

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.

August was characterized by mostly dry, cool, sunny, and pleasant weather, typical of early fall. Thunderstorms were not attended by damaging gusts.

The mean monthly temperature for the section was normal. However, the individual means varied from 1° to 2° above normal in western Maryland to from 1° to 2° below normal in southeastern Maryland and in Delaware.

Persistent coolness of the present summer was interrupted by a warm wave from the 5th to the 11th and again from the 26th to the close of the month. The 6th, 7th, 9th, and 31st were hot days, with maximum temperatures close to 100°, except near 90° in the Allegheny Mountain region. The 14-16th and 18-19th were unseasonably cool, with minimum temperatures but 3° to 8° above freezing on the 15th, 18th, and 19th in the Allegheny Mountain highlands.

Monthly rainfall averaged slightly below normal. It varied greatly over the section. The area of greatest rainfall was the central portion of the section, embracing southern Baltimore, Howard, eastern Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, northern Calvert, Anne Arundel, Talbot, and Dorchester Counties, and the District of Columbia, where totals were between 5.0 and 7.4 inches. The least rainfall occurred over extreme southern Somerset County and over the area between the Allegheny and Blue Ridge Mountains where totals were between 1.0 and 2.5 inches.

Crops.—The weather of the month was unusually favorable for harvesting and threshing of grains, haymaking, harvesting of crops and fruits, cultivation, early fall plowing, etc., but was too cool for normal plant growth and greatly deficient in rainfall over western Maryland. Corn and other field crops, pastures, and grasses were unfavorably affected by the hot, dry spell of the first decade. General rain on the 12th was moderate over western Maryland and heavy elsewhere over the section, and effectively broke the summer drought and prevented heavy losses. Warm, sunny weather that followed the heavy rains (except in western Maryland) of the 25th and 26th caused crops and pastures to improve over the section to the eastward of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Corn was fair to good generally, except poor progress was made during the last decade in Allegany, Washington and Frederick Counties. Early corn eared during the first and second decades and filled out fairly well; late corn was somewhat better in condition than the early, and tasseled during the third decade. On the Eastern Shore and in southern Maryland threshing of wheat and rye and harvesting of oats ended during the first week and threshing of oats ended during the second decade. In north-central Maryland and in Washington and Allegany Counties harvesting of oats ended during the second week; the threshing of wheat, rye, and oats ended during the closing week. In the Allegheny Mountain region harvesting of wheat and rye ended during the second week and threshing ended during the closing week; harvesting of oats was in progress during the third decade. Yield of grains was fair to good. Pastures and grasses were mostly good in the Allegheny Mountain region, but only poor to fair elsewhere over the section.

Digging of early potatoes began in the Allegheny Mountain region during the third decade, but ended elsewhere over the section during the closing week; the yield was only poor to fair owing to the dry weather during July. Late potatoes made fairly good stands, were fair to good, and came into bloom during the third decade. Planting of this crop was not finished in some localities of the extreme southern counties until during the second decade. Truck crops and gardens were fair, except poor during the last decade in Allegany, Washington, and Frederick Counties. Tomatoes were harvested throughout the month in the southern and central counties and during the second half of the month in the northern border counties; they were fair, but improved to good during the closing week; the crop is a short one. Tobacco was fair; it bloomed during the first and second decades. Harvesting of apples continued. During the first decade harvesting of peaches became general and harvesting of pears began. Haymaking ended. The growing season continued about two weeks backward throughout the month.—*J. B., jr.*

PRESSURE.

The monthly mean sea-level pressure at Washington was 29.99, and at Baltimore and Aberdeen, 29.98 inches. The highest at Washington was 30.25, and at Aberdeen 30.24 inches, both on the 4th; at Baltimore, 30.26 inches on the 3d. The lowest at Washington was 29.56; at Baltimore, 29.54; at Aberdeen, 29.53 inches; all on the 26th.

TEMPERATURE.

The monthly mean for the section, 73.4°, is normal. The highest monthly mean was 76.8° at Solomons; the lowest, 66.9°, at Oakland. The highest temperature, 103°, occurred at Boyds and Keedysville on the 31st; the lowest, 35°, at Grantsville on the 19th. The greatest local monthly range was 59° at Hancock and Keedysville; the least, 38°, at Solomons. The greatest daily range was 47° at Grantsville on the 19th and at Oakland on the 30th.

PRECIPITATION.

The monthly average for the section, 4.07 inches, is 0.35 inch below normal. The greatest monthly amount was 7.44 inches at Ferry Landing; the least, 1.09 inches, at Crisfield. The greatest amount in 24 hours was 4.35 inches at Cheltenham on the 12th. Average number of days with 0.01 inch or more, 8, is 2 below normal.

WIND.

The prevailing direction for the section was southwest. The total movement at Washington was 3,724; at Baltimore, 3,909; at Aberdeen, 4,106 miles. The maximum velocity at Washington was 20 miles per hour from the west on the 9th; at Baltimore, 20 miles from the west on the 25th; at Aberdeen, 28 miles from the southwest on the 7th.

SUNSHINE AND CLOUDINESS.

At Washington 74 per cent of the possible sunshine was recorded; at Baltimore, 69 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).

Fogs.—Ferry Landing, 5, 10, 16, 22, 30, 31; Seaford, 5.
Fogs, dense.—Frostburg, 3, 23; Princess Anne, 2, 5, 31.
Thunderstorms.—3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 17, 25.

(Continued on page 30.)

Daily Temperatures for August, 1924.

Table with columns for Stations, days 1-31, and Mean. Rows list various locations in Maryland, District of Columbia, and Delaware, with their respective daily maximum and minimum temperatures.

a, b, c, 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. Data in italics determined from surrounding stations.