

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2014

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) CHILDRESS, (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

05/01/14 00:00 CST	0	Drought
05/31/14 23:59 CST	0	

Drought conditions significantly improved by the end of May due to widespread and abundant rainfall during Memorial Day weekend. Most areas improved one to two drought levels by the end of the month. Most areas were in exceptional (D4) drought conditions at the beginning of the month. However, only a portion of Swisher, Briscoe, Cottle, and King Counties remained at this drought level. Elsewhere, drought levels ranged from severe (D2) to extreme (D3).

Almost no rainfall had occurred throughout the month of May until Memorial Day weekend. A slow moving, upper level closed low system persisted near the four corners region of the southwestern United States for several days. Widespread areas of 3 to 5 inches of rainfall occurred with more isolated pockets of 5 to 7 inches. The highest total for the event was 7.43 inches at Aiken (Floyd County). Other selected totals include 6.25 inches at Ralls (Crosby County), 6.07 inches at Slaton (Lubbock County), 5.80 inches at Floydada (Floyd County), 5.46 inches at Northfield (Motley County), and 5.23 inches at Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport (Lubbock County). The annual total at Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport was only 0.90 inches before Memorial Day weekend. By the end of May, Lubbock was only -0.08 inches below the annual average. Above average temperatures at the beginning of the month nearly evened out with cooler temperatures at the end of the month. The abundant rainfall kept temperatures well below seasonal averages after its occurrence. Lubbock was only 0.4 degrees above normal while Childress was 1.3 degrees above normal. Keetch-Byram Drought Index values significantly improved. Widespread values between 300 and 500 were observed. The only exception was over the Rolling Plains where values of 500 to 600 were observed.

Fire weather impacts eased tremendously because of the rainfall and will remain this way until repeated drying winds lead back to curing once again. Fuels immediately responded to the rainfall by greening up. Soil moisture profiles moistened significantly to the 30 inch depth in many areas. The rainfall came at an opportune time for crops and livestock production. Pastures and range lands greatly improved along with a reduction in supplemental feed for livestock.

Economic losses due to drought through May since the drought began were estimated near \$3 billion.

CHILDRESS COUNTY --- (CDS)CHILDRESS ARPT [34.43, -100.30]

05/07/14 17:53 CST	0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 55 kt)
05/07/14 17:53 CST	0	Source: ASOS

The Automated Surface Observing System at Childress Municipal Airport measured a wind gust to 63 mph.

Scattered showers and thunderstorms developed across the Rolling Plains along the dryline in association with an approaching disturbance aloft. One storm produced severe wind gusts in Childress with no notable damage reported.

HALL COUNTY --- 2.0 N LAKEVIEW [34.70, -100.70]

05/11/14 22:30 CST	1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
05/11/14 22:30 CST	0	Source: Public

Numerous large tree limbs were blown down north of Lakeview as a thunderstorm produced severe wind gusts.

HALL COUNTY --- LAKEVIEW [34.67, -100.70]

05/11/14 22:54 CST	0	Hail (1.00 in)
05/11/14 22:54 CST	0	Source: Public

A citizen reported quarter size hail in Lakeview.

A line of thunderstorm activity blossomed across the eastern Texas Panhandle during the late evening hours of the 11th as an upper level disturbance lifted out across the Great Plains from near the four corners region. A retreating dryline and relatively strong spring cold front were also present and combined with the upper level support to produce a deep layer of lift. Severe winds and hail impacted portions of Hall County, namely near and north of Lakeview.

(TX-Z027) BAILEY

05/14/14 01:10 CST	0	Frost/Freeze
05/14/14 06:05 CST	0	

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2014

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

The passage of a strong spring cold front the previous day coupled with clearing and calm conditions overnight led to a late season freeze in the far southwest panhandle and northwest South Plains. Temperatures across Bailey County dipped near or below 32 degrees for several hours. No widespread damage to crops was reported.

COCHRAN COUNTY --- 1.1 W MORTON COCHRAN CO AR [33.73, -102.75]

	05/21/14 16:35 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (MG 55 kt)
	05/21/14 16:40 CST	0		Source: Mesonet

The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site in Morton measured severe wind gusts for about 5 minutes, with speeds topping out at 63 mph.

LAMB COUNTY --- 1.0 NE AMHERST [34.03, -102.41]

	05/21/14 17:20 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (MG 52 kt)
	05/21/14 17:30 CST	0		Source: Mesonet

The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet station in Amherst recorded severe wind gusts of up to 60 mph.

CASTRO COUNTY --- 2.0 NE DIMMITT [34.57, -102.30]

	05/21/14 17:50 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (MG 54 kt)
	05/21/14 17:50 CST	0		Source: Mesonet

The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site in Dimmitt measured a 62 mph wind gust.

CASTRO COUNTY --- 0.6 ESE HART [34.38, -102.11], 3.0 N HART [34.42, -102.12]

	05/21/14 17:52 CST	2M		Thunderstorm Wind (MG 56 kt)
	05/21/14 18:06 CST	0		Source: Fire Department/Rescue

Local fire department and emergency management officials reported wind damage in and around Hart associated with a severe thunderstorm downburst . A freestanding grain dryer was blown over against a grain tank at the intersection of Highway 194 and Farm to Market Road 168. A couple of center pivot irrigation systems were also blown over as the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site in town recorded a 64 mph wind gust. Additionally, hail of up to penny size was observed.

SWISHER COUNTY --- 1.5 W TULIA [34.53, -101.80], 2.0 ENE TULIA [34.54, -101.74]

	05/21/14 18:25 CST	50K		Thunderstorm Wind (MG 54 kt)
	05/21/14 18:37 CST	0		Source: Emergency Manager

Emergency management reported sporadic damage induced by severe thunderstorm downburst winds in and around Tulia , including roof damage to a couple of structures and several downed trees with a few falling on vehicles. A semi-truck was blown over on Interstate 27 at mile marker 74 with the driver being treated and released from a nearby hospital. Wind speeds reached up to 62 mph as recorded by the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet station in Tulia.

A sharp upper level shortwave trough swept across eastern New Mexico ahead of a larger scale low pressure system over the Great Basin. Thunderstorms initiated along a dryline positioned near the Texas and New Mexico state line, producing several severe wind gusts in the relatively dry sub-cloud layer. Wind gusts on the order of 60 to 65 mph occurred, with the most significant damage taking place from Hart (Castro County) to Tulia (Swisher County).

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2014

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



A grain dryer in Hart blown over against a grain tank by thunderstorm downburst winds. Photo courtesy of Brad Barnes with the Hart Fire Department.

CROSBY COUNTY --- 4.8 WNW RALLS [33.71, -101.46], 3.1 ESE ROBERTSON [33.56, -101.47], 3.4 WSW CROSBYTON MUNI ARPT [33.61, -101.29], 6.3 N CROSBYTON [33.76, -101.27]

05/23/14 05:30 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/23/14 11:00 CST	0	Source: Public

Early this morning, multiple lines of showers and thunderstorms with heavy rain moved repeatedly across portions of northern and western Crosby County. By late morning, a Texas Tech West Texas Mesonet station located one mile southeast of Ralls tallied 4.65 inches of rain. Stretches of Highways 82 and 70 near Ralls were covered in several inches of water after nearby playa lakes became swollen.

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2014

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
LAMB COUNTY --- 1.1 E AMHERST [34.02, -102.40]				
	05/24/14 04:25 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 51 kt)
	05/24/14 04:25 CST		0	Source: Mesonet
Measured by a Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet station.				
LAMB COUNTY --- 8.0 WSW OLTON [34.14, -102.26]				
	05/24/14 04:44 CST		4K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 61 kt)
	05/24/14 04:44 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media
A center pivot was toppled southwest of Olton. Time estimated from radar.				
HALE COUNTY --- 8.8 SE SETH WARD [34.13, -101.57]				
	05/24/14 05:44 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 53 kt)
	05/24/14 05:44 CST		0	Source: Mesonet
Measured by a Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet station.				
YOAKUM COUNTY --- DENVER CITY ARPT [32.97, -102.83]				
	05/24/14 23:43 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	05/24/14 23:43 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
The Denver City Police Department heard large hail hitting the roof of their office building and estimated the size to be ping -pong balls. Damage was unknown.				
A line of thunderstorms exited New Mexico during the pre-dawn hours and developed into a bow echo across Lamb County before dissipating in eastern Hale County. Shortly before midnight, a severe thunderstorm with large hail exited Lea County New Mexico and produced ping-pong ball size hail in Denver City.				
LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 3.2 E BURRIS [33.53, -101.73], 2.9 E BURRIS [33.53, -101.73], 2.8 E BURRIS [33.53, -101.73], 3.1 E BURRIS [33.53, -101.73]				
	05/25/14 08:49 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/25/14 12:00 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager
HOCKLEY COUNTY --- 4.0 ENE ARNETT [33.50, -102.23], 3.8 E ARNETT [33.49, -102.23], 5.2 E ARNETT [33.49, -102.21], 5.2 ENE ARNETT [33.50, -102.21]				
	05/25/14 08:55 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/25/14 12:00 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
Periods of moderate to heavy rain developed once again this morning throughout the South Plains. The most persistent rain affected portions of Hockley and Lubbock Counties where some rural roads such as FM 1585 northwest of Ropesville and FM 835 near Ransom Canyon were closed due to several inches of standing water.				
HOCKLEY COUNTY --- 8.3 W WOLFFORTH [33.50, -102.16], 8.4 W WOLFFORTH [33.48, -102.17], 11.9 W WOLFFORTH [33.49, -102.23], 11.9 W WOLFFORTH [33.50, -102.23]				
	05/26/14 15:00 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/26/14 23:00 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser
LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 4.8 WSW HURLWOOD [33.55, -102.11], 8.0 SW WOLFFORTH [33.41, -102.11], 1.9 SE SLATON [33.41, -101.62], 3.4 SSW ACUFF [33.56, -101.65]				
	05/26/14 15:30 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/26/14 23:30 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
CROSBY COUNTY --- 7.1 ENE ACUFF [33.63, -101.50], 22.3 ENE MIDWAY [33.61, -101.20], 22.0 ESE MIDWAY [33.45, -101.21], 5.8 SE MIDWAY [33.48, -101.50]				
	05/26/14 16:30 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/26/14 23:30 CST		0	Source: Public
FLOYD COUNTY --- 23.4 NE BECTON [33.99, -101.33], 23.6 NE BECTON [33.99, -101.32], 24.8 NE BECTON [34.02, -101.32], 24.6 NE BECTON [34.01, -101.33]				

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2014

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	05/26/14 16:30 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/26/14 19:30 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager

GARZA COUNTY --- 1.4 N PLEASANT VLY [33.29, -101.50]

05/26/14 16:47 CST	0	Hail (1.00 in)
05/26/14 16:47 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

No damage was reported.

HOCKLEY COUNTY --- 4.9 SSW SMYER [33.51, -102.20], 5.5 N ROPESVILLE [33.50, -102.17]

05/26/14 16:52 CST	0.50K	Tornado (EF0, L: 2.05 mi , W: 30 yd)
05/26/14 16:59 CST	0	Source: NWS Employee

Storm spotters and an off-duty NWS employee observed a seven minute tornado over rural land about seven miles southeast of Levelland. Although this tornado did destroy a small roof extension attached to an outbuilding, the construction of the roof was of low quality and therefore the tornado was assigned an EF0 rating.

LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 4.0 SSE DOUD [33.52, -101.91]

05/26/14 17:55 CST	2K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
05/26/14 17:55 CST	0	Source: Broadcast Media

A power pole was downed on Quaker Avenue south of 82nd Street.

A slow-moving upper low moved across the Texas Panhandle this afternoon accompanied by a cold pocket aloft. After a fourth consecutive morning of heavy rains across the region, a few hours of clearing in the afternoon resulted in a final bout of thunderstorms; some of which became severe. The strongest of these storms moved from near Levelland and Lubbock east into the southern Rolling Plains accompanied by a downburst and marginally severe hail. A seven-minute EF0 tornado was also spotted by storm chasers in southeast Hockley County this evening. Other than removing a roof extension from a small rural shed, this tornado produced no other damage. The greatest impact by far was more torrential rainfall on top of already saturated soils. The result was widespread flooding of many roads and streets across southern Lubbock, Crosby, Hockley and Floyd Counties. To underscore the intensity of these rains, a Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet station near Wolfforth measured an instantaneous hourly rainfall rate of a whopping 10.3 inches.

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2014

Location

Date/Time

Deaths &
Injuries

Property &
Crop Dmg

Event Type and Details



Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2014

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

A utility pole was blown over near 91st Street and Slide Road in Lubbock. Photograph taken by NWS Meteorologist Robert Barritt.