

CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

15 MARYLAND AND DELAWARE SECTION

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GENERAL SUMMARY

This December was moderately cold, dry, and unusually sunny, but 2.2° warmer than December 1942. Monthly precipitation averaged slightly less than one-half of normal and was the least in December since 1937. Monthly snowfall averaged two-fifths of normal in the Allegheny Mountain region, and but one-eighth of normal for the entire section. Monthly sunshine was 10% above normal. Christmas Day was overcast and cold.

The first decade was warm. Temperatures were moderately cold during the second and third decades, except mild during the 21st-22d and 27-28th, cold during the 29-30th, and severely cold during the 14-18th and 23d-25th.

The severe cold of the 14-18th produced ice on ponds, streams, rivers, and the estuaries of Chesapeake Bay, which continued to the close of the month. No ice formed in Baltimore Harbor.

There was little oystering during the second half of the month, because of the severe cold and the ice.

Sunday, the 26th, was featured by glaze, or an ice-storm, due to rain freezing upon all surfaces, and by heavy rain. The ice-coat was 0.1 inch thick at Oxford and 0.5 inch thick at Baltimore. Many traffic and pedestrian accidents resulted.

The glaze, preceded by snow flurries and light sleet in the afternoon of the 25th, began over the southern and central portions of the section at night of the 25th and ended in the forenoon of the 26th, while over the northern third of the section it began in the early morning of and ended in the afternoon of the 26th. The rain ended at night of the 26th.

Light snow fell on the 10th, 13th, 20th, and 28th and light to moderate snow fell on the 29th in the Allegheny Mountain region. Light snow fell also on the 24th at Grantsville and on the 25th at Oakland. Snow flurries occurred from Garrett County to Harford County, except light snow fell at Grantsville, Oakland, and Picardy, on the 11th; over the southern portion of the section on the 14th, 15th, and 25th; over northern Anne Arundel and southern Baltimore Counties on the 20th; at Chewsville and Oakland on the 24th; and over the southern and central portions of the section, except light snow fell in the Bethesda—Great Falls area of Montgomery County and over Calvert and St. Marys Counties, on the 29th.

Grains were nicely green and in good condition and pastures were green and fair to good during the first half, but were browned somewhat during the second half of the month. Activities were plowing, husking corn, cutting wood, hauling manure, spreading lime, butchering, and pruning fruit trees. —J. B., jr.

TEMPERATURE

The monthly mean for the section, 34.4°, is 1.0° below normal. The highest monthly mean was 39.1° at Solomons; the lowest, 24.4°, at Mt. Savage Summit. The highest temperature, 69°, occurred at Ferry Landing and La Plata on the 3d; the lowest, 15° below zero, at Oakland on the 16th. The greatest local monthly range was 71° at Oakland; the least, 46°, at Crisfield.

PRECIPITATION

The monthly average for the section, 1.43 inches, is 1.71 inches below normal. The greatest monthly rainfall was 2.50 inches at Easton; the least, 0.71 inch at Ocean City. The greatest 24-hour rainfall was 2.02 inches at Easton on the 25-26th. The average monthly snowfall for the

section, 0.6 inch, is 3.9 inch below normal. The greatest 24-hour snowfall was 5.0 inches at Oakland on the 29th.

MISCELLANEOUS PHENOMENA (WITH DATES)

Earth Tremor.—Dover, 6:30 p. m., 10th. *Fogs, light.*—2 to 12, 20, 25 to 28. *Fogs, dense.*—Mt. Savage Summit, 3, 6 to 9, 26 to 28; Woodstock, 25, 26, 28. *Halos, lunar.*—1, 5, 14. *Halos, solar.*—5, 15. *Glaze or ice-storm (rain freezing upon falling).*—25, 26. *Sleet, light.*—25, 26. *Sundogs.*—Chewsville, 1; Rock Hall, 14. *Winds, high.*—9 to 14, 18, 20 to 22, 26, 29.

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	7:30 a. m.	1:30 p. m.	7:30 p. m.		
Aberdeen, Md.	30.72	24	29.52	12	.....	.....	.....	76	53	72	.....	999
Annapolis, Md.	30.74	24	29.50	12	9.0	.....	.....	68	.....	61	.....	869
Baltimore, Md.	30.76	24	29.52	12	10.0	35	nw.	11	63	47	55	863
Elkins, W. Va.	30.78	24	29.62	12	6.9	26	se.	26	82	62	72	1070
Harrisburg, Pa.	30.74	24	29.49	12	8.1	35	nw.	11	68	46	55	1011
Norfolk, Va.	30.75	24	29.61	12	9.5	27	ne.	29	76	56	70	691
Philadelphia, Pa.	30.71	24	29.50	12	10.1	37	nw.	11	71	45	58	925
Pittsburgh, Pa.	30.74	24	29.56	12	11.3	38	nw.	11	77	60	68	1021
Washington, D. C.	30.76	24	29.53	12	7.5	34	w.	11	63	42	48	885

COMPARATIVE DATA FOR DECEMBER

Year	FOR MARYLAND					FOR DELAWARE					
	Temperature			Precipitation		Temperature			Precipitation		
	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall with .01 in. or more	Mean	Highest	Lowest	Average	Average snowfall with .01 in. or more	
1885	37.0	70	-7	2.58	2.7	7	40.0	69	12	2.89	0.6
1886	34.1	70	-3	0.78	4.0	7	34.2	67	7	1.28	6.0
1887	36.8	74	4	3.54	2.5	10	37.9	71	12	3.83	1.5
1888	34.0	70	-20	3.61	6.0	8	36.6	68	6	3.48	1.6
1889	35.2	69	-6	1.86	2.2	7	37.4	68	1	1.87	1.0
1900	34.4	68	-2	2.39	1.8	5	34.7	65	11	2.87	5.0
1901	32.5	74	-15	6.80	1.4	10	34.9	69	6	6.00	T
1902	33.1	70	-4	5.99	7.3	12	35.4	65	9	6.07	3.1
1903	30.1	80	-9	2.25	5.0	7	31.4	56	9	4.15	4.5
1904	29.6	64	-11	3.34	15.4	9	30.0	66	-1	4.65	17.1
1905	36.4	64	-2	4.31	4.2	8	38.3	64	15	4.70	2.2
1906	35.5	68	0	4.12	1.3	11	37.5	72	10	4.07	T
1907	36.9	76	-7	4.14	4.8	9	41.1	67	16	4.54	1.7
1908	35.9	71	-1	3.18	7.7	9	37.5	71	6	4.32	8.2
1909	30.5	69	-5	3.64	10.3	7	32.1	62	3	3.86	15.3
1910	28.2	65	-7	2.33	11.9	7	36.4	64	-1	3.02	8.1
1911	39.8	76	-7	3.66	1.1	10	41.5	76	17	3.65	0.1
1912	38.2	75	-10	3.88	7.2	9	40.5	74	15	4.36	6.8
1913	38.8	72	-1	2.44	1.0	6	40.4	67	18	2.38	T
1914	31.6	68	-30	4.38	5.7	14	34.4	66	7	6.20	1.3
1915	32.8	73	-6	3.16	5.2	8	34.9	67	16	3.16	3.5
1916	33.4	76	-3	3.63	9.6	11	34.0	70	-3	4.43	9.7
1917	26.4	59	-32	1.62	9.4	8	28.5	56	-7	2.14	4.7
1918	40.3	71	7	4.31	0.3	10	41.2	70	13	3.75	0.1
1919	29.5	70	-17	2.91	6.0	11	31.9	70	0	3.19	5.9
1920	37.2	71	-5	3.42	1.7	8	39.6	69	16	3.52	0.2
1921	36.1	71	0	2.55	8.4	10	36.5	66	9	2.24	6.0
1922	36.2	70	3	3.79	3.1	10	37.1	66	13	4.18	1.8
1923	43.7	72	-2	3.56	1.8	11	44.1	69	16	3.25	1.5
1924	35.0	76	-4	3.32	0.3	8	36.4	75	8	2.84	0.1
1925	35.2	84	-7	1.84	0.9	9	36.8	63	10	2.30	T
1926	32.0	62	-16	3.17	2.2	12	32.8	60	5	3.49	1.8
1927	37.0	73	0	3.71	2.4	12	39.1	71	11	4.39	2.3
1928	36.8	63	0	1.53	2.5	7	37.4	63	11	2.45	2.5
1929	36.8	75	-6	2.41	4.2	9	38.1	70	11	2.71	1.0
1930	33.1	60	-17	2.68	5.7	9	35.5	62	8	1.98	3.2
1931	42.6	72	9	2.47	0.7	8	44.4	69	18	2.32	T
1932	37.5	73	-6	3.23	12.1	13	39.4	70	4	3.88	13.0
1933	36.3	73	-10	2.92	5.9	10	37.4	71	-1	3.66	3.8
1934	35.0	71	-16	2.77	1.6	8	36.3	70	11	2.62	0.1
1935	29.9	66	-22	2.49	14.1	13	31.1	63	0	2.61	17.1
1936	37.4	70	-10	5.55	3.3	13	40.0	68	10	5.16	0.1
1937	34.5	74	-12	1.29	2.0	7	36.2	71	9	1.18	T
1938	36.0	68	-1	2.84	2.8	10	38.3	65	12	2.70	0.8
1939	37.7	70	4	2.00	6.2	9	38.5	68	12	1.61	4.4
1940	40.2	70	-13	2.51	0.9	10	40.9	65	8	2.41	2.2
1941	39.5	71	6	3.47	0.7	8	40.7	68	13	3.70	T
1942	32.2	67	-25	3.86	7.1	13	32.9	63	-12	3.80	5.8
1943	34.3	69	-15	1.41	0.6	5	35.0	66	8	1.57	T
Period	35.2	76	-32	3.12	4.6	9	36.8	76	-12	3.37	3.6

Climatological Data for December 1943

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. Precipitation is less than 0.005 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 Picardy, Paw Paw, W. Va.; of Pleasant Hill, Owings Mills; of Prestonbury 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. ‡On mountain top, 2 1/2 miles northwest of Frostburg. §Municipal Building. ¶Porter Reservoir. ||Water Pumping Station. |||University Farm. §§§1 mile west. Figures and letters following station indicate distance and direction of the observation point from the city. Elevations are of ground above mean sea level. 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, Sines, and Washington are from midnight to midnight; at Dundalk, Mt. Savage Summit, Ocean City, and Snow Hill the thermometers are read at 1:30 a. m., the extremes are charged to the preceding day; other stations, except Blackwater, Cheltenham, Chestertown, Conowingo Dam, Cumberland, and Pocomoke City, are for 24-hour period ending late in afternoon, near sunset. §Thermometers are read at 9 p. m.

Daily Temperatures for December 1943-Continued

Table with columns for Stations (Maryland) and days 1-31, plus a Mean column. Rows list various Maryland locations such as Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, etc., with their respective temperature readings for each day.

See page 46 for explanation of reference marks.

(WBO, Richmond, Va., 2-18-44-1,200)