

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU

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In Cooperation with Maryland State Weather Service

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

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GENERAL SUMMARY

May was warm, dry, sunshiny, and breezy. It was the first warm May since 1922 and the sixth successive May deficient in rainfall. Monthly sunshine was 10 per cent above normal and the greatest in May since 1926. Relative humidity was very low, being about 10 per cent below normal. The first half of the month and the third decade were dry. The dry spell since April 19 was broken by light to moderate showers on the 14-15th and 18-20th. Fresh westerly, drying winds were frequent; they were fresh daily, sometimes strong, from the 25th to the 31st. The only strong wind of note was the sudden, heavy, northwest thundergust of the 24th over the central and eastern divisions.

A heat wave of unusual intensity, duration, and dryness marked the first decade, except that nights of 3d and 4th were cool. During this 10-day period the mean temperature was 14° to 15° above normal and the relative humidity averaged 15 to 20 per cent below normal. Cooler weather, but with temperatures slightly above normal, followed from the 11th to the 17th. The weather was cool from the 18th to the 21st. The 22d-24th was a warm spell. With the exception of the 28th, very cool weather prevailed from the 25th to the 31st, the mean temperature being about 10° below normal.

Freezing temperatures occurred in the Allegheny Mountain region on the 4th, 26th, 30th, and 31st, and in the Hancock district on the 30th and 31st.

Monthly rainfall averaged about three-fifths of normal. Monthly amounts were between 1 and 2 inches over the northern half of the section between the Allegheny Mountains and Chesapeake Bay and in Kent (Md.) County, except less than 1 inch in the Keedysville district and close to 3 inches in the Baltimore City and Emmitsburg districts. Elsewhere over the section the totals were between 2 and 3 inches, except in excess of 3 inches in Charles, St. Marys, and southern Calvert Counties and in the Milford, Princess Anne, and Wilmington districts.

At Baltimore the thunderstorm of the 24th was featured by heavy rainfall of 1.43 inches in 25 minutes. Four boys who were exploring a sewer were drowned and some damage to property resulted from flooding and washing. The thundergust unroofed a paper storage plant in South Baltimore.

Crops made but fair headway, owing to general lack of moisture and to the very cool weather of the third decade. Grains, however, did well, were in good condition, but were short in straw. During the closing week wheat was filling out and rye and barley were ripening in the eastern and central divisions, while in western Maryland wheat was blooming and rye was filling out. In the Allegheny Mountain region oats were sown during the first half of the month and came up to a good stand during the second half; elsewhere in the section oats were fair to good. Pastures deteriorated from good to poor to fair during the first half of the month and continued so. Planting of crops was in progress in the Allegheny Mountain region. Elsewhere over the section during the closing week early potatoes were blooming; peas were podding, with harvest beginning in southern and central counties; and truck and gardens were fair. Setting out of tobacco, tomato, and sweet potato plants was general after the showers of the 14-15th; stands were fair. Corn was planted. The early-planted corn came up to fair to good stands and was being cultivated during the second half of the month, except in the Allegheny Mountain

region where corn came up during the third decade. In the Allegheny Mountain region apple trees bloomed during the first two decades; elsewhere in the section the set of tree fruit was light to heavy, depending on the damage done by frosts and freezing temperatures of April 23-26. During the third decade strawberries were blooming in the Allegheny Mountain region and they were fruiting and ripening elsewhere in the section; harvesting was in progress in the southern and central counties. Frosts of the 26th, 30th, and 31st in the Allegheny Mountain region damaged strawberries, early potatoes, peas, corn, and gardens.—J. B., jr.

PRESSURE

The monthly mean sea-level pressure at Washington was 30.02; at Baltimore, 30.00; at Aberdeen, 30.01 inches. The highest at Washington was 30.37; at Baltimore, 30.36; at Aberdeen, 30.38 inches—all on the 12th. The lowest at Washington was 29.64; at Baltimore, 29.61; at Aberdeen, 29.65 inches—all on the 15th.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean for the section, 64.9°, is 2.3° above normal. The highest monthly mean was 68.4° at Baltimore; the lowest, 57.4°, at Grantsville and Oakland. The highest temperature, 96°, occurred at Baltimore, Bell, Frederick, Great Falls, and Keedysville on the 7th; the lowest, 27°, at Grantsville on the 30th and at Oakland on the 4th. The greatest local monthly range was 61° at Bell and Hancock; the least, 42°, at Stevensville. The greatest daily range was 53° at Bell, Great Falls, and Keedysville on the 5th.

PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the section, 2.21 inches, is 1.38 inches below normal. The greatest monthly amount was 5.38 inches at Milford; the least, 0.73 inch, at Keedysville. The greatest 24-hour amount was 3.25 inches at Emmitsburg on the 14th. The number of days with 0.01 inch or more, 9, is 1 below normal.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

The average percentages were: Washington, D. C., 8 a. m., 64; 12 noon, 42; 8 p. m., 48. Baltimore, Md., 8 a. m., 60; 12 noon, 42; 8 p. m., 50. Aberdeen, Md., 8 a. m., 67; 4 p. m., 49. Philadelphia, Pa., 8 a. m., 65; 12 noon, 47; 8 p. m., 59.

WIND

(By 3-cup anemometer, except 4-cup at Aberdeen, Md.)

The prevailing direction for the section was northwest. The total movement at Washington was 4,252; at Baltimore, 7,227; at Aberdeen, 5,436 miles. The maximum velocity at Washington was 25 miles from the northwest on the 24th and 28th; at Baltimore, 32 miles, and at Aberdeen, 30 miles—both from the northwest on the 24th.

SUNSHINE AND CLOUDINESS

At Washington 70 per cent of the possible sunshine was recorded; at Baltimore, 72 per cent; at Aberdeen, 70 per cent. For the whole section the average number of clear days was 16; partly cloudy, 10; cloudy, 5.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA (WITH DATES)

*Auroras*.—Baltimore, 30, 31; Grantsville, 4, 5.  
*Fogs, dense*.—Northern Blue Ridge Mountain region and on the coast, 19.  
*Frosts, light*.—Western Maryland, 25; over section between Allegheny Mountains and Atlantic coast, except Chesapeake Bay region, 26, 31; western half of section, 27; Allegany, Washington, and Frederick Counties, 30.

(Continued on page 18)

Climatological Data for May, 1930

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 10 or more years of record, but all complete reports are used in determining section or division means. Data in italics determined from surrounding sections. † 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, 'b' represents two days, etc. †† Post office addresses of these stations are as follows: Of Bell, 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. \*Custom House, Gay and Water Streets. \*\*Weather Bureau Building, 24th and M Streets.

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Frosts, killing.—Allegheny Mountain region, 4, 26, 30, 31; also Hancock district, 30, 31.

Hail, light.—Aberdeen, 15; Grantsville, 14.

Hail, heavy.—Five miles east of Millsboro, 5 p. m., 28; from Oak Orchard for 3 miles southeastward to Long Neck; hail as large as marbles killed chickens and broke window glass.

Rainbows.—Clear Spring, 7; Grantsville, 24; Millsboro, 15.

Thunderstorms.—Locally in western and southern portions of section, 1;

locally in northern-border counties, 2; Allegheny Mountain region and extreme southern portion of section, 6; western Maryland and Cecil and Harford Counties, 7; Newburg, 11; entire section, 14 (except western Maryland), 15, 24; southern Maryland and southern Eastern Shore, night 17, 19; Oakland, extreme northeastern Maryland, Millsboro, Newburg, and Princess Anne, 28. Winds, high.—Southwest, 2; northwest, 24 (thundergust), 25, 26, 28, 31; northeast on the coast, 18.

Daily Precipitation for May, 1930

Table with columns: Stations, Watersheds, Day of month (1-31), Total. Lists precipitation data for various Maryland and Delaware stations.

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.
\*\*\*Regular Weather Bureau station; precipitation is for the 24-hour period, midnight to midnight.
|||Precipitation measured in the morning; amount then recorded is for the preceding 24 hours.
T. Trace, or less than 0.01 inch.
Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.

COMPARATIVE DATA FOR MARYLAND AND DELAWARE FOR MAY

Table with columns: Year, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Lowest, Average), Precipitation (Departure from normal, Greatest local, Least local, Greatest in 24 hours, Snowfall, Number of days with 0.01 inch or more), Year, Temperature (Mean, Departure from normal, Highest, Lowest, Average), Precipitation (Departure from normal, Greatest local, Least local, Greatest in 24 hours, Snowfall, Number of days with 0.01 inch or more).

Daily Temperatures for May, 1930

Table with columns for Stations, days 1-31, and Mean. Rows list various Maryland and Delaware locations such as Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective maximum and minimum temperatures for each day.

a, b, c, etc., indicate, respectively, 1, 2, 3, etc., days missing from record. Instruments are read in morning; maximum temperature then read is charged to preceding day, in which it almost always occurs. Temperatures at Aberdeen, Baltimore, and Washington are from midnight to midnight; other stations, except Cumberland, are for 24-hour period ending late in afternoon, near sunset. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations. (WB-7-3-30-900)