

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - March 2017

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

**GARZA COUNTY --- POST [33.18, -101.38]**

03/21/17 16:10 CST	0	Hail (1.00 in)
03/21/17 16:10 CST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

The Garza County Sheriff's office reported quarter size hail in the city of Post. No damage was reported.

**An advancing cold front met ample instability to create isolated thunderstorms over the southern Rolling Plains. One of these storms became severe as it moved over Post in Garza County.**

**(TX-Z034) HOCKLEY, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z039) YOAKUM, (TX-Z042) GARZA**

03/23/17 16:25 CST	5K	High Wind (MAX 52 kt)
03/23/17 20:55 CST	0	

**LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 2.2 SE WOLFFORTH [33.48, -101.99], 3.5 S DOUD [33.52, -101.94]**

03/23/17 20:00 CST	0	Hail (0.75 in)
03/23/17 20:08 CST	0	Source: NWS Employee

Several reports of hail up to penny size were received from southwest Lubbock. No damage was noted despite strong winds around 50 mph.

**HALE COUNTY --- 2.1 NNE ABERNATHY MUNI ARPT [33.88, -101.76]**

03/23/17 20:25 CST	0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 51 kt)
03/23/17 20:25 CST	0	Source: Mesonet

Measured by a Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet station.

**LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 2.7 NE SLATON [33.46, -101.62]**

03/23/17 21:25 CST	0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 55 kt)
03/23/17 21:25 CST	0	Source: Mesonet

Measured by a Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet station.

**GARZA COUNTY --- 8.9 ENE JUSTICEBURG [33.06, -101.05]**

03/23/17 22:20 CST	0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
03/23/17 22:20 CST	0	Source: COOP Observer

A metal security gate was torn off its mounts. Time estimated.

**In advance of a potent upper low, strong southerly gradient winds developed this afternoon over much of the South Plains and southwest Texas Panhandle and led to widespread blowing dust with visibility falling to a few miles at times. Winds at some locales intensified to high wind territory by early evening, particularly in Levelland where a mobile home had its roof peeled off. As a dryline and strong lift moved out of New Mexico early in the evening, scattered thunderstorms developed and raced northeast at speeds up to 60 mph. Some of these storms produced severe wind gusts and sub-severe hail before weakening considerably as they moved off the Caprock before midnight.**

**(TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z023) SWISHER, (TX-Z029) HALE, (TX-Z034) HOCKLEY, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK**

03/24/17 09:12 CST	0	High Wind (MAX 36 kt)
03/24/17 18:52 CST	0	

Sporadic high sustained winds developed this day south of a tightly wound low pressure system in the Texas Panhandle. These westerly winds generated some blowing dust, but surprisingly much less than the preceding day when southerly wind gusts were more robust. The visibility at Lubbock International Airport fell briefly to five miles late in the morning, before quickly recovering to seven miles or better.

**LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 0.7 S (REE)REESE AFB LUBBO [33.59, -102.05], 4.1 W SHALLOWATER ARPT [33.67, -102.07]**

03/28/17 11:35 CST	0	Hail (1.25 in)
03/28/17 11:46 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

No damage was reported.

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<b>MOTLEY COUNTY --- 5.5 ESE FLOMOT [34.19, -100.89]</b>				
	03/28/17 15:06 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	03/28/17 15:06 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser
Hail damage was not known.				
<b>CROSBY COUNTY --- 2.2 SW FARMER [33.76, -101.48]</b>				
	03/28/17 15:10 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	03/28/17 15:10 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager
No hail damage was reported.				
<b>CROSBY COUNTY --- 1.6 E CROSBYTON PAULDER AR [33.65, -101.19], 3.3 ENE CROSBYTON PAULDER AR [33.68, -101.17]</b>				
	03/28/17 15:26 CST		0	Tornado (EFU, L: 2.47 mi , W: 100 yd)
	03/28/17 15:34 CST		0	Source: NWS Employee
An off-duty NWS employee observed a cone tornado develop near the edge of the Caprock about 2.5 miles southeast of Crosbyton. This tornado crossed U.S. Highway 82, but did not produce any visible damage to trees or power lines in the area. This tornado was later absorbed by a larger mesocyclone to its north that went on to produce a sizable tornado in northeast Crosby County.				
<b>FLOYD COUNTY --- 1.8 NE LAKEVIEW [33.89, -101.23]</b>				
	03/28/17 15:30 CST		0	Hail (1.75 in)
	03/28/17 15:30 CST		0	Source: COOP Observer
Hail damage was not observed.				
<b>CROSBY COUNTY --- 3.6 NE CROSBYTON PAULDER AR [33.69, -101.18], 4.5 NE CROSBYTON [33.72, -101.20]</b>				
	03/28/17 15:34 CST		0	Tornado (EFU, L: 2.07 mi , W: 400 yd)
	03/28/17 15:43 CST		0	Source: NWS Employee
A cyclic supercell responsible for the prior tornado in Crosby County produced a large tornado about five miles northeast of Crosbyton , before wrapping in rain. Radar indicated this tornado moved slowly northwest before decaying nearly ten minutes after development. The rugged landscape at the base of the Caprock did not allow for a storm damage survey.				
<b>FLOYD COUNTY --- 5.3 NNE LAKEVIEW [33.94, -101.21], 8.1 NE DOUGHERTY [34.02, -100.99]</b>				
	03/28/17 16:00 CST		25K	Hail (1.50 in)
	03/28/17 16:05 CST		0.15M	Source: Storm Chaser
A large and prolific hailswath crossed U.S. Highway 70 in far eastern Floyd County. Hailstones as large as 1.5 inches in diameter caused damage to several vehicles in the area and shredded hundreds of acres of winter wheat. The duration of hail was so great that it covered the ground with about three inches of hail resulting in hazardous travel conditions and dense fog.				
<b>DICKENS COUNTY --- 8.7 W SPUR MUNI ARPT [33.46, -101.00], 8.5 W SPUR [33.48, -101.00]</b>				
	03/28/17 16:14 CST		0	Tornado (EFU, L: 1.02 mi , W: 100 yd)
	03/28/17 16:16 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser
A storm chaser documented a tornado that developed near County Road 405 and Farm-to-Market Road 2794 in far western Dickens County. Despite crossing a road with utility lines, video indicated no apparent damage from this tornado.				
<b>FLOYD COUNTY --- 2.9 SSE DOUGHERTY [33.89, -101.07], 2.5 SSE DOUGHERTY [33.90, -101.06]</b>				
	03/28/17 16:17 CST		0	Tornado (EFU, L: 0.61 mi , W: 30 yd)
	03/28/17 16:18 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser
A storm chaser reported a brief tornado wrapped in rain crossing County Road 28. No damage was reported.				
<b>MOTLEY COUNTY --- 0.7 S NORTHFIELD [34.27, -100.60]</b>				
	03/28/17 17:00 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 51 kt)
	03/28/17 17:00 CST		0	Source: Mesonet
Measured by a Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet station.				
<b>HALE COUNTY --- 0.9 NE PETERSBURG [33.88, -101.59]</b>				

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	03/28/17 17:08 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	03/28/17 17:09 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser

The hail covered the ground to around one inch in depth. No damage was reported.

<b>DICKENS COUNTY --- 17.0 E DICKENS [33.60, -100.54], 17.4 E DICKENS [33.61, -100.53]</b>				
	03/28/17 17:34 CST		75K	Tornado (EF1, L: 0.70 mi , W: 50 yd)
	03/28/17 17:35 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey

Meteorologists with NWS Lubbock and the Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet conducted a storm damage survey in far east -central Dickens County during the morning of March 29. This team surveyed tornado damage at the Pitchfork Ranch located about 11 miles west of Guthrie, TX along U.S. Highway 82.

The most significant damage observed at the Pitchfork Ranch consisted of about 300 square feet of metal roofing removed from a well-constructed building. Many of the underlying support trusses to the roof were also separated from the building. Various trees were blown over and strewn about. A large twin gravity box was also toppled. The damage to the roof was consistent with maximum winds of around 100 miles per hour. Debris in the area revealed a convergent pattern indicative of a tornado, which was also supported by strong rotation in the area as observed by radar.

Available damage indicators surrounding the Pitchfork Ranch were very sparse and an accurate assessment of the duration and path of this EF -1 tornado was not feasible.

<b>DICKENS COUNTY --- 15.2 ESE AFTON [33.65, -100.57], 14.2 ESE AFTON [33.68, -100.57]</b>				
	03/28/17 17:43 CST		0	Tornado (EFU, L: 1.91 mi , W: 30 yd)
	03/28/17 17:47 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser

Storm chasers observed a tornado develop north of U.S. Highway 82 in far eastern Dickens County. This tornado produced no known damage as it remained over open land.

<b>KING COUNTY --- 9.7 WNW GUTHRIE 6666 ARPT [33.67, -100.51], 9.3 S DUMONT [33.69, -100.52]</b>				
	03/28/17 17:49 CST		0	Tornado (EFU, L: 1.40 mi , W: 50 yd)
	03/28/17 17:51 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser

This tornado developed from a cyclic supercell responsible for the previous tornado in far eastern Dickens County. No damage was reported with this tornado as it remained over open land.

**Rich Gulf moisture over the South Plains early this morning and a vigorous upper low culminated in severe thunderstorm development by late morning across the South Plains. A triple point (intersection of a surface low, warm front and dryline) developed very near Lubbock before noon and proceeded east while serving to focus strong low level wind shear. This wind shear along with low cloud bases allowed for several storms to acquire low level rotation and produce tornadoes and large hail at times. Fortunately, of the seven tornadoes that were confirmed by NWS Lubbock, only one produced damage and was rated EF1 after striking the Pitchfork Ranch (far eastern Dickens County). These storms also produced beneficial heavy rains and some minor flooding from the eastern South Plains throughout the Rolling Plains.**

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*An EF-0 tornado about 2.5 miles southeast of Crosbyton, TX on 28 March 2017. Image courtesy of Matt Ziebell.*