

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - March 2013

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

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z251) KENEDY, (TX-Z252) STARR, (TX-Z253) HIDALGO, (TX-Z254) WILLACY, (TX-Z255) CAMERON, (TX-Z256) COASTAL WILLACY, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

03/01/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
03/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

March started dry and ended drier. Other than spotty streamer showers and sprinkles across the Lower Rio Grande Valley and a sole decaying supercell that dropped a little more than a third of an inch of rain and golf ball sized hail in Falfurrias just before midnight on the 31st, rain was non-existent in March 2012. The lack of rainfall and numerous bone dry days allowed conditions to worsen and the month ended with the entire region in Extreme (D3) to Exceptional (D4) drought.

(TX-Z252) STARR

03/05/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
03/11/13 23:59 CST	0	

Windy, mild, and extremely dry weather during the first week of March allowed drought to deteriorate one level in Starr County between March 5th and 11th, 2013.

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z255) CAMERON

03/12/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
03/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

Extreme to exceptional drought conditions continued to spread across all of Deep South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley during the second half of March. A few isolated showers on March 16th and 20th provided patchy light rain, primarily across the coastal counties, as did a decaying supercell over Falfurrias late on the 31st. However, this rainfall was not enough to improve drought conditions or stall the intensification.

In all, 11 to 13 afternoons saw humidity fall to 15 percent or lower, west of Highway 281. The low humidity and gusty wind created frequent blowing dust behind each front that swept the ranchlands and mid/upper Valley during the most of the month.

(TX-Z252) STARR

03/12/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
03/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

A continuation of breezy, mild, and extremely dry weather brought conditions to their worst in Starr County by March 12th. Exceptional (D4) Drought covered the ranchlands after days of wind and humidity crashing to or below 15 percent, in some cases below 10 percent for several hours in the afternoon.

BROOKS COUNTY --- 3.1 W FALFURRIAS [27.23, -98.20]

03/31/13 21:35 CST	0	Hail (1.25 in)
03/31/13 21:41 CST	0	Source: COOP Observer

Half dollar size hail was reported near the Hollywood Hunting Camp about 3 miles west of Falfurrias by a Cooperative Observer.

BROOKS COUNTY --- FALFURRIAS [27.23, -98.15]

03/31/13 21:35 CST	0	Hail (1.75 in)
03/31/13 21:41 CST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

Golf ball size hail was reported in Falfurrias by local law enforcement and nearby by a trained spotter during the mid evening.

On the evening of March 31st, a decaying supercell, associated with convective activity that developed along an outflow boundary over south Texas, moved southeast at 25 mph over the far northeastern corner of Brooks County. The storm dropped half dollar to golf ball size hail over the city of Falfurrias and was accompanied by strong winds and lightning.