

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WEATHER BUREAU
IN COOPERATION WITH MARYLAND STATE WEATHER SERVICE

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

15 MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

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PRICE: 5 CENTS A COPY; 25 CENTS A YEAR

VOL. XLVI BALTIMORE, MD., MAY 1942 No. 5

GENERAL SUMMARY

This was the warmest May since 1918. The 1st, 30th, and 31st were very warm; other days were warm or mild, except a few were cool.

Rainfall was deficient over the Eastern Shore and the southern half of southern Maryland, with totals mostly between 1 inch and 3 inches. It was one and one-third times to twice the normal over the remainder of the section, with totals between 3 and 9 inches.

Heavy rains of the 21st in the northern tier of counties from Garrett to Frederick caused high or flood water in the streams of that area. Thunderstorms were unusually frequent. Monthly sunshine averaged about 5% above normal. Damage by heavy hail, lightning, and a thundergust appears under Miscellaneous Phenomena.

Crops were fair to good but made little progress and pastures were poor to fair, except good in Garrett County, during the first half of the month. Plowing and planting were resumed after the 7th. Crops and grasses responded favorably to the generous rains of the 16th and 20th-22d; they improved and grew well during the second half of the month.

Grains were mostly good to excellent. Cherry, pear, peach, and apple trees fruited well and fruits were developing. Pea plants bloomed and podded. Planting corn, setting out tomato and sweet potato plants, and cultivating crops were in progress. Picking strawberries began in the eastern and central divisions during the second week.

During the last week: Wheat and rye were headed well and blooming, except heading in the Allegheny Mountain region; barley was ripening or was ripened; oats were heading in the southern and central counties; timothy was heading; alfalfa was in bloom; harvesting peas began in the southern half of the section; early potato plants were beginning to bloom; corn plants and pastures were mostly good to excellent; early tomato plants were blooming and fruiting; setting out tobacco plants began; the strawberry harvest ended in the southern counties, but continued in the central and northern counties, except strawberries were ripening in Allegany and Garrett Counties.—J. B., jr.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean for the section, 66.3°, is 3.5° above normal. The highest monthly mean was 70.4° at Crisfield; the lowest, 57.6°, at Mt. Savage Summit. The highest temperature, 98°, occurred at Milford and Millsboro on the 31st; the lowest, 33°, at Oakland on the 11th. The greatest local monthly range was 61° at Frederick, Keedysville, and Tonoloway; the least, 36°, at Crisfield.

PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the section, 3.88 inches, is 0.39 inch above normal. The greatest monthly amount was 8.56 inches at Unionville; the least, 0.96 inch at Pocomoke City. The greatest 24-hour rainfall was 4.80 inches at Unionville on the 21st-22d.

ERRATA

April, 1942: Page 14—The Prevailing Direction of the Wind at Rock Hall should be s.; at Stevensville, se.; at Bridgeville, n.; at Odessa, e.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA (WITH DATES)

Hail, light.—4, 7, 9, 22, 24, 31. Hail, moderate.—Blackwater, three-eighths inch diameter, slight crop damage; Cheltenham, three-fifths inch diameter, no damage; on 4th.

Hail, heavy.—Bell, 2 p. m.—4th: one-half to three-quarters inch diameter; no damage. Area 4 miles wide and 12 miles long from west of Bethesda to east of College Park, embracing extreme northern District of Columbia and adjacent portions of Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties; 2:30 p. m. to 3:00 p. m.—7th: one-half to one inch diameter; no crop or property damage. Trappe Station, 7:30 p. m.—24th: one-half inch in diameter; path 3 miles wide; crop loss \$5,000. Extreme northern New Castle County, northwest to southeast, south of Brandywine River; area 5 miles wide and 12 miles long from the Pennsylvania border to Delaware River; 3:30 p. m. to 4 p. m.—31st; at Greenville hail one inch diameter broke some window panes; at Wilmington hail size mothballs to walnuts fell for 15 minutes and damaged Victory gardens, trees, and shrubbery; no field crop damage. Edgemere, southeastern Baltimore County, 3:30 p. m., 31st; diameter one inch; no damage.

Lightning on the 31st damaged a motor launch, killed a youth, and stunned five other youths in Jones Creek, and shattered several trees and a flagpole ashore, at Edgemere, southeastern Baltimore County; damaged a church steeple at Baltimore; destroyed a barn and contents and killed 2 horses therein near Georgetown, loss several thousand dollars.

Heavy rain late on the 21st in east-central Frederick County caused streams to overflow, gullied fields and roads, and washed out recently planted corn; a horse and a calf were drowned. At Unionville, 2.90 inches of rain fell from 6 p. m. to 7 p. m. and 0.95 inch more fell from 7 p. m. to 10 p. m.; buildings and cellars were flooded.

Thundergust 4 p. m., 31st, at Wilmington ripped some awnings, broke off some tree limbs, and uprooted some trees; the falling limbs and trees broke wires, disrupting telephone and electric services. Thunderstorms.—2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 30, 31. Winds, high.—1, 12, 14, 15, 16, 22, 31.

PRESSURE, HUMIDITY, SUNSHINE, WIND, DEGREE DAYS

Stations	Atmospheric pressure reduced to sea level				Wind				Mean relative humidity			Percentage of sunshine	Heating degree days (base 65°)
	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date	Average hourly velocity	Maximum velocity	Direction	Date	7:30 a. m.	1:30 p. m.	7:30 p. m.		
Aberdeen, Md.	30.36	6	29.75	7	10.4	34	se.	15	77	65	65	45	48
Annapolis, Md.	30.35	6	29.75	7	10.4	34	se.	15	77	65	65	21	21
Baltimore, Md.	30.35	6	29.75	7	10.7	34	se.	15	83	62	62	49	152
Elkins, W. Va.	30.26	5	29.74	15	5.7	24	w.	7	58	69	62	64	64
Harrisburg, Pa.	30.35	6	29.76	7	9.8	31	se.	15	76	62	62	73	73
Norfolk, Va.	30.29	29	29.72	7	7.5	31	n.	7	78	55	73	73	73
Philadelphia, Pa.	30.34	6	29.73	7	12.2	34	se.	12	74	46	62	66	43
Pittsburgh, Pa.	30.31	5	29.70	15	9.7	29	sw.	12	81	54	65	50	110
Washington, D. C.	30.31	6	29.74	7	7.2	24	se.	15	76	61	61	69	23

COMPARATIVE DATA FOR MAY

Year	FOR MARYLAND						FOR DELAWARE					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Temperature			Precipitation		
	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days with .01 in. or more	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall	No. of days with .01 in. or more
1895	61.7	101	20	3.27	0.3	12	61.7	98	37	3.65	0.0	12
1896	67.5	96	31	3.13	0.0	10	67.3	96	35	3.73	0.0	10
1897	61.1	86	27	5.16	0.1	11	62.2	85	40	4.01	0.0	10
1898	63.0	96	25	4.56	0.0	13	61.7	96	37	4.50	0.0	14
1899	63.6	96	31	3.72	0.0	10	63.2	96	38	2.47	0.0	8
1900	63.1	98	25	2.40	0.0	6	64.0	96	31	3.10	0.0	6
1901	61.3	95	25	4.55	0.0	12	61.2	86	38	3.65	0.0	11
1902	63.9	98	22	2.10	T.	8	63.8	94	37	1.88	0.0	7
1903	64.0	95	24	2.64	T.	7	64.1	95	31	2.03	0.0	6
1904	64.2	102	26	2.61	T.	7	64.3	95	39	1.90	0.0	5
1905	64.7	97	25	2.97	0.0	8	64.4	92	35	3.13	0.0	9
1906	63.3	96	22	2.64	T.	7	64.0	97	30	3.29	0.0	8
1907	58.1	91	23	4.54	0.0	13	58.1	87	32	6.39	0.0	14
1908	63.4	95	28	6.18	0.1	14	65.0	94	36	6.64	0.0	12
1909	62.2	98	22	3.56	T.	9	63.4	93	34	3.96	0.0	8
1910	60.0	90	16	2.99	T.	12	62.0	90	35	2.30	0.0	13
1911	67.6	100	19	1.11	T.	4	67.2	96	33	0.59	0.0	3
1912	64.1	92	23	4.12	T.	10	64.7	91	38	4.27	0.0	8
1913	62.6	94	18	4.31	0.0	10	63.8	93	32	4.42	0.0	8
1914	65.1	100	18	2.06	0.0	6	65.8	98	31	2.00	0.0	5
1915	60.7	90	25	3.82	0.0	13	62.3	88	37	3.90	0.0	12
1916	64.6	97	30	3.61	T.	10	65.2	94	39	4.33	0.0	11
1917	57.3	93	27	3.02	0.1	10	56.9	92	34	3.10	0.0	10
1918	67.7	98	27	3.79	T.	9	67.4	95	38	3.43	0.0	6
1919	62.8	97	31	5.33	0.0	13	63.9	91	36	5.92	0.0	12
1920	58.5	91	22	1.94	T.	7	58.5	87	30	2.30	0.0	8
1921	61.3	93	27	5.47	T.	13	61.7	90	38	3.74	0.0	12
1922	64.7	98	25	3.21	0.0	10	65.0	88	32	2.09	0.0	8
1923	61.1	94	23	1.96	0.2	7	61.8	91	32	1.32	0.0	5
1924	58.7	94	26	6.60	0.0	17	59.5	88	37	5.26	0.0	16
1925	64.1	92	28	1.98	0.1	9	64.7	91	32	1.20	0.0	7
1926	62.0	94	25	1.98	0.0	8	62.0	91	33	2.84	0.0	9
1927	61.7	95	28	3.00	T.	14	61.6	88	38	3.39	0.0	12
1928	60.5	96	23	2.48	0.0	12	61.0	91	32	2.17	0.0	11
1929	62.0	96	26	3.21	T.	13	62.6	93	35	1.98	0.0	11
1930	64.8	96	27	2.11	0.0	9	65.6	95	40	3.16	0.0	9
1931	62.2	95	23	4.54	T.	13	62.8	92	33	4.24	0.0	12
1932	61.9	94	25	5.30	0.0	10	62.9	90	37	5.18	0.0	10
1933	64.8	94	34	5.46	0.0	16	66.2	93	37	5.33	0.0	16
1934	63.9	97	28	4.64	0.0	10	64.6	95	38	6.74	0.0	11
1935	59.4	92	28	3.64	T.	11	60.0	87	37	3.60	0.0	10
1936	64.9	95	27	2.17	0.0	6	65.5	94	33	1.62	0.0	4
1937	63.1	95	27	3.42	0.0	11	63.9	92	32	3.61	0.0	11
1938	61.3	96	23	4.34	0.0	15	61.4	85	37	4.28	0.0	16
1939	65.0	98	25	1.14	T.	5	64.8	96	32	0.58	0.0	4
1940	62.1	93	23	4.45	0.0	13	61.7	91	33	5.44	0.0	14
1941	64.2	100	20	2.39	0.0	8	65.1	99	32	1.52	0.0	9
1942	66.2	97	33	4.17	0.0	8	66.6	98	40	2.21	0.0	7
Period	62.7	102	16	3.49	T.	10	63.2	100	30	3.39	0.0	10

Climatological Data for May 1942

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

The departures from normal temperatures are computed from the averages of the entire period for stations having 10 or more years of record. Departures of precipitation with 15 years or more of record are computed from a normal or "standard mean", adjusted to a uniform 35-year period; for stations of 10 to 14 years the means for the period of record are used.

Data in italics determined from surrounding stations. P. Precipitation is less than 0.01 inch rain or melted snow. †Post addresses of these stations are as follows: Of Bell, Glendale; of Blackwater, Cambridge; of Coleman, Worton; of Edgemont, Smithsburg; of Fallston, Bagley; of Ferry Landing, Owings; of Great Falls, Bethesda; of Mt. Savage Summit, Frostburg; of Odessa, Middletown; of Picardy, Paw Paw, W. Va.; of Pleasant Hill, Owings Mills; of Prettyboy Dam, Parkton; of Sines, Oakland; of Tonoloway, Hancock. *Custom House, Gay and Water Sts. **Weather Bureau Building, 24th and M Sts. †Also on other dates. ‡2 miles northwest of Frostburg. §§Municipal Building. §§§Porter Reservoir. ||Water Pumping Station. |||University Farm.

§§Thermometers are read in morning; maximum temperature then read is charged to preceding day, on which it almost always occurs. Temperatures at Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, Chestertown, Sines, and Washington are from midnight to midnight; at Dundalk, Mt. Savage Summit, Ocean City, Snow Hill, and Delaware Breakwater the thermometers are read at 1:30 a.m., the extremes are charged to the preceding day; other stations, except Blackwater, Cheltenham, Conowing Dam, Cumberland, and Pocomoke City, are for 24-hour period ending late in afternoon, near sunset, except 9:30 p.m. at Princess Anne.

Daily Precipitation for May 1942

Table with columns for Stations (Maryland), Drainage basin, Day of month (1-31), and Total. Rows list various stations like Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with precipitation amounts for each day.

Except as otherwise indicated, observations are generally made late in afternoon, near sunset, and precipitation recorded is for the 24 hours ending at time of observation.
1 First-order Weather Bureau station; precipitation is for the 24-hour period, midnight to midnight.
2 Precipitation is for 24-hour period, midnight to midnight.
3 Precipitation is for 24-hour period, 9:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
4 Precipitation is measured in the morning; amount then recorded is for the preceding 24 hours.
5 Precipitation is measured at 1:30 a.m.; amount then recorded is entered on preceding day.
6 Precipitation is measured with recording gage.
7 Precipitation is included in the next measurement.
T Trace, or precipitation is less than .01 inch.
§ Two miles northwest of Frostburg.
¶ Municipal Building.
** Porter Reservoir.
*** Water Pumping Station.
**** University Farm.

Daily Temperatures for May 1942

Table with columns for Stations (Delaware), Day of month (1-31), and Mean. Rows list stations like Bridgeville, Delaware Breakwater, etc., with maximum and minimum temperatures for each day.

Daily Temperatures for May 1942—Continued

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

See page 18 for explanation of reference marks.