58 mph.

Isolated thunderstorms developed over the South Plains as a middle latitude cyclone moved over the region during the day on the 30th. Steep temperature lapse rates in the lower atmosphere contributed to convective updraft stretching along a surface boundary and resulted in a weak tornado in southwestern Castro County. Another storm over Hall County produced an isolated severe wind gust. No damage was reported from either event.