

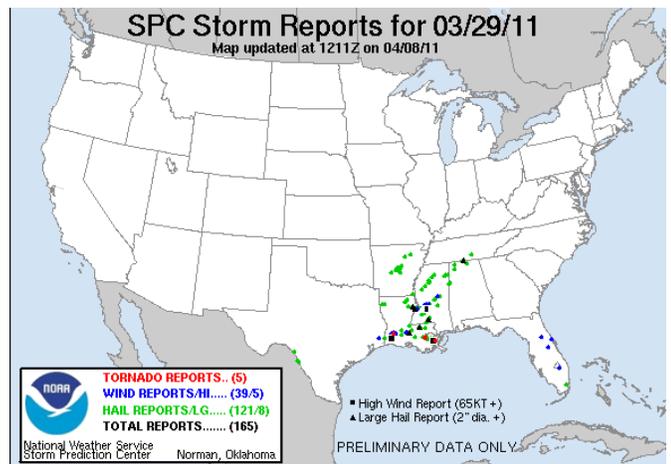
South Mississippi CoCoRaHS Newsletter

Major Severe Weather on March 29th

March was a rather dry and tranquil month in the middle but came in rather rocky and ended with a severe weather footprint. A slow moving cold front on Ash Wednesday (Mar 9th) produced widespread heavy rainfall and some severe thunderstorms. This led into a two week or so stretch of dry and mild weather. On March 29th, a strong storm system brought another round of heavy rainfall and severe thunderstorms to the Gulf South. Included among these reports were very large hail near Tyler-town and a few tornadoes in nearby Southeast Louisiana. The image to the right is from the

Storm Prediction Center, showing the various locations where storm reports were received and documented by the National Weather Service. The green dots are hail reports, the black triangles are hail reports larger than 2 inch diameter. The red dots are tornado reports and the blue dots are damaging wind reports.

*[image courtesy of NWS Storm Prediction Center web site
www.spc.noaa.gov/]*



March Statistics

- **Wettest Month State**
MS-LD-15 Meridian 14.1 SE
13.70" on 22 reports
- **Wettest Month Local**
MS-PK-2 Jayess 5.6 SW
8.27" on 25 reports
- **Number of Rain Days: 14**
- **Wettest Day State**
MS-LD-15 Meridian 14.1 SE
7.00" on Mar 9th
- **Wettest Day Local**
MS-PK-2 Jayess 5.6 SW
3.92" on Mar 9th
- **Driest Month**
MS-WS-1 Leland 3.3 ENE
3.02" on 31 reports
- **Hail Days: 2**
MS-PT-1 Pontotoc 6.4 NNE
unknown size 3/26 8:30 pm
MS-PT-4 Ecrú 2.5 E
1/2" Grape 3/26 8:40 pm
MS-RN-23 Florence 0.9 E
1/2" pea -1" quarters 3/29 7:50 pm

March Not So Madness

We went into the month of March with expectations of gaining more membership. After several rounds of severe weather and other job related tasks, the recruiting has not gone as robust as desired. We did manage to add 2 more folks to the state rosters during

the March Madness drive. Welcome to those new weather observers. Recruiting just doesn't end in March, it's a year round activity. Fortunately, we are doing really well for observer coverage in our coastal counties. The interior south-west Mississippi

counties still could use some help, particularly Walthall County, which still has no membership. We are working with a radio station in Tyler-town to solicit participation in Walthall County.

Robert J. Ricks, Jr.

NWS Forecast Office
62300 Airport Road
Slidell, LA 70460

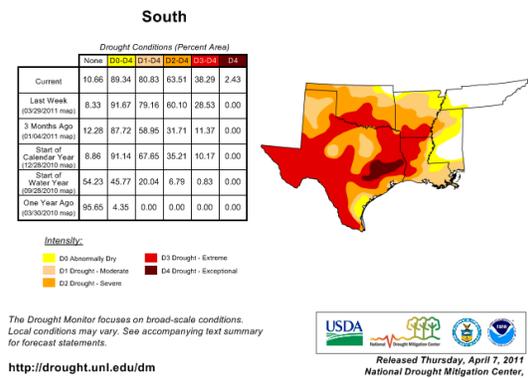
Phone: (985) 649-0429
Phone: (504) 522-7330
E-mail: robert.ricks@noaa.gov
E-mail: robricks86@hotmail.com



We're on the Web!
www.cocorahs.org

"Because every drop counts"

Drought conditions are worsening in Texas and are showing signs of spreading east into Western Louisiana. The National Drought Monitor image right is the latest release, showing D4 or Exceptional Drought conditions emerging over the Texas Piney Woods region. A few heavy rain events in Mississippi has slowed the drought spread some, but conditions will have to be continuously monitored for possible deterioration over time, particularly along the Gulf Coast.



Keep those rainfall and hail reports coming!

Reporting Statistics (March)

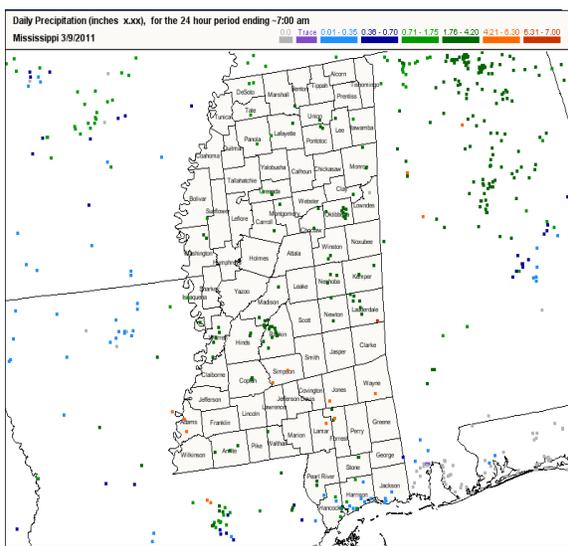
- **Stations reporting: 136**
- **Number of reports: 3604**
- **Average daily reporting: 116.2**

Busiest Reporting Day

- **Date: Mar 30th**
- **Number of Reports: 128**
- **Average reported rainfall: 1.03"**
- **Max amount: 4.28"**

Wettest Reporting Day

- **Date: Mar 9th**
- **Number of Reports: 123**
- **Average reported rainfall: 2.42"**
- **Max amount: 7.00"**



Rainfall map from March 9th, 2011. The orange dots are between 4.21 and 6.30 inches. The red dot near Meridian was a 7.00 inch maximum reported for the day.