

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - October 2018

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
TEXAS, South Panhandle				
(TX-Z032) COTTLE, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z037) DICKENS, (TX-Z038) KING, (TX-Z040) TERRY, (TX-Z041) LYNN				
	10/01/18 00:00 CST		0	Drought
	10/08/18 23:59 CST		0	
<p>Early October saw an exceptionally moist and unsettled pattern grip much of West Texas. The ensuing periodic rounds of rainfall produced generally between 3 and 6 inches of rain over much of the South Plains, Rolling Plains and southern Texas Panhandle. Additional heavy rains fell on the 12th and 13th thanks to the remnants of Tropical Storm Sergio from the eastern Pacific. All six counties that began the month with D2 conditions (severe drought) saw drought levels fall to D0 (abnormally dry) to D1 (moderate drought) following the prolonged cool and abnormally wet conditions. Unfortunately, many cotton farmers reported water damage and degradation to their cotton fibers following the many rounds of rain. For those farmers whose cotton bolls had not yet fully matured, a prolonged and early freeze across all of the South Plains on October 15th dealt further damage. The USDA estimated that about 1/2 of the regional cotton crop (or just over 1 million cotton bales) would have to be abandoned this year due to combined effects from the severe spring and summer drought, heavy rains in the Fall, and an early season freeze. Estimates indicate the drought alone inflicted nearly \$400 million in combined losses for cotton, sorghum, corn, and peanut farming.</p>				
YOAKUM COUNTY --- 3.0 N PLAINS [33.22, -102.83]				
	10/04/18 15:05 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 62 kt)
	10/04/18 15:05 CST		0	Source: Mesonet
A Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet site near Plains measured a wind gust to 71 mph.				
LYNN COUNTY --- 1.2 SW TAHOKA [33.17, -101.79], 1.4 SW TAHOKA [33.16, -101.79]				
	10/04/18 18:00 CST		0	Heavy Rain
	10/04/18 21:00 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
Law enforcement officials reported minor street flooding in and around US Highway 87 near the intersection with US Highway 380.				
<p>On the afternoon of the fourth, scattered thunderstorms developed in eastern New Mexico and moved into a very unstable atmosphere in the southwestern South Plains. One storm became severe as it moved over Plains (Yoakum County) generating a wind gust to 71 mph.</p>				
LAMB COUNTY --- 0.6 W SPRINGLAKE [34.23, -102.31]				
	10/05/18 16:00 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	10/05/18 16:00 CST		0	Source: Public
Damage was unknown.				
HOCKLEY COUNTY --- 5.3 E ARNETT [33.49, -102.21], 5.4 E ARNETT [33.49, -102.21], 5.8 E ARNETT [33.49, -102.20], 5.6 NNW ROPESVILLE [33.49, -102.20]				
	10/05/18 17:00 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	10/05/18 18:00 CST		10K	Source: NWS Storm Survey
A section of FM Road 1585 was closed following floodwaters up to 2.5 feet from a swollen playa lake.				
SWISHER COUNTY --- 10.3 E KRESS [34.38, -101.57]				
	10/05/18 17:30 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	10/05/18 17:30 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
Damage information was not available.				
HOCKLEY COUNTY --- 5.4 NNW ROPESVILLE [33.49, -102.19]				
	10/05/18 17:45 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	10/05/18 17:45 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
A meteorologist with Texas Tech University estimated hail to quarter size that stripped several trees.				
HOCKLEY COUNTY --- 6.0 N ROPESVILLE [33.51, -102.15]				
	10/05/18 17:45 CST		6K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 61 kt)
	10/05/18 17:45 CST		0	Source: Public

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Two power poles were downed near the intersection of FM Road 169 and FM Road 1585.

SWISHER COUNTY --- 7.9 ESE KRESS [34.33, -101.62]

	10/05/18 17:48 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	10/05/18 17:48 CST		0	Source: Public

Damage information was unavailable.

HOCKLEY COUNTY --- 4.7 E SMYER [33.59, -102.09]

	10/05/18 18:00 CST		0.30K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	10/05/18 18:10 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media

A trampoline was damaged after being lofted over a fence and landing in a neighbor's yard.

LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 1.8 SE LUBBOCK [33.56, -101.83]

	10/05/18 18:30 CST		3K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 61 kt)
	10/05/18 18:30 CST		0	Source: Utility Company

Power lines were blown down at 34th Street and Globe Avenue in eastern Lubbock.

CROSBY COUNTY --- 7.1 SSE CROSBYTON MUNI ARPT [33.53, -101.17]

	10/05/18 21:25 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 53 kt)
	10/05/18 21:25 CST		0	Source: Mesonet

Measured by a Texas Tech University West Texas mesonet.

TERRY COUNTY --- 0.9 NE BROWNFIELD [33.19, -102.27]

	10/08/18 16:40 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	10/08/18 16:40 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

Damage information was not available.

Abundant moisture and moderate instability fueled the development of scattered to numerous thunderstorms late this Friday afternoon through the overnight. In addition to disrupting and cancelling many area high school football games, some of these storms became severe with high winds and large hail. Torrential downpours also resulted in some flooding, especially in and around the Lubbock area.


CASTRO COUNTY --- 4.8 NW DIMMITT MUNI ARPT [34.61, -102.39], 6.7 E SUMMERFIELD [34.73, -102.38]

	10/07/18 13:31 CST		0	Tornado (EFU, L: 8.65 mi , W: 200 yd)
	10/07/18 13:49 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

This tornado was initially reported to Castro County Police by a motorist near Dimmitt. With time, this initially small tornado grew into a large cone as it moved north at about 30 mph. No known damage accompanied this tornado as it remained over farm land.

A strong warm front lifted north across the South Plains early this afternoon before eventually intersecting a surface trough in the far southwest Texas Panhandle. As storms developed along the trough, they moved north and acquired strong low level rotation as they interacted with the warm front. One of these supercell storms produced a large cone tornado in far northwest Castro County that fortunately remained over farm land producing no known damage.

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EFU tornado moving north near Easter, TX as photographed by Blake Brown.

CASTRO COUNTY --- 4.9 SW SUNNYSIDE [34.31, -102.37], 7.4 E SUMMERFIELD [34.74, -102.37], 14.3 NNE NAZARETH [34.74, -102.00], 8.4 SE HART [34.31, -102.00]

10/08/18 02:00 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/08/18 11:00 CST	0	Source: Department of Highways

HOCKLEY COUNTY --- 4.0 NW OKLAHOMA FLAT [33.82, -102.45], 4.3 SSW SUNDOWN [33.39, -102.52], 0.9 SW ROPESVILLE MCNABB AR [33.39, -102.08], 3.6 NNE ROUNDUP [33.82, -102.08]

10/08/18 03:00 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/08/18 12:00 CST	0	Source: Department of Highways

LAMB COUNTY --- 8.0 W LUMS CHAPEL [33.83, -102.47], 6.8 NW EARTH [34.31, -102.47], 9.3 NNE OLTON [34.31, -102.09], 7.7 SSE SPADE [33.82, -102.09]

10/08/18 03:00 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/08/18 12:00 CST	0	Source: Department of Highways

HALE COUNTY --- 10.9 W EDMONSON [34.30, -102.09], 8.4 NE SETH WARD [34.30, -101.57], 3.6 SE PETERSBURG [33.83, -101.56], 3.0 WNW COUNTYLINE [33.83, -102.08]

10/08/18 04:00 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/08/18 13:00 CST	0	Source: Department of Highways

SWISHER COUNTY --- 4.6 W HAPPY [34.74, -101.93], 6.2 N VIGO PARK [34.74, -101.49], 15.4 ESE KRESS [34.31, -101.49], 14.3 WSW KRESS [34.31, -101.99]

10/08/18 05:00 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/08/18 14:00 CST	0	Source: Department of Highways

BRISCOE COUNTY --- 7.7 NE VIGO PARK [34.74, -101.40], 26.2 NNE QUITAQUE [34.74, -100.95], 3.2 ESE GASOLINE [34.31, -100.95], 4.9 SW WHITELEY [34.31, -101.40]

10/08/18 08:00 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/08/18 13:00 CST	0	Source: Department of Highways

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FLOYD COUNTY --- 8.0 WSW MC COY [33.83, -101.56], 8.3 WNW LONE STAR [34.30, -101.56], 16.9 ENE SOUTH PLAINS [34.30, -101.04], 7.3 SSE DOUGHERTY [33.83, -101.04]				
	10/08/18 08:00 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	10/08/18 13:00 CST		0	Source: Department of Highways
LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 9.8 WNW CALDWELL [33.82, -102.08], 5.9 ENE BECTON [33.82, -101.56], 5.9 ESE SLATON [33.39, -101.56], 8.1 SSW WOLFFORTH [33.39, -102.07]				
	10/08/18 09:00 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	10/08/18 13:00 CST		0	Source: Department of Highways
CROSBY COUNTY --- 11.9 S ROBERTSON [33.40, -101.55], 6.3 E KALGARY [33.40, -101.04], 4.4 NE WAKE [33.82, -101.04], 3.6 NW ESTACADO [33.82, -101.56]				
	10/08/18 10:00 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	10/08/18 15:00 CST		0	Source: Department of Highways
TERRY COUNTY --- 1.8 NNE GOMEZ [33.20, -102.37], 2.1 NNE GOMEZ [33.21, -102.36]				
	10/08/18 16:02 CST		0	Tornado (EFU, L: 0.52 mi , W: 30 yd)
	10/08/18 16:07 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser
This tornado drifted slowly east over cotton fields. Damage, if any, was not known.				
TERRY COUNTY --- 3.0 E BROWNFIELD [33.18, -102.23]				
	10/08/18 16:20 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	10/08/18 16:20 CST		0	Source: Storm Chaser
Damage information was not available.				
LYNN COUNTY --- 4.0 W NEW HOME [33.32, -101.99]				
	10/08/18 17:02 CST		0	Hail (1.75 in)
	10/08/18 17:02 CST		0.20M	Source: Insurance Company

An insurance adjuster relayed hail damage to cotton crops in northwest Lynn County. Approximately 300 acres of cotton and sorghum sustained moderate to heavy damage.

Early morning showers and thunderstorms across much of the South Plains were followed by additional rounds of heavy rainfall through midday. The latter rounds of rain were focused near and just east of the Interstate 27 and US Highway 87 corridor where as much as two inches of rain fell on top of soils that were already saturated from heavy rains that fell just three days earlier. The result was widespread flooding of poor drainage areas over much of the South Plains, including a few temporary road closures such as FM Road 179 near Cotton Center where nearly three feet water covered the road. In the wake of the flooding rains, a supercell thunderstorm developed in western Terry County along an outflow boundary leftover from the morning rain. After producing a five-minute tornado west of Brownfield over open land, this storm crawled east for the next 1.5 hours with severe hail at times.

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This EFU tornado drifted east over cotton fields west of Brownfield, TX. Photo courtesy of Cameron Nixon.