

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - July 2011

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

TEXAS, South Panhandle

(TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z022) CASTRO, (TX-Z023) SWISHER, (TX-Z024) BRISCOE, (TX-Z025) HALL, (TX-Z026) CHILDRRESS, (TX-Z027) BAILEY, (TX-Z028) LAMB, (TX-Z029) HALE, (TX-Z030) FLOYD, (TX-Z031) MOTLEY, (TX-Z032) COTTLE, (TX-Z033) COCHRAN, (TX-Z034) HOCKLEY, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z036) CROSBY, (TX-Z037) DICKENS, (TX-Z038) KING, (TX-Z039) YOAKUM, (TX-Z040) TERRY, (TX-Z041) LYNN, (TX-Z042) GARZA, (TX-Z043) KENT, (TX-Z044) STONEWALL

07/01/11 00:00 CST	0.25B	Drought
07/31/11 23:59 CST	0.25B	

Exceptional (D4) drought continued across the entire area through the month of July. However, there was a brief reprieve into Extreme (D3) across portions of the southeastern Texas panhandle for the second half of the month due to abundant rainfall during the first half of the month. The remainder of the area received little to no beneficial rainfall during July.

The drought of 2011 clearly stands out as among the most extreme in this region in the past 100 years. Portions of Briscoe and Hall Counties experienced a heavy rain event on July 11. Otherwise, no area saw significant rainfall through the entire month. Annual rainfall totals at Lubbock and Childress were 1.13 inches and 3.64 inches, respectively. These were the lowest rainfall values ever recorded at Lubbock and Childress. Other annual rainfall totals include 2.35 at Morton (Cochran County), 2.23 inches at Silverton (Briscoe County), 1.37 inches at Friona (Parmer County) and 0.72 inches at Brownfield (Terry County). Keetch-Byram Drought Index values continued to range from 600 to 800 across the entire area. A heat wave from June continued to affect the area into the month of July. An upper high persisted over the area favoring very hot temperatures and the warmest July ever recorded for several areas. Many areas also saw temperature records broken with average temperatures between 8 and 11 degrees above normal.

Wildfire activity lessened through July due to the lack of dry high-based thunderstorms. Agricultural losses continued to mount with most crops failing. Aquifer draw-down greatly increased suggesting that irrigation may not be able to continue for a prolonged period of time. Some farmers reportedly cut their watering area in half with the hopes of yielding some harvest rather than none. Record numbers of livestock continued to be sold because of the cost of water and feed. Ironically, some cattle died because of taking in too much water once moved to new pastures.

Economic losses due to drought through July were estimated near \$2 billion.

COTTLE COUNTY --- 10.0 SW PADUCAH [33.92, -100.42]

07/03/11 15:10 CST	0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 58 kt)
07/03/11 15:20 CST	0	Source: Mesonet

A Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet site near Paducah, TX measured severe wind gusts for ten minutes. No damage was reported.

Afternoon thunderstorms developed over the Rolling Plains along residual outflow boundaries from thunderstorms early in the morning. One of these storms produced severe wind gusts near Paducah (Cottle County).

(TX-Z026) CHILDRRESS

07/09/11 16:00 CST	0	Wildfire
07/09/11 19:00 CST	0	

A wildfire began near Kirkland (Childress County) around 1600 CST from lightning associated with isolated thunderstorm activity. The wildfire burned a total of 800 acres.

BRISCOE COUNTY --- 7.0 S SILVERTON [34.37, -101.30], 11.0 S SILVERTON [34.31, -101.30], 2.8 SSE WHITELEY [34.31, -101.32], 1.5 NNE WHITELEY [34.37, -101.32]

07/11/11 19:00 CST	20K	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
07/11/11 22:00 CST	10K	Source: NWS Storm Survey

A thunderstorm developed and remained nearly stationary near Texas Highway 207 in Briscoe and Floyd Counties. This thunderstorm dumped between 10 and 11 inches of rainfall on a localized area between seven miles south of Silverton and five miles north of South Plains. A report of 10.5" of rainfall was received from a farmer who also stated that his basement flooded for the first time. This farmer lived ten miles south of Silverton along 207. Another public report was received of eight inches of rainfall around eight miles south of Silverton. The Texas Department of Transportation closed 207 at the Briscoe and Floyd County line during the evening with three feet of running water over the roadway. A NWS storm survey on the morning of the 12th revealed that one to two feet of standing water remained over the highway with one vehicle abandoned in a ditch. Additionally, area playa lakes were full but not flooded and erosion was evident where water flowed out of the fields.

BRISCOE COUNTY --- 8.0 S SILVERTON [34.35, -101.30]

07/11/11 19:00 CST	0	Hail (0.88 in)
07/11/11 19:00 CST	0	Source: Public

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - July 2011

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
FLOYD COUNTY --- 6.0 N SOUTH PLAINS [34.31, -101.32], 5.0 N SOUTH PLAINS [34.29, -101.32], 5.1 N SOUTH PLAINS [34.29, -101.31], 6.0 N SOUTH PLAINS [34.31, -101.31]				
	07/11/11 19:00 CST		0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	07/11/11 22:00 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
CHILDRESS COUNTY --- (CDS)CHILDRESS ARPT [34.43, -100.30]				
	07/11/11 19:38 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 58 kt)
	07/11/11 19:47 CST		0	Source: ASOS
The ASOS at Childress Municipal Airport (KCDS) measured severe wind gusts for nine minutes. No damage was reported in Childress.				
CHILDRESS COUNTY --- (CDS)CHILDRESS ARPT [34.43, -100.30]				
	07/11/11 20:23 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 52 kt)
	07/11/11 20:23 CST		0	Source: ASOS
The ASOS at Childress Municipal Airport (KCDS) measured a severe wind gust. No damage was reported in Childress.				
HALL COUNTY --- 1.0 NE MEMPHIS [34.73, -100.52]				
	07/11/11 20:40 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 57 kt)
	07/11/11 20:40 CST		0	Source: Mesonet
The Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet site near Memphis measured a wind gust to 66 mph. No damage was reported in Memphis.				
HALL COUNTY --- ESTELLINE [34.55, -100.43]				
	07/11/11 21:30 CST		0.20M	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
	07/11/11 21:30 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
Texas DPS reported widespread damage in Estelline. Roofs were blown off homes and numerous trees were blown down. Additionally, numerous out buildings were severely damaged. Hail also accompanied the strong winds.				
HALL COUNTY --- ESTELLINE [34.55, -100.43]				
	07/11/11 21:35 CST		50K	Hail (1.75 in)
	07/11/11 21:35 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
A NWS storm survey revealed that hail to the size of golf balls fell in Estelline. The hail was accompanied by severe wind gusts.				
SWISHER COUNTY --- TULIA [34.53, -101.77]				
	07/12/11 03:15 CST		5K	Hail (1.00 in)
	07/12/11 03:20 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
The Tulia police department reported hail ranging from nickel to quarter size in Tulia. The hail was accompanied by severe wind gusts.				
SWISHER COUNTY --- 2.0 W TULIA [34.53, -101.81]				
	07/12/11 03:20 CST		0.15M	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	07/12/11 03:20 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

The Tulia police department reported that power poles were blown down west of Tulia, causing a power outage in the city of Tulia. The strong winds were accompanied by hail.

A mid level circulation moved northwest into the area from central Texas during the afternoon hours of the 11th. This circulation produced a cluster of thunderstorms in the San Antonio area on the previous day and helped to generate a similar result across the Rolling Plains and eastern South Plains on the 11th. Scattered thunderstorms developed around 1800 CST and persisted until the early morning hours on the 12th. These thunderstorms created strong wind gusts over the Rolling Plains. The first thunderstorm that developed remained anchored over a portion of southern Briscoe and northern Floyd counties for several hours dumping over ten inches of rainfall. Additional thunderstorm development occurred across the southwestern Texas panhandle and northern South Plains during the early morning hours of the 12th which produced strong winds and small hail.

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - July 2011

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



Abandoned car on the morning of the 12th from evening flooding on the 11th. Standing water was still evident in the ditches along Texas Highway 207. Photograph taken by a NWS storm survey team.

TERRY COUNTY --- 2.0 S MEADOW [33.30, -102.20]

07/12/11 20:22 CST	15K	Lightning
07/12/11 20:22 CST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

Lightning from evening thunderstorms ignited a structure two miles south of Meadow.