

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
JOHN T. CONNOR, Secretary
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE

STORM DATA

SEPTEMBER 1966

Volume 8 No. 9



ASHEVILLE: 1966

STORM DATA AND UNUSUAL WEATHER PHENOMENA

SEPTEMBER 1966

PLACE	DATE	TIME - LOCAL STANDARD	LENGTH OF PATH (MILES)	WIDTH OF PATH (YARDS)	NO. OF PERSONS		ESTIMATED DAMAGE		CHARACTER OF STORM
					KILLED	INJURED	PROPERTY	CROPS	
KANSAS (Cont'd.) Stanton, Grant, Haskell Counties	2	late afternoon, early evening	?	?	0	0	4	5	Hail, rain
Haskell County	2	between 5:30 - 6:00 p.	short narrow		0	0	0	0	Tornado, 2 funnels aloft
Thomas County	12	evening	7	7	0	0	0	4	Hail
Republic, Jewell, Mitchell Counties	13	3:45 - 4:20 p.	?	?	0	0	3	5	Hail, rain
Cowley, Labette Counties	13	evening	?	?	0	0	2	4	Hail
Russell County	17	late afternoon							2 funnels aloft
Dickinson County	17	about 5:30 p.	4	*1	0	0	4	4	Hail
Crawford County	30	early morning			0	0	4	0	Lightning
KENTUCKY									
None reported									
LOUISIANA									
Jefferson Parish	5	Before 1 p.			1	0	0	0	Lightning
Plaquemines Parish	11	11:45 a.							Waterspout
Plaquemines Parish	11	3:00 p. - 3:25 p.							Funnel clouds aloft
Cameron Parish	15	3:45 p. - 3:50 p.	1/10	50	0	0	1	0	Tornado
Calcasieu Parish	15	4:05 p.							Waterspout
MAINE									
Fayette (Previously reported as Readfield)	13	1:15 p.m.	2	50	0	0	3	4	Tornado
MARYLAND									
Northcentral portion and District of Columbia	13-15	PM of 13th to AM of 15th			1	0	6	0	Heavy rain
MARYLAND (Cont'd.)									
<p>pecially to the area indicated. Rainfall for the storm period totaled as much as 10.04 inches, recorded at Catoclin Mountain Park, Frederick County. The greatest one-day rainfall records for September were broken on the 14th at such locations with long period of records, as Frederick, Emmitsburg, Chewsville-Bridgeport and College Park. Storm damage, resulting from flooding, was heaviest in the urbanized Washington, D.C. metropolitan area; other significant flooding occurred along the Monocacy River and the Israel Creek. One death was reported when a young man drowned after his rubber raft capsized in the Northwest Branch of Anacostia River. On the plus side, this storm's rainfall may signal the end of the prolonged drought which had been most seriously affecting the entire area.</p>									
MASSACHUSETTS									
Lynn	2	Evening			0	0	4	0	Rain, electrical
<p>Brief but heavy thundershowers battered the area, flooding a number of streets and underpasses and downing tree limbs. Water seeped into cellars and basements and damaged stored goods and materials. Many homes in and around the Lynn area were without power for up to 8 hours.</p>									
MICHIGAN									
Wayne County	3	3:00 - 5:15 PM			0	0	4	0	Lightning Heavy Rain
<p>Severe lightning caused power failures to over 6,000 homes in southern Wayne County. Heavy rain caused four auto accidents and localized flooding stalled some cars and flooded basements.</p>									
MINNESOTA									
None reported									
MISSISSIPPI									
Jasper County	4	Early Afternoon						3	Lightning
Yazoo County	4	11:00							Funnel Cloud
Harrison County	5	Afternoon						3	Windstorm
Jackson County	5	Afternoon						3	Lightning
Harrison County	12	11:30						4	Lightning
Prentiss County	12	2:15						4	Flash Flood
Coahoma County	17							4	Hailstorm
MISSOURI									
Richmond (Near Ray County)	2	9:00 AM						4	Thunderstorm
Warrensburg, Johnson County	25	Early morning						4	Thunderstorm
West Plains, Howell County	26	9:10 PM						4	Thunderstorm
MONTANA									
None reported									
NEBRASKA									
Hamilton and York Counties	3	5:30 p - 6:30 p	?	2*	0	0	0	4	Hail
Northeastern Nebraska	3	4:30 p - 8:30 p	90	2-4*	0	0	0	5	Hail
<p>Numerous strips 1/2 to 3 miles wide and up to 10-15 miles long in Cedar, Wayne, Pierce, Dixon, Thurston, and Burt Counties. Hail was small, mostly 1/4" to 1/2" but was driven by high winds and did considerable crop damage.</p>									
NEVADA									
None reported									
NEW HAMPSHIRE									
None reported									

See reference notes at end of table.

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NEW JERSEY									
NEW MEXICO Las Cruces, Dona Ana County	4	Evening			0	0	5	0	Heavy rain
									An estimated two inches of rain in three hours caused flood damage of near \$75,000 to streets in northern Las Cruces.
Dona Ana County	5	Day			0	0	0	0	Funnel aloft
									Funnel aloft visible for about 20 minutes near Mount Cristo Rey, north of El Paso, Texas. Funnel came down about two-thirds of the way from a cloud deck at about 6,000 feet.
Dona Ana County	7	2:10 p.- 2:17 p.	2/3	Narrow	0	0	2	0	Tornado
									Tornado, 15 miles north of Las Cruces on Jornada range, moving towards west-northwest, came down from cloud and produced cloud of dust at ground. Split three 16-foot tall line poles, 6 to 8 inches in diameter, from top to bottom and damaged three others. Heavy rains in the area.
Clayton, Union County	15	Evening			0	0	0	?	Hail
									Hail to 1-1/4 inch in diameter on edge of town.
NEW YORK Northern and Central	4	a.m. to p.m.							Heavy rain, electrical, wind
									Showers and thundershowers general over State. Heaviest storm precipitation, totalling from 2.0 to 3.0 inches, fell in Mohawk and Susquehanna River Valleys and as far west as Syracuse and Cortland areas. Widespread flooding of streets, highways, basements and low lying areas. Heavy rain accompanied by wind and lightning damage to buildings and utility lines in cities and suburbs of Syracuse, Rome, Oneida, Cohasset and Utica. Similar damage reported from Champlain Valley where clubhouse partially unroofed near Plattsburgh.
New York City, Nassau County, Lower Hudson Valley	21- 22	a.m. to a.m.					5		Heavy rain, wind
									Coastal storm produced very heavy rainfall in greater New York City area and northward in the Hudson River Valley as far as the Poughkeepsie-Kingston areas. On 21st New York City received 5.54 inches for heaviest one-day amount since 1903. Storm totals of 3.5 to near 5.0 inches general over western Long Island and southern third of Hudson River Valley; storm precipitation exceeded combined totals for June, July and August 1966 in many local areas of southeast. Widespread flooding of expressways and subways caused closure to traffic for several hours. Many autos caught in deep water on highways, in parking lots and temporarily abandoned. Stream flooding occurred in Westchester and Dutchess Counties. Some 25 pleasure boats sunk or damaged by high seas at Long Island marinas and one derrick-rigged barge sunk in Long Island Sound. Winds gusting to 50 mph. downed trees, limbs and power at scattered points in metropolitan New York City with reports of damage to buildings and parked cars. Storm damage in southeast modified by replenishment of seriously depleted water supplies, stream levels and ground water.
NORTH CAROLINA									
New Hanover County	5	afternoon					4	0	Electrical, rain
									Thunderstorm with passing cold front caused rain unofficially reported up to 8 1/2 inches. Flash flooding in Wilmington area, many basements flooded. Water rose into some houses at ground floor level. Lightning knocked out several transformers.
Halifax County	17	afternoon					4	0	Wind
									Blew down trees and a large smokestack; one tree fell on a home, damaged roof. Twelve power poles broken. Two lumber sheds destroyed, others unroofed.
Anson, Franklin, Guilford, Johnston Counties	21	3-6 pm					4	4	Hail, wind
									Wind blew down trees, damaged buildings and house trailer, disrupted power and telephone facilities. Hail damaged tobacco and other crops several areas.
NORTH DAKOTA									
OHIO									
Cleveland Area	29	4:45 pm	4.5	30 to 70	0	22	6	C	Tornado, Hail, and Rain
									Survey of storm path in southeast Cleveland indicated tornado first reached the ground in a gravel pit located in the northeast portion of Garfield Heights, 6 1/2 miles southeast of downtown Cleveland. The tornado moved eastward through extreme southeast Cleveland, Warrensville Heights, and North Randall. Twenty-two people were treated for minor injuries. Approximately 248 structures were damaged or destroyed. Hail damaged apple orchards and grape vineyards in Lorain and northwest Cuyahoga Counties. A September record low sea level pressure of 29.275 inches was established for Cleveland just prior to the first reports of the tornado. This was the latest date of occurrence of a tornado in Cuyahoga County since the beginning of weather records in 1870.
OKLAHOMA									
Kay, Osage, Washington and Tulsa Counties	2	5:00p.- Midnight	90	*15- 20	0	0	7	7	Rain and hail
									Heavy rain averaging 4.11 inches fell along the path from Ponca City to Skiatook with greatest total of 6.41 inches recorded four miles north of Hominy. Barnsdall received 4.65 inches of rain between 5:30p. and 7:00p. and some hail up to 7/8-inch size. Heavy rains were also received on the south side of Tulsa. Unofficial totals of 4.5 to 5.5 inches were measured at Broken Arrow where flash flooding overflowed drainage ditches and several intersections.
Collinsville, Tulsa County	2	5:30p.	Short	Narrow	0	1	4	0	Wind
									Straight winds during a strong thunderstorm heavily damaged a home southwest of Collinsville. The wind first lifted the roof of a carport connected to the house and then blew away most of the roof and ceiling of the new home. One adult and three children took shelter in the bathtub and only one child was injured from falling debris.
Burbank, near, Osage County	2	11:00p.			0	0	4	0	Electrical
									Lightning struck at a farm about 7 miles west of Burbank along US66. The resulting fire destroyed a barn containing 3,000 bales of hay, two boats and motors, a pickup truck camper, and other equipment.
Kay and Grant Counties	4	11:45a.- About noon	4	100	0	0	0	?	Tornado
									A Blackwell Civil Defense Observer followed a threatening heavy thunderstorm into the southwest corner of the county. He observed a funnel form from the cell as it moved southwestward toward Lamont. The tornado first touched down about 4 miles east of Lamont. It moved across 80 acres of pecan and walnut groves where some trees were uprooted. It then moved across Salt Fork River before rising aloft 1.5 miles south and 1 mile east of Lamont.
Garfield County	4	12:45p.	Short	Narrow	0	0	0	0	Tornado
									A funnel aloft was sighted 5 miles southwest of Billings in Garfield County. It moved southwestward towards Garber where it touched the ground several times as a tornado. No damage was reported.
Grady and Stephens Counties	13- 14	11:00p., 13th - 2:00a., 14th	40	*10	0	0	4	0	Wind
									An east-west line of thunderstorms moved southeastward across the area at about 20 MPH. Heaviest scattered wind damage occurred along a path extending from 8 miles northeast of Chickasha to the Duncan area. A large barn was demolished just south of Chickasha and many windows were broken in the Duncan area. Some electrical and telephone outages resulted from numerous downed limbs.
Cold Springs, Kiowa County	17	1:30p.			0	0	4	0	Electrical
									Lightning struck a home 1 mile south of Cold Springs with the resulting fire destroying the home, contents, and adjoining beauty shop.
OREGON									None reported
PACIFIC AREA									None reported
PENNSYLVANIA									
Kittanning	4	Afternoon					3		Wind
									Strong winds from a thunderstorm overturned and demolished a 50-foot house trailer resulting in several thousand dollars damage.
Near Sunbury	4	Evening					3		Wind
									High winds demolished an implement shed and damaged a porch of a home on a farm causing \$500. damage.
Scranton & Reading	21	Noon					3	3	Wind
									Strong but brief winds downed many trees, tree branches and utility lines in the area. Broken tree branches injured one person and shattered glass from windows broken by the wind injured two other persons near Scranton. Several automobiles were damaged by falling trees. Outdoor signs, billboards and street lights were also casualties. In Reading a large sheet metal roof was ripped from several row houses.
Prospect RD	29	6:15 P.M.			1				Lightning
									A 14-year-old boy was struck and killed by lightning as he crossed a pasture field.

See reference notes at end of table.

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PUERTO RICO	17	Afternoon			2	0	4	0	Heavy rains, thunderstorms.
	18								Heavy rains and severe thunderstorms over western sections of the island caused swollen streams and minor flooding especially the Yaguez and Guanajibo Rivers. Considerable property damage occurred in Mayaguez and 2 persons drowned in San German.
	28	10:00AM - 8:00PM			0	0	*4	C	Wind and rain (Hurricane Inez)
									Hurricane Inez passed 70 miles south of Ponce at noon on the 28th with maximum winds recorded near Penuelas of 30 mph., gust to 52 mph. Property damage limited to downed power lines, roofs and some road erosion. Minor damage to crops.
RHODE ISLAND									None reported
SOUTH CAROLINA Bennettsville, Marlboro County	4						2		Winds
									High winds during electrical storms blew down 100-foot section of cement block wall.
Gilbert, Lexington County	4				1		2		Lightning
									One woman killed by lightning while using telephone during severe electrical storm.
12 miles ESE of Summerton, Clarendon County	19		1/2	100			3		Tornado
									Tornado was seen to touch ground, felling trees. One 24-inch diameter tree fell across a house causing considerable damage.
Charleston, Charleston County	19	afternoon					3		Tornadoes
									Several small tornadoes reported in area during violent thunderstorms. Most of damage confined to Municipal Marina where sheet metal siding was ripped from side of boat shed and struck a cabin cruiser moored nearby. In the Mt. Pleasant area trees were toppled over and a boat and trailer were overturned.
SOUTH DAKOTA Yankton Vicinity	3	late P			0	0	4	0	Wind
									Wind up to 74 mph at Gavins Point Dam caused damage to boats and camping equipment. Numerous utility lines were blown down.
N.E. McCook and S.E. Lake County	10	6:00-12:00 P	25	*5	0	0	5	5	Hail and heavy rain
									Hail averaged 1/2 to 1 inch with largest 1 1/2 inch and covered ground up to 3 inches. Storm moved from NW to SE. Up to 13 inches of rain unofficially reported in Chester and Franklin area caused extensive flooding which destroyed at least 3 bridges and damaged many roads.
Sioux Falls Vicinity	11	early A			0	0	4	0	Heavy rain
									Rain of 4.02 inches flooded a large number of basements and caused damage to many streets.
TENNESSEE									
Sullivan County	6	p.m.			0	0	*4	C	Wind, rain, hail, electrical
									Scattered thunderstorms during the day caused numerous power failures, local flooding and washouts. One farmer near Boone's Creek reported strong winds destroyed or severely damaged most crops.
Tipton County	18	3 p. - 9:30 p.			0	0	*4	C	Rain
									Heavy rains in the southern portion of the county caused considerable local flooding to highways, roads, fields and houses. Near Brighton, several families were evacuated from their homes. Some livestock was reported drowned by high water. An unofficial measurement of 3.0 inches fell in a 90-minute period at Millington. Other rainfall lasting one to two hours was 3.36 inches at Covington. Storm total of 7.0 inches was reported from the Indian Creek area near Brighton.
TEXAS									
Houston Harris Co.	2	1:00 p			1	0	0	0	Lightning
									A 54-year-old woman was struck and killed by lightning as she was rummaging through a garbage dump just off the 2300 block of Taylor Street, near White Oak Bayou. A 55-year-old man was knocked to the ground at the same time, at the same location, but escaped injury.
Near Orange Orange Co.	2	2:39 p - 2:41 p	short narrow	0	0	2	0	0	Tornado, funnel aloft
									Two funnels formed from low-lying clouds over the suburban area southwest of Orange, one of which apparently touched ground. Mayo A. De Ville, a garage operator, was traveling west on Chemical Row enroute to Bridge City, in the area of the two funnels, when he noticed the automobile about 100 feet ahead of him suddenly began to travel sideways without skidding. At the
TEXAS (Cont'd.)									
El Paso El Paso Co.	5	3:00 p - 3:15 p							2 funnels aloft
									Two large funnel clouds swooped low over the El Paso area from the base of a thunderstorm cloud. The funnels were reported near the Mt. Cristo Rey area west of the city. FAA officials at the El Paso International Airport estimated one funnel to be about 1500 feet in length, and extend to within 1000 feet of the ground. The other funnel appeared to be shorter.
Near Atascosa Bexar Co.	5	12:00 p	0	0	1	1	0	0	Lightning
									Lightning struck and killed one man and injured another on a dairy farm in south Bexar County. Both men were standing near a twin live oak tree when the lightning struck. The lightning knocked one large limb off the tree and peeled away the bark where the fatally injured man was standing.
S Orange Orange Co.	6	afternoon							Funnel aloft
Hill City Hood Co.	14	6:00 p	short narrow	0	2	?	0	0	Tornado
									A tornado heavily damaged a trailer home in the Hill City community in Hood County. Mrs. A. J. Randle and Mrs. Maggie Yartrough, in the trailer home when the tornado struck, were injured, but not seriously. They said they saw the funnel coming toward them before heavy rain and hail began falling.
Motley County	15	3:00 a - 3:30 a	5	*1	0	0	0	4	Hailstorm
									Small hail, averaging about 1/4 inch in diameter caused an estimated \$10,000 damage to cotton in a one by five mile area about seven miles east of Roaring Spring. Some fields received as much as 50 per cent damage, others little or none. Largest hailstones were about 1 1/2 inches in diameter. Hailstones covered the ground to a depth of two inches in places.
W Seagraves Gaines Co.	15	night	?	?	0	0	0	?	Hailstorm
									A hailstorm slashed an area just west of Seagraves in Gaines County, destroying an estimated 1,000 acres of cotton and grain sorghum. Numerous window panes were broken in Seagraves by the hailstones.
NW Amarillo Potter Co.	17	12:45 p	short narrow	0	0	?	0	0	Tornado
									A small tornado moved through a row of five houses about one mile north of the Tascosa Country Club just off Western Avenue in Amarillo. The roof of a garage was blown off at the home of Mrs. Tom Mundy, and lumber and debris were blown through windows at the other homes. A. J. Hutcherson, whose garage was moved over about two feet, said: "I saw the funnel in the air and it sounded like a jet airplane. I was headed north on Western trying to get home when my pickup truck was lifted off the ground and set down in the ditch." Hutcherson's pickup and its load of lumber were left intact.
SW Summerfield Castro Co.	17	afternoon							2 funnels aloft
E Littlefield Lamb Co.	17	evening	?	?	0	0	?	?	Hailstorm, high winds
									Wind estimated at 50 miles per hour, and hailstones 1/4 inches in diameter, battered cotton fields in Lamb County east of Littlefield. The worst damage appeared to be in the Olton and Hart area. Early estimates placed cotton losses at about 25 per cent of the crop destroyed. Hail beat the fields for 15 minutes, and in at least one place, piled up to a depth of three feet.
Knox Co.	17	evening	?	?	0	0	?	?	Hailstorm, high winds
									Hail, ranging in size from 3/8 to 1 3/4 inches, damaged an estimated 1000 acres of cotton and maize in Knox County. Many window panes were broken. Joe Roberts reported almost total destruction to the roof of his greenhouse. High winds associated with the storm caused some roof damage.
NW Midland Midland Co.	17				1	0	0	0	Lightning
									Lightning struck and killed a 16-year-old boy as he was rabbit hunting in a mesquite patch northwest of Midland.
Taylor Williamson Co.	27				0	0	?	0	Lightning
									Lightning struck the A. J. Horn home at 5th and Branch Street in Taylor. In a short time, the front and north side of the house was engulfed in flames. A neighbor said a ball of fire seemed to burst from the house after it had been struck. The bolt is believed to have struck a television antenna. The Horn family was away at the time.

See reference notes at end of table.

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TEXAS (Cont'd.) Giddings Lee Co.	27	night	?	?	0	0	4	0	Windstorm, lightning
	Winds estimated at more than 100 miles per hour ripped through Giddings and portions of Lee County causing an estimated \$50,000 damage. The roof of the Centex Livestock Auction building at Giddings was ripped off, resulting in \$10,000 damage. Windows in the First National Bank Building and the steeple tower of the Immanuel Lutheran Church were shattered. A complete section of roof caved in on the Reinhold Hempel property on West Hempstead, and a number of trees were uprooted. The canopy was blown off Buddy's Store at Masheim. The Giddings High School sustained a considerable amount of damage. Lightning struck and ignited a barn belonging to Mrs. Robert Grimm just off the old Giddings Road, burning it to the ground.								
UTAH					None reported				
VERMONT					None reported				
U. S. VIRGIN IS.	28	4:00AM -4:00PM			0	0	4	0	Rain and wind
	Hurricane Inez passed 80 miles south of St. Croix. Maximum winds 30 mph, gusts 45 to 50 mph. One school building lost its roof at St. Croix, and at St. Thomas a 40 foot cruiser parted its line and went ashore. Damage to crops, mostly bananas, on St. Croix, was extremely small.								
VIRGINIA Fairfax County	14				0	0	4	0	Rain
	Heavy rain flooded streets and basements of communities of area. A few bridges were damaged or washed out and an undetermined number of automobiles flooded.								
WASHINGTON 3 miles N Seattle- Tacoma Airport	11	1306 PST							Funnel cloud.
	A small, well-defined funnel cloud approximately 10,000 feet in length with a diameter of 600 feet at top and 150 feet at base was observed moving eastward for a period of five minutes before disappearing into the base of a cumulonimbus cloud. The funnel remained 300 feet or higher above the surface.								
Blue Mountain area	13	evening					5	4	Thunderstorm and heavy rain.
	Heavy rainfall associated with thunderstorms extending from the Walla Walla area into Idaho resulted in flash floods along small streams in Garfield, eastern Columbia and western Asotin counties. In Pomeroy area, roads were blocked by slides and lawns were covered with mud and rocks. Several residences and other buildings were damaged.								
WEST VIRGINIA					None reported				
WISCONSIN					None reported				
WYOMING					None reported				

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- * Miles instead of yards.
- ^e Includes crop damage.
- C Crop damage.
- † Storm damages are placed in categories varying from 1 to 9 as follows:
 - 1 Less than \$50
 - 2 \$50 to \$500
 - 3 \$500 to \$5,000
 - 4 \$5,000 to \$50,000
 - 5 \$50,000 to \$500,000
 - 6 \$500,000 to \$5,000,000
 - 7 \$5,000,000 to \$50,000,000
 - 8 \$50,000,000 to \$500,000,000
 - 9 \$500,000,000 to \$5,000,000,000.

Note: This publication contains our best information on storms but, due to the difficulties inherent in collection of this type of data, it is not all-inclusive. Delayed data and corrections will be carried in the June and December issues of this publication.

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