

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - October 2013

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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### TEXAS, South Panhandle

(TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z022) CASTRO, (TX-Z023) SWISHER, (TX-Z024) BRISCOE, (TX-Z026) CHILDRRESS, (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

10/01/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
10/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

Drought conditions largely remain unchanged through the month of October. Bailey and Hall Counties remained in moderate (D1) drought while the remainder of the area ranged from severe (D2) to exceptional (D4) drought. The month of October was an uneventful month for precipitation or any type of significant weather.

Most areas saw all of their rainfall from one event which occurred on the 13th. A slow moving warm front brought slow and steady rains to much of the area. Most areas observed around one to two inches of rainfall. However, Turkey (Hall County) reported the highest amount with 7.15 inches. No other significant weather events occurred throughout the month. The first week and last week of the month was well above seasonal average for temperatures but the middle portion of the month was below seasonal averages which offset the warmer temperatures. Temperatures were 0.6 degrees and 0.5 degrees above normal at Lubbock and Childress, respectively. Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) values generally remained the same throughout the month of October. Hall County's exceptional rainfall was able to improve KBDI values. Hall County observed values between 200 and 300. Elsewhere, 400-500 value readings were observed on the South Plains with 500-600 over the Rolling Plains.

Harvesting had begun across the region with a widespread freeze event occurring about two weeks before the average first freeze date. Crop yields varied greatly across the area. The early first freeze has led to early curing of fine fuels and grasses. Fuel loading was markedly higher than observed from 2012. Qualitative observations, however, indicate current fuel loads are generally near historical averages.

Economic losses due to drought through October since the drought began were estimated near 2.8 billion.

#### HALL COUNTY --- TURKEY [34.40, -100.88]

10/13/13 04:15 CST	0	Heavy Rain
10/13/13 18:10 CST	0	Source: COOP Observer

An NWS COOP observer in Turkey measured 7.15 inches of rain. The majority of this rain fell within one hour from a nearly stationary thunderstorm. This same storm also produced pea size hail up to two inches deep in Turkey, but no damage was reported.

#### HALL COUNTY --- 5.2 SW TURKEY [34.35, -100.95], 5.0 W TURKEY [34.40, -100.97], 7.2 N TURKEY [34.50, -100.87], 3.8 E TURKEY [34.40, -100.81]

10/13/13 11:05 CST	0.50K	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/13/13 13:30 CST	0	Source: Public

The public reported standing water of unknown depth covering all of Highway 86 in and around Turkey.

Widespread moderate to heavy rainfall developed over much of the South Plains late this morning and afternoon ahead of a slow moving warm front. Aloft, an unsettled southwesterly flow combined with exceptionally moist air to produce multiple rounds of elevated showers and thunderstorms. Wind shear and instability were favorable enough for a few of these storms to acquire rotation from South Plains (Floyd County) to Turkey (Hall County). One of these rotating storms produced torrential rainfall and two inches worth of pea size hail in Turkey. Although localized, flooding affected much of Turkey and adjacent sections of Highway 86. Elsewhere, widespread soaking rains impacted all but the extreme southwest Texas Panhandle and southern Rolling Plains where on average around one inch of rain was measured. Following the rain, several days of cool temperatures proved detrimental to farmers as many fields remained too wet for harvesting. Cotton bolls suffered some degradation in quality, but monetary losses were expected to be minimal.

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*Floodwaters isolate a truck on the south side of Turkey, TX. Photo courtesy of Travis Kimbell.*