

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU

CHARLES F. MARVIN, Chief

In Cooperation with Maryland State Weather Service

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

ROSCOE NUNN, Meteorologist and Section Director

VOL. XXXI BALTIMORE, MD., APRIL, 1926 No. 4

GENERAL SUMMARY

April was cold, windy, and greatly deficient in precipitation. The mean temperature was 50°, or 2.5° below normal. The month was 5° degrees colder than April, 1925, and the coldest April since 1911, when the mean temperature was 49°. This was the driest April since 1915, when the average precipitation was 0.09 inch less than this month. The relative humidity was low. Monthly sunshine was normal. Though strong winds were frequent, they were not violent or damaging in character.

Temperatures during the first 5-day period were mostly below normal. The 6th was cold. Rather mild weather prevailed from the 7th to the 10th. Cold and March-like weather during the second decade was followed by a warm spell from the 21st to the 24th; these were the outstanding temperature periods of the month. Cool weather prevailed thereafter, except on the 30th, which was warm. In the Allegheny Mountain region, highest temperatures of the month were 74° to 76° and the lowest were 18° to 20°; in the other divisions the highest temperatures were 80° to 89° and the lowest were 20° to 28°, except 28° to 31° in the Chesapeake Bay region. The highest temperatures occurred on the 22d generally and the lowest on the 16th or 20th.

Precipitation averaged 1.75 inches, or but .07 inch more than one-half the normal. Except in the extreme southern portion of the section, most of the precipitation fell from the 6th to the 9th. Monthly amounts were well below 2 inches generally, except somewhat above 2 inches in some localities.

Snowfall averaged 0.4 inch, or one-third of the normal. It was confined to western and north-central Maryland where, on the 6th, the falls were 1 to 1.5 inches, except 0.5 inch in the southern and eastern portions of north-central Maryland. Light snow also fell on the 15th and 27th in the Allegheny Mountain highlands. Snow flurries occurred in western Maryland on the 1st and 25th, over the section on the 18th, in southern and north-central Maryland on the 19th, and in the Allegheny Mountain region of the 26th and 28th.

Easter Sunday, the 4th, was clear, cold, and windy.

Crops.—Owing to the dry and cold weather, germination and plant growth were slow, but outdoor operations made good progress. Winter grains were benefited by the rains of the first decade and by the warm weather of the third. The condition of wheat was fair, and rye and barley were fair to good. All were short in height. Early potatoes, peas, and oats came up in the southern portion of the section; planting and sowing of these crops were in progress in the northern portion. Tobacco plants came up in beds; sweet potatoes were bedded, and tomato beds were sown. Fields were plowed and prepared for corn; planting began on the southern Eastern Shore before the close of the month. Pastures deteriorated from fair to poor. Tender vegetation (early gardens, potatoes, lettuce, asparagus, clover, etc.) was nipped or frozen in the southern half of the section on the 20th; damage in general was slight.

Fruits.—Peach, pear, cherry, and plum trees burst into bloom in the southern counties during the second decade; the warm spell of the third decade forced these trees into bloom in the northern counties, except in western Maryland, and forced apple trees into bloom in the southern and central counties and strawberries into bloom generally between the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Atlantic coast. Considerable damage (50 to 70 per cent) was caused to peaches and cherries and slight damage to pears in the interior of the southern Eastern Shore by the freeze of the 16th. The freeze of the 20th caused slight damage to early peaches and early plums in southern Maryland; in the central and southern portions of the

Eastern Shore, damage to peaches, pears, plums, cherries, and early strawberries varied from 5 to 10 per cent near the shores of Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic coast to 30 to 50 per cent in the interior. In other divisions fruit buds were not far enough advanced to be injured.

The night of the 19-20th was too dry and windy to permit of a general or heavy frost deposit; light frost formed in sheltered places. The ground froze hard in the northern half of the section, especially in western Maryland where ice formed on streams.

The backwardness of the growing season this spring was due to cold weather and deficient precipitation during March and April. Farm work, however, was well up.—*J. B., jr.*

PRESSURE

The monthly mean sea-level pressure at Washington was 29.99; at Baltimore and Aberdeen, 29.98 inches. The highest at Washington and Baltimore was 30.33 inches on the 10th; at Aberdeen, 30.36 inches on the 13th. The lowest at Washington was 29.53 inches on the 8th; at Baltimore, 29.47, and at Aberdeen, 29.50 inches—both on the 16th.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean for the section, 50.0°, is 2.5° below normal. The highest monthly mean was 53.8° at La Plata; the lowest, 42.6°, at Grantsville. The highest temperature, 89°, occurred at Takoma on the 22d; the lowest, 18°, at Grantsville and Oakland on the 20th. The greatest local monthly range was 65° at College Park; the least, 50°, at Crisfield. The greatest daily range was 50° at College Park and Great Falls on the 30th.

PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the section, 1.75 inches, is 1.61 inches below normal. The greatest amount was 2.68 inches at Westminster; the least, 0.79 inch, at Washington, D. C. The greatest 24-hour amount was 1.64 inches at Westminster on the 8th. The average monthly snowfall, 0.4 inch, is 0.8 inch below normal. The greatest monthly snowfall was 4.0 inches at Oakland; the least, a trace, over the greater portion of southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore. The average number of days with 0.01 inch or more, 9, is normal.

WIND

The prevailing direction for the section was northwest. The total movement at Washington was 6,373; at Baltimore, 5,124; at Aberdeen, 6,948 miles. The maximum velocity at Washington was 34 miles from the northwest on the 3d; at Baltimore, 26 from the southwest on the 1st; at Aberdeen, 34 from the west on the 25th.

SUNSHINE AND CLOUDINESS

At Washington 56 per cent of the possible sunshine was recorded; at Baltimore, 62 per cent. For the whole section the average number of clear days was 14; partly cloudy, 9; and cloudy, 7.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA (WITH DATES)

Aurora (northern lights).—14.
Fogs, light.—Aberdeen, 6, 8, 11, 14, 24; Baltimore, 8.
Fogs, dense.—Aberdeen, 8; Frederick, 13, 28.
Frosts, killing.—Entire section, 16, 20.
Hail, light.—Princess Anne, 3; Keedysville, 8; Chewsville and Westminster, 24.
Rainbow.—Aberdeen and Baltimore, 3.
Sheet, light.—Wilmington, 3; northern half of Maryland, 6; Somerset and southern Worcester Counties, 18.

(Continued on page 14)

Climatological Data for April, 1926

Table with columns: Stations, Counties, Elevation, Length of record, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Date, Lowest, Date, Greatest daily range), Precipitation (Total, Departure from normal, Greatest in 24 hours, Total snowfall), Number of days (With precip., Clear, Partly cloudy, Cloudy), Prevailing direction of wind, Observers.

The departures from normal temperature and precipitation are computed only for such stations as have ten or more years of record, but all complete reports are used in determining section or division means. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations. T. Precipitation is less than 0.01 inch rain or melted snow. Reference letters, A, B, C, appearing in the table indicate number of days missing; for example, A represents two days, etc. Post office addresses of these stations are as follows: Of Ball, Glendale; of Coleman, Worton; of Fallston, Bagley; of Ferry Landing, Owings; of Great Falls, Bethesda; of Pleasant Hill, Owings Mills; of Public Landing, Snow Hill. *Also on other dates. *Customhouse Building, Gay and Water Streets. **Weather Bureau Building, 24th and M Streets.

(Continued from page 13)

Sundog (mock sun).—Chewsville, 9.

Thunderstorms.—Solomons and the southern Eastern Shore, 3; northern half of section and southern Maryland, 8; entire section, except western Maryland and Somerset and southern Worcester Counties, 24.

Winds, high.—Westerly, mostly northwest, 1, 4, 9, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28; easterly, 3. Also on the coast, northeast, night 11-12, 13.

NOTES

Princess Anne.—First catbird was seen on 23d. Solomons.—Barn was struck by lightning and destroyed on 24th.

Station	Watersheds	Day of month																															Total	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
<i>Maryland</i>																																		
Aberdeen	Atlantic	T.		.03			.18	.04	.05	.06		.04			.01		T.						.03	.34	.07				.08		T.		1.83	
Annapolis	do			.01			.24	.06	.20	.55		.08	.08		.04									T.	.01	.10							1.57	
Baltimore	do			T.			.33	T.	.79	.01		.05	.01		T.		T.							T.	.03	.22				.02			1.46	
Bell	do			*				.24	*	.51		.06	.08		.01										T.	.04			.05				1.02	
Boysd	do	T.		*			.32	.21	*	.55		.12											T.	T.	T.				.10				1.30	
Cambridge	do				.15					.22	.08		.32	.05		T.									.10	T.	.47		.08				1.42	
Cecilton	do	T.			.06		.08	.11	.22	.45		.03			T.									.04	T.	.37		.04					1.40	
Cheltenham	do						.02	.02	.45	.45		.13	.05		T.									T.	T.	.27		.02					1.56	
Chesapeake City	do			T.	T.		.05	.15	.40	.62		T.			T.									T.	.54	.20		T.					1.96	
Chewsville	do	T.		.15			.32	.03	.80	.20		.07					T.							*	.41	.02		.03					2.03	
Clear Spring (a)	do																																	
Clear Spring (b)	do	T.		.16			.36		.63	.09		.05												.03	.19	.12		.07					1.70	
Coleman	do			.03			.31	.28	.72			*			.04									T.	.47			.08					1.93	
College Park	do			.06			.24	.10	.21	.31		.06	.10		.06								T.	T.	.60		.05						1.73	
Crisfield	do				*				.44						.96			.45	.04					.22	.24								2.35	
Cumberland	do	.20		.25		.02	.55	.12	.08			.07										.04			T.	.03	.10		.05				1.51	
Darlington	do			*		*	1.00	.60	.20			T.												.03	T.	.30		.05					2.18	
Easton	do			.07		.05		.18	.35	.31					T.									T.	T.	.76		.06					1.78	
Emmitsburg	do			.12		.23	.07	.42	.97	.04					T.										T.	.71	.02		.02				2.63	
Fallston	do	T.		.01	T.		.19	.03	.85	.37	.02				T.										T.	.12			.04				2.17	
Ferry Landing	do					.02	.01	.06	T.	.17				T.										T.	.37	T.		.49		.06			1.18	
Frederick	do	.01		.06		.28	.12	.55	.37	.06					T.									T.	T.	.02	.04	.01		.10			2.12	
Friendsville	Ohio	T.		.15		.50		.20	.08						T.													T.		.18			1.11	
Frostburg	Atlantic	T.		.12		.62		.12	.04						T.										T.	.11			.14				1.17	
Grantsville	Ohio	.04		.06		.41	.03	.80							.03	.05	T.									.06	.05	.09	.03	.20	.03		1.91	
Great Falls	Atlantic			*		.37	.38	.17	.23	.02	.06			T.										T.	T.	T.	.03		.05				1.00	
Hancock	do	T.		.18		.37	.07	.23	.09						T.										T.	T.	.05	.30	.03		.02		1.34	
Keadysville	do	T.		.10		.32	.05	.77	.22	.03					T.										T.	T.	.02	.75		.03			2.29	
La Plata	do			T.		.20		.10							.16	.50		.20							T.	.31	.10	T.	.32		.02		1.91	
Laurel	do	.01		.01	.01	.31	.01	.22	.26	.03	.01			.01											T.	T.	.01	T.	.56		.03		1.48	
Maryland Line	do			.05		.15	.06	.90	.32	*				T.											T.	T.	.04	.42		.08			1.98	
Millington	do			.04		.22	.04	.12	.48	.03				T.											T.	T.	.04	.02	.33		.10		1.42	
Oakland	Ohio	.10		.26		.76	.23	.35	.06	.20				T.	.03	.04									T.	T.	.23	.08	.06	.02	.04	.15		2.61
Pleasant Hill	Atlantic			T.	.02	*	*	*	1.40						.02											T.	T.	.10		.06				1.60
Princess Anne	do			.57				.18		.67				.05										.57	.05				.10					2.19
Public Landing	do			.22		*	*	.22	*	.83	*	.23	.20											.65	.24									2.59
Ridgely	do			.10		.28		.16	.58	.28					T.										T.	T.	.85		.08				2.33	
Rock Hall	do			.02		*	.28	.25	.42	.04	.02				T.	.03									T.	T.	.05		.02				1.13	
Salisbury	do			.18			.31	T.		.42	.16	T.	T.											.23	.23		.25		.42	.11	.02		1.69	
Solomons	do			T.	.12	T.		.05	.01					.30	.07	.12									T.	T.	.37	.01					1.18	
State Sanatorium	do						.28	.22	.22			.02	.10		.03											T.	T.							1.75
Takoma	do	.08		T.	.05		.22	.17	.60	*		.33	.03		*										T.	T.	.11	T.	.70		.05		2.08	
Towson	do	.11		T.	T.		.30	.40	.25			.12														T.	T.	.10	.07		.05		1.49	
Western Port	do	T.	.20			.18		.37	1.64	.06															T.	T.	.03	.21		.09			2.68	
Westminster	do	T.	.10			.29	.08	.46	.53	.02				.01											T.	T.	.01	T.	.04		.06		1.61	
Woodstock	do	T.	.02																															1.61
<i>District of Columbia</i>																																		
Washington	Atlantic	T.		.03		.18	.01	.31	.01	.16			T.	.01												T.	.02			.04				0.79
<i>Delaware</i>																																		
Bridgeville	Atlantic			T.	.31	.03	.02	.20	.03	.31	.06	T.	.02													T.	.02		.57		.12			1.69
Delaware City	do			T.	.09	T.	.08	.24	.66	T.	T.				T.											T.	T.	.27		.05				1.89
Dover	do	.01		.24		.14	.21	.32	.38	.03	.04			.01												T.	.02		1.05		.06	.11		2.62
Millford	do			.32		.20	.21	.22	.09	.23	.07			.01												T.	.04		.83		.08	.10		2.35
Millsboro	do	.06	T.		.28	.05	.01	.10	.03	.29	.06	*		.05												T.	.07		.46		.07	.03		1.56
Wilmington	do			T.	.13	T.	.04	.38	.67	T.				T.												T.	T.	.60		.01				1.83

Except as otherwise indicated observations are generally made late in the afternoon, near sunset, and precipitation recorded is for the 24 hours ending at the time of observation.
 *** Regular Weather Bureau station; precipitation is for the 24-hour period, midnight to midnight. ** Precipitation is for 24-hour period, midnight to midnight.
 ||| Precipitation measured in the morning; amount then recorded is for the preceding 24 hours. * Precipitation included in the next following measurement.
 T. Trace, or less than 0.01 inch. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.

COMPARATIVE DATA FOR MARYLAND AND DELAWARE FOR APRIL

Year	Temperature					Precipitation					Year	Temperature					Precipitation						
	Mean	Departure from the normal	Highest	Lowest	Average	Departure from the normal	Greatest local	Least local	Greatest in 24 hours	Snowfall		Number of days with 0.01 inch or more	Mean	Departure from the normal	Highest	Lowest	Average	Departure from the normal	Greatest local	Least local	Greatest in 24 hours	Snowfall	Number of days with 0.01 inch or more
1895	52.3	-0.2	89	18	4.97	+1.61	9.28	1.15	3.67	0.1	10	1911	49.0	-3.5	88	0	3.25	-0.11	4.66	1.69	1.50	1.8	11
1896	55.7	+3.2	99	12	1.42	-1.94	2.98	0.49	0.97	0.4	6	1912	54.7	+2.2	87	21	2.73	-0.63	4.73	1.31	1.50	T.	12
1897	52.1	-0.4	94	15	2.98	-0.38	5.06	2.00	2.76	0.8	8	1913	54.1	+1.6	90	11	4.51	+1.15	8.21	1.48	2.90	T.	10
1898	50.3	-2.2	88	6	2.75	-0.61	5.65	0.57	2.00	2.3	11	1914	51.6	-0.9	89	15	3.82	+0.46	6.48	1.87	3.18	0.1	10
1899	53.0	+0.5	94	14	1.60	-1.76	3.40	0.67	2.10	0.4	4	1915	57.0	+4.5	100	10	1.66	-1.70	3.15	0.48	1.98	5.1	6
1900	52.4	-0.1	86	16	1.96	-1.40	3.65	0.64	2.15	0.4	6	1916	51.4	-1.1	89	17	3.00	-0.36	3.94	1.68	1.54	3.9	12
1901	49.2	-3.3	90	15	5.69	+2.33	7.95	3.30	2.90	2.0	11	1917	52.4	-0.1	90	15	2.43	-0.93	3.46	0.99	1.94	3.7	8
1902	51.8	-0.7	102	16	3.45	+0.09																	

Daily Temperatures for April, 1926

Table with columns for Stations, 31 days (1-31), and Mean. Rows list various locations in Maryland and Delaware, including Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective temperature readings.

* , b , etc., indicate respectively 1, 2, 3, etc., days missing from the record. §§ Instruments are read in the morning; the maximum temperature then read is charged to the preceding day, on which it almost always occurs. Temperatures at Aberdeen, Baltimore, and Washington are from midnight to midnight; at other stations, except Cumberland and Takoma they are for the 24-hour period ending late in the afternoon, near sunset. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.